

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED BUDGET RETREAT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON 13th of JUNE, 2019

On the 13th day of June, 2019, the City Council of the City of Lufkin, Texas convened in a Special Called Budget Retreat at Kurth Lake Lodge with the following members, thereof to wit:

Bob F. Brown	Mayor
Mark Hicks	Mayor Pro Tem
Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Robert Shankle	Councilmember, Ward No. 2
Lynn Torres	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5
Sarah Murray	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Keith Wright	City Manager
Bruce Green	City Attorney
Kara Andrepont	City Secretary
Jason Arnold	Assistant City Manager
Rodney Ivy	Human Resource Director
Gerald Williamson	Director of Public Safety
Kevin Gee	Director of Engineering Services
Belinda Southern	Finance Director
Sid Munlin	IT Director
Bob Samford	Economic Development Director
Kent Havard	Solid Waste Director

being present when the following business was transacted.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by City Manager Keith Wright
2. Mayor Bob F. Brown welcomed Staff and the City Council.
3. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL BUDGET**

City Manager Wright presented information regarding the current budget year and projections for the 2019-2020 Annual Budget. City Manager Wright then highlighted next year's budget projections including both revenue and expenditures. City Manager Wright also reviewed revenue and expenditures for Economic Development. City Manager Wright explained that Staff proposed that one cent (.01) in revenue to be moved from the Interest to Sinking portion of the tax rate to Operations and Management to increase revenue. City Manager Wright reviewed sales tax revenue, both historically and projected. Discussion was then held regarding the recent Water and Sewer Rate Study. Director of Engineering Services, Kevin Gee, explained the study and the options that the study provided for including a needed rate increase. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner expressed the concern for citizens and Councilmember Mark Hicks stated that the needed increase of six percent (6%) for all users should be done at one time, rather than broken up over several years. City Manager Wright continued detailing the remainder of funds and provided information regarding the significant decline in revenue from the sale of recycled materials. Discussion ensued among City Council members and Staff regarding the options to eliminate or alter the recycling program in the City due to the negative impact on the budget. City Manager Wright highlighted the Economic Development budget and stated that it appeared that the Foreign Trade Zone designation for the City would be approved.

4. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING 2019-2020 ANNUAL BUDGET SIGNIFICANT CHANGES**

City Manager Wright stated that a three percent (3%) increase for all general fund employees was included in the 2019-2020 Annual Budget. Assistant City Manager Jason Arnold City Manager Wright also detailed projects and purchases to be funded out of Fund 348 and Fund 380.

5. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**

Solid Waste Director Kent Havard presented information regarding the current pay rate for CDL drivers that operate the City of Lufkin Solid Waste collection trucks. Discussion of pay rates and ways to offset the cost of increasing pay rates ensued between Staff and City Council. Discussion was also held regarding the Recycling program and ways to reduce the costs of the same.

6. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF CULVERT INSTALLATION PROGRAM**

Assistant City Manager Jason Arnold provided information regarding the current process of culvert installation for a citizen within the City limits. Assistant City Manager Arnold continued that the process was complicated and cumbersome to both the Street Department and the citizen. Assistant City Manager Arnold explained the proposed process which would ease the installation for the Street Department, be more economical as well as save citizens both time and money. Councilmember Mark Hicks questioned the amount of savings for the citizen. Assistant City Manager Arnold stated it would be a savings of approximately fifty-four dollars (\$54.00) to the citizen.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Brown convened Executive Session at 10:31 a.m. under Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code providing for the discussion of personnel matters. Mayor Brown adjourned Executive Session at 11:19 a.m. No action followed in Regular Session.

8. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Bob F. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kara Andrepont, City Secretary