

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 5TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1988, AT 5:00 P.M.

On the 5th day of January, 1988, the City Commission of the City of Lufkin, Texas, convened in regular meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members thereof, to wit:

Pitser H. Garrison	Mayor
Percy Simond, Jr.	Commissioner, Ward No. 1
Danny Roper	Commissioner, Ward No. 3
Pat Foley	Commissioner, Ward No. 4
Jack Gorden	Commissioner, Ward No. 5
Louis Bronaugh	Commissioner, Ward No. 6
Harvey Westerholm	City Manager
Brian Boudreaux	Assistant City Manager
Ron Wesch	Public Works Director
Robert Flournoy	City Attorney
Atha Stokes	City Secretary

being present, and

Don Boyd Commissioner, Ward No. 2

1. Meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Steve Shirley, Minister, Central Baptist Church, Lufkin.
2. Mayor Garrison recognized Girl Scout Cadet Troop 9002 as special guests. Those attending were Leader Libby Stapleton, Assistant Leader Luellen Frazier, Cadets Elizabeth Stapleton, Sinclaire Estes, Jacquelyn Aguillar, Neemisha Rawjee, and Elaine Frazier.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of regular meeting of December 15, 1987, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

4. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - SECOND READING - ZONE CHANGE REQUEST - WILLIE SWINDLE - SAYERS STREET AND NORTH AVENUE - RS TO LB, SU (TWO-CHAIR BEAUTY SHOP WITH ENTRANCE FROM NORTH AVENUE AND SAYERS STREET CONSIDERED A SIDE STREET)

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration Second Reading of Ordinance for Zone Change Request by Willie Swindle covering property located at the corner of Sayers Street and North Avenue from Residential Small to Local Business, Special Use (two-chair beauty shop with entrance from North Avenue and Sayers Street to be considered a side street).

There was no opposition present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Percy Simond and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley that Ordinance be approved on Second and Final Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

5. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - SECOND READING - GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 1987

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was Second Reading of Ordinance authorizing the issuance of sale of City of Lufkin Texas General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 1987, dated November 15, 1987.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner

Jack Gorden that Ordinance be approved on Second and Final Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

6. DOG ORDINANCE - APPROVED - SECOND READING

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was Second Reading of the Dog Ordinance.

City Attorney Flournoy stated that the Ordinance had been passed on First Reading with changes to two items, and that any further changes could be considered after the Ordinance is adopted on Second Reading.

Mayor Garrison stated that he was opposed to the section which stated that a person having more than three dogs would be considered as having a kennel. Mayor Garrison stated that the Ordinance could define kennel as a private kennel and state that the individual could get a permit to operate a private kennel, not to be used commercially for boarding of dogs or cats.

City Attorney Flournoy stated that presently if a person has a kennel it must be in a proper zone. Mr. Flournoy stated that the zoning ordinance will regulate kennels, which may need to have a more restrictive definition.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny Roper and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Ordinance be approved on Second and Final Reading with the deletion of Sections 33, 34 and 35 dealing with kennels and kennel license. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

8. PROPOSAL - APPROVED - CITY HALL ANNEX - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was a proposal for use of the City Hall Annex by the Fire Department.

City Manager Westerholm stated that at a previous meeting it was brought up that the City is still renting the old laundry building owned by R. L. Cunningham where the Police and Fire Department's garages were housed. City Manager Westerholm stated that it had been suggested that there was no longer a need for the building and possibly the annex building could be used. Mr. Westerholm stated that the Fire Chief and his staff had prepared a proposal for using the City Hall Annex with some figures relating to the approximate cost for renovation.

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission had discussed using the annex building on a temporary basis for a training and conference room and did not say anything about remodeling the building or moving any offices from the Fire Department. Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission had committed to the public that when the new City Hall was completed, the annex building would be sold.

Commissioner Percy Simond stated that he had questioned the feasibility of paying \$700 a month for an old building that leaks when it rains. Commissioner Simond stated that he suggested getting out from under a lease for the building and using the money to build a building comparable to the City Garage.

Mayor Garrison stated that if the building is remodeled and new offices are added, it is his opinion, that no further effort will be made to sell the building.

Chief Kenneth Snyder stated that offices for the Training Officer and Safety Officer are presently located in the garage building. Chief Snyder stated that the old garage building is in deplorable condition and to move these offices to the annex will cost the City less money

than it is currently costing. Chief Snyder stated that it was costing the City \$8,200 a year to rent the building and another \$4,200 for utility bills. Chief Snyder stated that a licensed contractor had given him an estimate of \$8,900 to remodel the building and that it would cost \$1,100 to move the telephones.

Mayor Garrison stated that he had not heard from the City Manager that the Fire Department facilities were inadequate.

Chief Snyder stated that the Fire Department is growing and needs an area for equipment storage and a space to work on air packs for the firefighters. Chief Snyder stated that, in his opinion, once the building is cleaned up, painted, carpet laid and it is occupied, it will be more marketable.

City Manager Westerholm stated that over the years former Fire Chief Billy Stephens had proposed building an addition onto the Central Fire Station on the vacant lot to the east. City Manager Westerholm stated that Mr. Stephens had proposed storage on the ground floor and offices and training facilities above, but because of lack of funds, the expansion plans were always deleted before it came to the Commission for budget consideration. The estimated cost for the expansion was between \$80,000-\$100,000.

Commissioner Louis Bronaugh stated that the Commission had put the building up for sale and the bid received was too low. Mr. Bronaugh stated that a building that is not occupied will depreciate in time.

In answer to question by Commission Jack Gorden, Chief Snyder stated that if the annex building is sold the Fire Department would still need another building. Chief Snyder stated that the close proximity of the annex building to the new City Hall would be an ideal situation.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that it seems like a logical move, but he is concerned about the expenditure to remodel the building at this time.

Chief Snyder stated that the City paid \$3,379 in utilities for the annex building last year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny Roper to adopt the proposal by the Fire Department to utilize the City Hall Annex by the Fire Department.

In response to question by Commission Foley, City Manager Westerholm stated that the funds for the remodeling would be taken from the savings on the rent and utilities.

Chief Snyder stated that he had spoken to Public Works Director Ron Wesch about painting the building, primarily on the exterior, and the firemen had volunteered their time to assist in getting the building in shape on the inside. Chief Snyder stated that the floors were to be carpeted because they were in such bad shape.

In response to question by Mayor Garrison, Chief Snyder stated that the Safety Officers and Training Officers would be moved from the old garage building, the Fire Marshall would move from the new City Hall, and he and the Assistant Chief and Secretary would move from the Central Fire Station into the annex building.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he would second the motion with the thought that sometime in the future the use of the building will be re-evaluated, and if the economy improves in the next two or three years, an addition to the Central Fire Station will be considered.

In response to question by Commissioner Simond, City Manager Westerholm stated that the additional bathroom for the Central Fire Station had been deleted from the budget.

Commissioner Simond stated that he had recently learned that the firefighters work with CISC food drives, help with the victim relief fund, work with the Red Cross, and Special Olympics and provide first aid stations for the Bike-A-Thon. Mr. Simond stated that the Fire Department is doing a good job.

Commissioner Roper stated that he would be willing to amend his motion to approve the proposal on a temporary basis and would look to fulfilling the commitment made to the public to sell the building when the opportunity presents itself.

Commissioner Foley stated that he would second the amended motion. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

9. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - FIRST READING - ZONE CHANGE REQUEST - DAN SPIVEY, ET AL - LOOP 287 BETWEEN SHADY PINE AND SANDY LANE - RESIDENTIAL LARGE TO COMMERCIAL, SPECIAL USE

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration First Reading of an Ordinance for Zone Change Request by Dan Spivey, et al, covering property located on Loop 287 between Shady Pine and Sandy Lane from Residential Large to Commercial. Mayor Garrison stated that there was no opposition to the request at the Planning and Zoning meeting and that the request had passed by a vote of 5 to 1.

There was no opposition present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh and seconded by Commissioner Jack Gorden that Ordinance be approved on First Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

In response to question by Commissioner Jack Gorden, City Planner Finan stated that the request had been recommended to the City Commission with a Special Use designation. City Planner Finan stated that the Special Use was designated as Item 26, A-H of the Zoning Ordinance which requires site plan approval to insure proper drainage, easements, and ingress and egress.

In response to question by Commissioner Jack Gorden, City Planner Finan stated that Planning and Zoning Commission member Herbert Cross had objected to the request because in the past the Commission had taken the policy not to grant a Zone Change unless there was a specific activity going on that property, to determine whether or not the activity is appropriate, and if the plan, as shown, would be in the best interest for that area. Mr. Finan stated that Mr. Fleming's clients wished to have the Zone Change so they could make development plans and were willing to bring the plans to Planning and Zoning after the fact. Mr. Finan stated that Mr. Cross had felt that the Commission should be consistent and review the plans and then grant the Zone Change.

John Fleming, Attorney, stated that his clients own a 12 acre tract which is immediately adjacent to the tract being considered for the Zone Change. Mr. Fleming stated that the tract is 9/10's of an acre and is an oddly shaped tract of land. Mr. Fleming stated that the highest and best use of this land would be Commercial and his clients acquiesced that the tract be subject to a Special Use provided for plot plan approval at the time definitive plans are developed.

City Secretary Atha Stokes stated that the Special Use designation had been inadvertently left off the agenda item.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he would like for this type of omission to be avoided in the future.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny Roper and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Ordinance be approved on First Reading with a Special Use provision of Section 26, A-H, as recommended by the City Planning and Zoning Commission. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

10. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - FIRST READING - FIRE CLASSIFICATION PLAN

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was First Reading of an Ordinance adopting a Fire Classification Plan. Mayor Garrison stated that the City Commission had adopted a Classification Plan for the Police Department at it's December 1st meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Ordinance be approved on First Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

11. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - FIRST READING - ASSIGNMENT PAY PLAN - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was First Reading of Ordinance adopting an Assignment Pay Plan for the Fire Department.

City Manager Westerholm stated that several officers within the department had taken demotions to Captain or Lieutenant in order to perform special duties and will be given assignment pay in addition to their salaries to equal what they were formerly being paid.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Ordinance be approved on First Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

12. ORDINANCE - APPROVED - FIRST READING - REPEALING OF CODE OF ORDINANCES - SECTIONS 11-21 THROUGH 11-22 - FIRE MARSHALL - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration First Reading of Ordinance repealing Code of Ordinances, Sections 11-21 through 11-22, in order that the Fire Marshall can be placed in the Fire Department as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. Mayor Garrison stated that by placing the Fire Marshall under the supervision of the Fire Chief had been discussed in the previous item.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Jack Gorden that Ordinance be approved on First Reading as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

13. RESOLUTION - APPROVED - PURCHASE OF OFFICE BUILDING - 418 NORTH SECOND - ANGELINA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration a Resolution approving the purchase of an office building located at 418 North Second by the Angelina County Appraisal District.

City Manager Westerholm stated that Senate Bill 312 was passed last year requiring approval by 75% of the district taxing agencies for the purchase of real estate acquired by an appraisal district. Mr. Westerholm stated that the appraisal district had purchased an office building at 418 North Second last year and that the Commission would need to act by Resolution approving or disapproving this purchase.

Motion was made by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh and seconded by Commissioner Jack Gorden that Resolution be approved as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

14. RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION - APPROVED - FARM TO MARKET ROAD 819

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was to consider the City's share of payment for right-of-way acquisition for Farm to Market Road 819. Mayor Garrison stated that the City's share for the purchase of the right-of-way is \$35,018.51, and the City Manager has suggested that since this item was not budgeted, the funds be taken from the contingency fund which presently has a balance of \$35,454.89.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny Roper and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that \$35,018.51 be paid to the County for acquisition of right-of-way on Farm to Market Road 819, and that these funds be taken from the contingency fund. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

15. RESOLUTION - APPROVED - GRANT - FUNDING - DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission would now consider a Resolution authorizing submission of a grant for the funding of the Deep East Texas Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force.

In response to question, Chief Collins stated that Lufkin Police Department's commitment to the cooperative is to furnish one undercover investigator to the group and one vehicle. Chief Collins stated that the department's share of 20% of the confidential expenditures (undercover money) is \$1,500 this year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Resolution be approved as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

16. SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED - AUTHORIZED - JOHN ROSS KAY

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was authorization of a special warranty deed requested by John Ross Kay.

Mr. Kay stated that in 1983, while he was in the process of preparing a tax law suit against the Estate of Mary Mason, the executor of the estate sold the subject property to Mr. M. T. Wilson. Mr. Kay stated that Mr. Wilson has paid the tax, penalty and interest on the property and that no expenses were incurred by the City in the law suit.

City Attorney Flournoy stated that this is simply a matter of clearing the title.

Motion was made by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh and seconded by Commissioner Danny Roper that special warranty deed be authorized as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

17. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES DESIGNATED

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was designation of local health authorities.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the State Health Department requires that a Local Health Authority be named to administer Senate Bill No. 811, Rabies Control Act. Mr. Westerholm recommended that Cathy Clark, Animal Control Officer, be appointed as the Local Health Authority.

Motion was made by Commissioner Percy Simond and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that Cathy Clark, Animal Control Officer, be appointed as the Local Health Authority in compliance with Senate Bill No. 811. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

18a. BID - APPROVED - BOD BOTTLE WASHER - WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT - FISHER SCIENTIFIC

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was bids on a BOD Bottle Washer to be used in the Water Pollution Control Department.

Mayor Garrison stated that Purchasing Agent David Cochran was recommending the low bid of Fisher Scientific in the amount of \$2,397.31. The budgeted amount on this item was \$3,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that bid from Fisher Scientific in the amount of \$2,397.31 be accepted as the lowest and best bid. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

18b. BID - APPROVED - VAN - FIRE DEPARTMENT - AL MEYER FORD

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration a bid for a van to be used in the Fire Department. Mayor Garrison stated that one bid had been received from Al Meyer Ford in the amount of \$19,280.09, which included the high bucket seats.

City Manager Westerholm stated that bids for the high cube van had been rejected at last meeting because they did not meet the requirements.

In response to question by Commissioner Pat Foley, Assistant Chief Murry Brown stated that the bid from Angelina Chevrolet was for a 6.2 liter engine. The Fire Department had requested a bid for a 7.3 liter engine.

Motion was made by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley that bid of Al Meyer Ford in the amount of \$19,280.09 be accepted as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

18c. BID - APPROVED - DEFIBRILLATOR - FIRE DEPARTMENT - PHYSIO CONTROL

Mayor Garrison stated that the next item for consideration was bid for a defibrillator to be used in the Fire Department. Mayor Garrison stated that Assistant Chief Murry Brown was recommending the bid of Physio Control in the amount of \$8,150.

Assistant Chief Brown stated that this was not the low bid but the men were trained and familiar with the equipment which was important in life threatening situations. Assistant Chief Brown stated that the defibrillator has a charger/discharger which is very important in prolonging the life of the batteries, which cost \$100 each. Assistant Chief Brown stated that one of the defibrillators will be used in a new ambulance and one will be used in the raised top van that transfers patients to Houston everyday.

Assistant Chief Brown stated that on New Year's Eve the department made four out-of-town transfers. Assistant Chief Brown stated that when the hospitals were informed that the Fire Department ambulances did not make transfers, the hospitals called back and said the doctors considered these patients emergencies and Fire Department personnel did not feel they could argue with the Doctors.

Commissioner Percy Simond stated that this subject had been discussed at length at a previous meeting and the Fire Department was specifically instructed not to make any out-of-town transfers.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the only transfers to be made were those involving life threatening situations.

Assistant Chief Brown stated that Life Line will not take patients they know they will not be getting paid for.

Commissioner Foley stated that he would like for the City Commission to review this situation.

In response to question by Commissioner Foley, Assistant Chief Brown stated that the Fire Department makes approximately 400 transfers a year and that one half of the transfers are for indigent patients.

Chief Snyder stated that under the Classification Plan approved earlier the Safety Officer will become an EMS Coordinator and basically his job will be to coordinate with the hospitals, nursing homes and any other facility that will be using the Fire Department for transfers to let them know what the City can and cannot do. Chief Snyder stated that he was attempting to create a situation where the responsibility is on the hospital and/or the doctor and the nursing homes. Chief Snyder stated that the nursing homes are funded for these transfers. Chief Snyder stated that coordinating the transfers will be a full time job for the Safety Officer/EMS Coordinator.

Chief Snyder stated that he had met with a representative of Medicaid and Medicare last week and they outlined the criteria for payment to the City. Chief Snyder stated that the ambulance billing method is being changed to place the responsibility back on the person who calls and says the transfer is an emergency. Chief Snyder stated that there is a document that will be signed stating that they will pay if Medicare/Medicaid will not.

Motion was made by Commissioner Percy Simond and seconded by Commissioner Jack Gorden that bid of Physio Control in the amount of \$8,150 be approved as the best bid. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

18d. BID - APPROVED - LIFT STATION - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - SMITH PUMP COMPANY

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration bid for a lift station for the Public Works Department. Mayor Garrison stated that Public Works Director Ron Wesch had recommended accepting the bid of Smith Pump Company in the amount of \$33,714 for two sewage pumps to be used at Shirey Creek.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he would like for the funds left over from the budgeted amount be transferred to the Contingency Fund.

Mr. Wesch stated that \$2,500-\$3,000 would be needed for electrical work and to pour concrete.

Motion was made by Commissioner Percy Simond and seconded by Commissioner Danny Roper that bid from Smith Pump Company in the amount of \$33,714 be accepted as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Commissioner Foley stated that he would like for the City Manager to see that the remaining funds be transferred to the Contingency Fund. City Manager Westerholm agreed to do so.

18e. BID - APPROVED - LIGHT BARS - POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission now had for consideration a bid for light bars to be used by the Police Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley that bid by G. T. Dist., Inc. in the amount of \$1,315 each be accepted as the lowest and best bid. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

19. INVOICE - APPROVED - EVERETT GRIFFITH AND ASSOCIATES - WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission would now consider an invoice from Everett Griffith and Associates for construction, supervision and inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Motion was made by Commissioner Danny Roper and seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh that invoice from Everett Griffith and Associates in the amount of \$19,485.64 be approved as presented. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION - POSTPONED

Mayor Garrison stated that several members of City Boards were up for renewal for re-appointment, and if the members agreed the Commission could go into Executive Session to review the appointments.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he would like to give further consideration to Planning and Zoning Commission members and requested that the Executive Session be postponed until next meeting.

21. WRECKER ORDINANCE - ADULT LEARNING CENTER/CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER - 911 EMERGENCY NUMBER - MAYOR'S STATEMENT

In response to question by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh, City Attorney Flournoy stated that he has a preliminary draft of the Wrecker Ordinance Commissioner Bronaugh requested ready to be submitted for review.

Commissioner Simond stated that he had met with firefighters and they were concerned that they had worked with Bob Quillin of the Adult Learning Center and now would be working with Career Development Center.

Assistant City Manager Brian Boudreaux stated that the Adult Learning Center is a public group that seeks State reimbursement for everyone that it teaches and that the Career Development Center is a private group which receives reimbursement from DETCOG based on certain low income criteria. Mr. Boudreaux stated that the Civil Service Commission authorized him to negotiate with the two groups in setting up a program to improve reading and writing skills for fire and police applicants.

Mr. Boudreaux stated that a police test has been scheduled for the first part of June. Mr. Boudreaux stated that the Career Development group may not ever be able to handle the program because they will not be funded to teach the higher income students. Mr. Boudreaux stated that if they are not refunded, they will not be able to handle the mass of students that are sent over there. Mr. Boudreaux stated that all the applicants may end up going to the Adult Learning Center.

Mayor Garrison stated that he would like to read a response to some comments that had been made in the newspaper by a local merchant in favor of the \$300 raise for the police officers but was not in favor of raising taxes. Mayor Garrison stated that an editorial appeared in

the newspaper recently saying that the City Commission should clarify their position on the issue. (A copy of the Mayor's statement is attached hereto and made a permanent part of the minutes.)

Commissioner Jack Gorden stated that he would concur with the Mayor's statement. Commissioner Gorden stated the money for the raise could be taken from the City services, but, in his opinion, it would detract from services the City is providing to the citizens of Lufkin. Commissioner Gorden stated that the policemen are deserving of a raise, but the rest of the City employees are also deserving.

Commissioner Roper stated that he, too, would concur with the Mayor's statement. Mr. Roper stated that, in his opinion, all the Commissioner's are sympathetic to the circumstances of the City employees not receiving any raises for this year. Commissioner Roper stated that if a raise is voted, then a tax increase will be necessary to fund those increases.


Commissioner Pat Foley stated that this is the first year the City has not given a pay raise, and there have been several years when the City of Lufkin gave employees a pay raise and private industries did not. Commissioner Foley stated that, in his opinion, police and fire personnel are deserving of a raise, along with other City employees, but because of the economic condition, this is not the time.

Commissioner Simond stated that he would agree that taxes will have to be raised, but he still believed that the police department deserves the \$300 raise. Commissioner Simond stated that his main concern is that he has been fighting for minorities on the Police Department, and he had been more or less assured that if there are better salaries, it will attract minorities more readily than other races. Commissioner Simond stated that he will vote for the salary increase. Commissioner Simond stated that the tax rate for the City of Nacogdoches is .87 cents.

Mayor Garrison stated that Lufkin's tax rate is .46 cents, and is the lowest in East Texas, of which he is very proud.

Commissioner Louis Bronaugh stated that he, too, would concur with the Mayor's statement.

22. There being no further business for consideration, meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M.


Pitser H. Garrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

Atha Stokes, City Secretary