

**MINUTES
HITCHCOCK CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
&
BUDGET WORK SESSION
HITCHCOCK CITY HALL
7423 HIGHWAY 6, HITCHCOCK, TEXAS
AUGUST 26, 2019, 6:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Mayor Randy Strickland, Commissioners Fard Abdullah, Chris Armacost, Wayne Newton, and Mark Cook

Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Marie Gelles, City Secretary Lucy Dieringer, and department representatives:

Court - Ruth Ann Sorrell

Street – Anthony Jenkins

Police – Wilmon Smith

Planning & Zoning – D. Joe Wood

Utility – Joey Dieringer

Hitchcock IDC – Sabrina Schwertner and Ricky Clifton

Hitchcock Library – Joyce Kleiman and Kathleen Brooks

Hitchcock Volunteer Fire Dept. – Mack Chapman, Tim Fleming, and Todd Zachrel

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Citizen Comments:

PLEASE NOTE: Public comments and matters from the floor are limited to 3 minutes in length. If you would like to request to speak, please do so in advance of the meeting by filling out a Request to Address Commission form. All in attendance are required to remove hats and/or sunglasses (dark glasses) during meetings and to also silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

Speakers must address their comments to the presiding officer rather than to individual commissioners or staff. Speakers will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to speak. Speakers making personal, impertinent, profane, or slanderous remarks will be given a warning before losing the privilege to speak or may be removed from the room. Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, and similar demonstrations/distractions will not be permitted. No placards, banners or signs will be permitted in the Chambers or in any room in which the Commission is meeting. In accordance with the Texas State Open Meetings Act, the City Commission is restricted from discussing or taking action on items not listed on the agenda.

As authorized by Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, the Presiding Officer may direct a City Official to make a statement of specific factual information in response to an inquiry made by a member of the public or the City Commission or a recitation of existing policy in response.

Comments were made by:

1. Harry Robinson – 9306 Woodacres – Tax rate and charging Library, HVFD, and Heritage Society for water is disservice to citizens.

First Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.674363 for Fiscal Year 2020. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles, City Administrator commented on the tax rates and revenues. Mayor Stricklind asked for Public Comments. Harry Robinson, Wilmon Smith, and Tim Fleming signed-in for the Public Hearing. Mr. Robinson stated he had already spoken during the Citizen Comments, Mr. Smith and Mr. Fleming wanted to disregard their request to comment.

Presentation, discussion, and possible action on Utility Rate Design Study. (Nelisa Hedden, Nelisa Hedding Consulting L.L.C.)

Ms. Hedden gave a detailed presentation.

(Mayor Stricklind gave a break from 7:04 – 7:10 P.M.)

Discussion on Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget:

- Hitchcock Public Library
- Hitchcock Volunteer Fire Department
- Hitchcock Industrial Development Corp.
- General Fund

Adjourn

Commissioner Abdullah moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook and passed with a 5 to 0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

Randy Stricklind, Mayor

Lucy Dieringer, City Secretary