

August 26, 2025

1. **Special Meeting called to order** at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Gerald Hall.
2. **Invocation - Mayor**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Roll Call:** Mayor Gerald Hall: Present, Councilmember Kim McDonald: Absent, Councilmember Mike Goodman: Present, Councilmember Johnnie Day: Absent, Councilmember John Bowen: Present, Councilmember Stacie Saunders: Present
5. **Consent Items:** Minutes as written for Regular Council Meeting 7/08/20205. Motion to approve minutes Staci Saunders, 2nd by Mike Goodman, Unanimous.
6. **Citizens Forum:** Cheri Booth spoke about the alley by her house on Miller Street saying the city came and did some basic work on the area a few years ago, but it is still an issue. Alfonso Lang spoke against moving forward with filling Johnnie Day's seat saying he felt it should be open to volunteers before deciding on a candidate. Gail Jones voiced her concerns for greater transparency from the city.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Consider Resignation of Johnnie Day, Councilmember, Place 4. Motion to approve resignation by John Bowen, 2nd by Kim McDonald, Unanimous.
 - b. Consider Nomination of Jennifer Lamon, Councilmember, Place 4. The mayor suggested having the council turn in nominations as well as opening the nominations up to any citizens that may be interested in serving the council. Motion to table by John Bowen, 2nd by Mike Goodman, Unanimous.
 - c. Consider & Adopt 2025 Proposed Tax Rate \$0.354502. City Secretary Kelli D. Casey discussed the no-new revenue rate, De Minimus Rate, and the voter approved tax rate, which is the proposed tax rate. Motion to approve proposed tax rate of \$0.354502 by Mike Goodman, 2nd by John Bowen, Unanimous.
 - d. Discuss Payroll & Budget for General Fund Departments (City Hall, Police, Municipal Court, FVFD, Streets, Parks, Library/Museum) and the Water & Sewer Department. The council was given suggested cuts based off 5-year spending trends & current manning for General Fund departments (that have various budget items) by City Secretary Kelli D. Casey in hopes of giving guidelines to help council balance the general fund budget. Our past budgets have been based off a surplus from years past, and to ensure the financial health of the city last year, under Mayor Tommy Carr, the city started its transition of reducing manning and cost to ensure a balanced budget before exhausting the surplus completely. After the council reviewed the budgets for City Hall and the Municipal Court, both departments are okay with the cuts made to their operating budgets. Representatives from the library were asked to attend the meeting to discuss the funding necessary to ensure they keep their accreditation. According to the representatives from the library, reducing their budget could put their accreditation at risk. Mike Goodman assured them the council would not cut their budgets. Fire Chief Doug Hicks was not in attendance, so the council decided to wait on discussing that department's budget. Chief Goodman was made aware of his 5-year projected spending and was putting together numbers to present the council based off their upcoming needs. Chief Goodman will present those numbers at the next meeting. The parks budget was reduced based on past spending as well as the daily operating cost of the street budget. Currently, with water rate increases, the water department budget is balanced. Water Superintendent Michael Hatton discussed a few needs of the department which have already been added to the department's proposed budget. Michael Hatton is happy with his

proposed budget. A suggestion was made to table budget talks until Tuesday, September 2. Motion to table by Staci Saunders, 2nd by Mike Goodman, Unanimous

- e. Consider Bid for New Backhoe for Water & Sewer Department. Water & Sewer Superintendent presented the lowest bid for the council's consideration. The council agreed to look at additional finance options through Austin Bank before financing the backhoe. Motion was made to approve the bid by Holt CAT for \$104,577.52 and to get additional financing options through Austin Bank, by Mike Goodman, 2nd by Staci Saunders, Unanimous.
- f. Property Maintenance – Open discussion of current property complaints

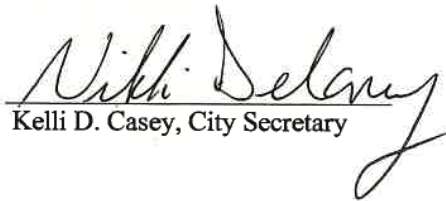
8. Items from Council:

9. Staff Reports: Police, K-9, FVFD, W&S, Municipal Court, Streets

10. Announcements:

11. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:46 by Mayor Gerald Hall


Gerald Hall, Mayor


Kelli D. Casey, City Secretary