

M I N U T E S
BASTROP CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING/ BUDGET WORKSHOP
August 5, 2014 at 6:30 pm

Pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter § 551, the City Council of Bastrop, Texas held a Special Workshop/Utility Meeting on the aforementioned date at the Bastrop City Hall Council Chambers located at 1311 Chestnut Street in Bastrop, Texas to consider the following matters:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – At 6:30 pm, Mayor Kesselus called the meeting to order. A full quorum was present; Council Members Jackson, Beal, McAnally, Gilleland and Mayor Pro-Tem Willie DeLaRosa were in attendance.

2. **BUDGET WORKSHOP – THE BASTROP CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS THE SPECIAL MEETING AND CONVENE INTO THE WORKSHOP SESSION TO DISCUSS:**

A. PROPOSED TAX RATE – A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TAX RATE.

City Manager Talbot opened with his review of the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 General Fund Revenues by category.

The Proposed Revenues Total is \$9,279,210.00, comprised of Ad Valorem Taxes, Sales Taxes, Franchise & Other Taxes, Licenses & Permits, Services Fees, Fines & Forfeitures, Interest & other Revenue, Intergovernmental, Miscellaneous, and Transfer In funds. He stated that we have worked very hard on the Franchise fees which are currently at 3%-6% range.

He followed with the review of the General fund Proposed Expenditures by Function with a total of \$9,808,790.00 from General Government, Public Safety, Development Services, and Community Services. The Salary Benefit Summary with a total annual salaries of \$4,459,652.00 plus benefits of \$1,697,373.00 to equal a total General Fund personnel cost of \$6,157,024.00.

City Manager Talbot provided an in-depth review of the Property Tax Distribution with the current tax rate of .58400 (rate per \$100) that reflected a Total Tax Collections \$4,595,400.00. Then a Property Tax Distribution tax rate with one-cent less .57400 (rate per \$100) that reflected a Total Tax Collection of \$4,595,400.00 for a difference of \$71,578.98 less than the total amount reflected with the current rate. City Manager Talbot then revisited the Tax Distribution Tax rate at .55340 (rate per \$100) that reflected a Total Tax Collection of \$4,376,369.00 which was \$219,030.75 less than the current tax rate.

The Council held a discussion, Council McAnally expressed her support of the one-cent tax increase which would allow for the additional police staff and the fire truck.

All the Council Members thanked City Manager Talbot for his efforts in fulfilling their request for a one cent reduction on the Tax Rate of .5740.

Mayor Kesselus inquired about the funds generated by the Cemetery in comparison to previous years; he requested a report. City Manager Talbot stated he would provide an update on his City Manager's Report.

- B. 2014-2015 BUDGET – A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION WITH THE CITY MANAGER REGARDING THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BASTROP.**

City Manager Talbot concluded his presentation of the proposed budget that addressed the following issues:

- (1) Evaluation of current and future economic growth of the City
- (2) Planning for the development and growth of the City
- (3) Planning for the equipment and vehicle needs of the various City departments
- (4) Planning for Capital projects and department expenditures
- (5) Maintaining services in an effective and efficient manner
- (6) Keeping the City's wage and compensation plan competitive with market condition for public employees for employee retention for the City's organization
- (7) Maintaining a "Competitive Tax Rate"
- (8) Developing a budget that will maintain the current service of delivery of the City Departments.

Council Members thanked the City Manager for all his work with the preparation of the Proposed Budget as he had fulfilled the requests proposed by the Council.

The Council held a discussion with respect to the City's budget and outstanding debt. After which, Council Member Beal stated that the budget submitted by the City Manager was very conservative and supported its approval.

Mayor Kesselus thanked those in attendance and moved to adjourn the Budget Workshop Session.

3. THE BASTROP CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS THE BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION AND RECONVENE INTO THE SPECIAL MEETING TO TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION(S).

At 7:58 pm, Mayor Kesselus adjourned the Budget Workshop Session and reconvened into the Special Meeting to take necessary action(s).

No Action was taken, Mayor Kesselus **skipped** the "Executive Session" (*Agenda Items 4 & 5*) and proceeded to adjournment (*Agenda Item F*).

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – THE BASTROP CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS THE SPECIAL MEETING AND CONVENE INTO CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVT. CODE, CH.551 TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

No Executive Session held.

5. THE BASTROP CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE INTO SPECIAL MEETING TO TAKE ANY NECESSARY ACTION(S).

No Action Taken.

6. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Kesselus requested a motion to adjourn. Council Member McAnally made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Gilleland meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

APPROVED: 
Ken Kesselus, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Elizabeth Lopez, City Secretary