



MINUTES - Budget Work Session

ROCKWALL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, August 24, 2020 – 5:00 PM

Rockwall City Hall, City Council Chambers – 385 S. Goliad St. Rockwall, TX 75087

I. CALL PUBLIC MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Pruitt called the public meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Present were Mayor Jim Pruitt, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Fowler, and Council Members Dana Macalik, John Hohenshelt, Bennie Daniels and Trace Johannesen. Also present were City Manager Rick Crowley, Assistant City Managers Mary Smith and Joey Boyd, various department directors and staff. Council Member Anna Campbell joined the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

II. OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Pruitt asked if anyone would like to come forth and speak at this time.

Nick Grant
1569 Old E. Quail Run Road
Rockwall, TX

Mr. Grant came forth and complimented the Council on a couple of city-related maintenance contracts that are currently in place (i.e. right-of-way maintenance on John King Boulevard).

No one else indicated a desire to come forth and speak at this time, so Mayor Pruitt closed Open Forum.

III. HOLD WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021 CITY OF ROCKWALL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

City Manager, Rick Crowley and Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, Mary Smith briefed Council on the overall proposed budget as well as the General Fund (including reserves), the Water/Sewer Fund, and the Debt Services Fund. Following the briefing, a series of questions and answers ensued between Council and staff.

City Management generally indicated that staff will be keeping a pulse on sales tax and other revenue streams and may request budget-related adjustments accordingly, should those needs arise throughout the upcoming fiscal year. However, for now, the proposed budget is very 'slim' out of an abundance of caution, since the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are not fully known at this juncture.

Mayor Pruitt suggested that, in the future, staff work on developing a marketing plan to 'market' encouraging residents to move to Rockwall in lieu of purchasing a home outside of our city limits within a Municipal Utility District (MUD). He wants home buyers to know that they could purchase a much

larger, nicer home within Rockwall's city limits if they chose not to devote so much money to the extra taxes and fees associated with living in a MUD.

He also encouraged that, in the future, there be one, single staff member that assists residents who are navigating the 'building permits' process (i.e. storage/accessory buildings at their home, fences, driveway extensions, etc.). He suggested that the person be in the City Manager's office, perhaps the Public Information Officer, and that the staff person act as a liaison between the resident pulling the permit and staff. He believes that designating one point of contact will help curtail misunderstandings and miscommunications.

Indication was given that a public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate will be held at a regular city council meeting in September, and the Council will be asked to adopt the budget at the second meeting of next month. The budget will go into effect starting October 1.

Council took no formal action pertaining to this work session.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pruitt adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, THIS 8th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.



JIM PRUITT, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KRISTY COLE, CITY SECRETARY

