

HUMBLE CITY COUNCIL**MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING****SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.****HELD AT CITY HALL, 114 WEST HIGGINS, HUMBLE, TEXAS**

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
 COUNTY OF HARRIS §

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Merle Aaron, Presiding
 Mayor Pro Tem Norman Funderburk
 Council Member Allan Steagall
 Council Member Ray Calfee
 Council Member Andy Curry
 Council Member David Pierce
 City Manager Darrell Boeske
 City Secretary Jason Stuebe

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Aimee Phillips
 Police Chief Delbert Dawes
 Fire Chief Gary Outlaw
 Public Works Director Barry Brock
 Capt. Ken Theis

VISITORS PRESENT: Linda Aaron
 Juanita Steagall
 Diane Pierce
 Kitty Calfee
 Jana Hogle
 Jennifer Summer
 Chris Shelton
 Arliss Bentley

Mayor Aaron called the regular meeting of the Humble City Council to order with a quorum present at 6:00 P.M.

1. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Pro Tem Funderburk offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA**2A. MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 25, 2016**

2B. CURRENT INVOICES**2C. CORRESPONDENCE**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Funderburk, the City Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the Consent Agenda.

- 3. PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OF THE 2016 TAX YEAR PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF HUMBLE, TEXAS. A TAX RATE OF \$0.21 PER \$100 VALUATION HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HUMBLE, TEXAS. THIS RATE EXCEEDS THE LOWER OF THE EFFECTIVE OR ROLLBACK TAX RATE, AND STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS BE HELD BY THE GOVERNING BODY BEFORE ADOPTING THE PROPOSED TAX RATE. ALL CITIZENS ARE URGED TO ATTEND AND EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AT THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE.**

Mayor Aaron opened the public hearing at 6:01 P.M.

Ms. Arliss Bentley stated that she did not understand the tax rate exceeding the lower of the effective or roll back rate and asked if it was an increase. Staff indicated that it was indeed an increase.

Mrs. Bentley then asked the reasoning behind the increase. Mayor Aaron stated that costs for the city have been increasing across the board and that the tax rate is a moving target to help manage the city's budget from year-to-year. Ms. Phillips added that the property tax is intended to help in providing basic city services such as public safety and streets, which is already heavily subsidized by the city's sales tax revenues. However because of increased costs and declining sales tax revenue the city's reserves have been declining and an increase in the property tax was necessary.

Mrs. Bentley asked if the increase was going towards salaries. Ms. Phillips added that the property tax raises approximately \$3.5 million dollars that goes solely towards the operations and maintenance of the city, which includes salaries. Ms. Phillips also stated that salaries are approximately \$12-\$13 million annually. Mayor Aaron added that the total budget this year was over \$45 million.

Mrs. Bentley then asked how this increase would affect her property tax. Ms. Phillips stated if her property was assessed at \$100,000 she would see an increase of approximately \$12.00 for the city's portion of her property tax bill.

Council Member Pierce stated that he believed everyone would vote to abolish taxes if they could, however they were a necessary evil. However, he reiterated that Humble maintained one of the lowest within the state and that the city has been blessed to not have to rely so heavily on its property tax as many other cities do. Ms. Phillips added that there were maybe five other cities in the state that had a lower tax rate than Humble and that the sizes of those cities were relatively insignificant by comparison.

Mayor Aaron stated that the staff and council work diligently to keep the rate as low as possible and thanked Ms. Bentley for her questions.

Mrs. Linda Aaron asked how long it had been since the tax rate had increased. Mr. Boeske stated he believed the last increase was approximately 2005 when the rate went from .195 to .20.

There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Aaron adjourned the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

- 4. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 16-784 AMENDING CITY OF HUMBLE ORDINANCE 15-761, PASSED AND APPROVED THE 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2015 AND BEING AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF HUMBLE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, BY ADDING TO THE BUDGET ADOPTED HEREBY AN ADDENDUM NO. 1; PROVIDING FOR A CERTAIN AMENDMENT TO SUCH BUDGET; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS; AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT.**

City Manager Boeske recommended approval of the ordinance.

Upon a motion by Council Member Steagall, the City Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to adopt Ordinance 16-784 amending the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget.

- 5. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 16-785 ALTERING THE PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ESTABLISHED FOR VEHICLES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF §545.356, TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, UPON THE BASIS OF AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION, UPON CERTAIN STREETS AND HIGHWAYS, OF PARTS THEREOF, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HUMBLE, AS SET OUT IN THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$200 FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.**

City Manager Boeske stated that TxDOT had requested a reduced speed to the small ring roads that run underneath the FM1960 bypass at the railroad track and that it required a city ordinance.

Upon a motion by Council Member Funderburk, the City Council voted six (6) for and none(0) opposed, to adopt Ordinance 16-785 altering the Prima Facie Speed Limit.

- 6. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 16-769 CASTING AN OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF PLACES 6, 7, 8 AND 9 OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RISK POOL.**

Upon a motion by Mayor Aaron, the City Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve Resolution 16-769 casting a ballot for the Board of Trustees for the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

- 7. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER 4 (FINAL) FOR THE 2015 CONCRETE PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – PACKAGE 1 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HUMBLE AND METRO CITY CONSTRUCTION, L.P. IN THE AMOUNT OF -\$346,317.03.**

City Manager Boeske stated that Metro City had completed the project and this represented a reduction Change Order and final close out.

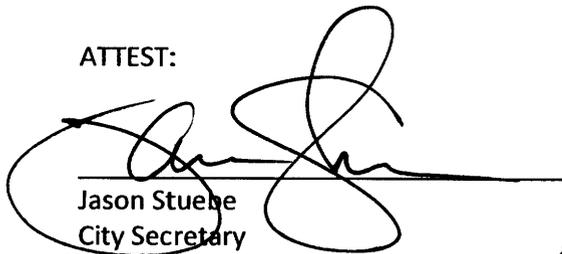
Upon a motion by Council Member Curry, the City Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve Change Order No. 4 for the 2015 Concrete Pavement Improvements Project.

There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Aaron adjourned the Regular Meeting of the City Council at 6:33 P.M. on Thursday, September 8, 2016



Merle Aaron
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jason Stuebe
City Secretary

