

**CITY OF SANTA FE  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 7, 2021 1:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
12002 HWY. 6, SANTA FE, TEXAS**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman  
Councilmember Jason O'Brien  
Councilmember Melanie Collins  
Councilmember Fidencio Leija  
Absent: Mayor Jason Tabor, excused

**Workshop: Overview of proposed 2021/2022 general fund operating budget**

City Manager Glen Adams said this is an overview of the proposed budget that will be presented tomorrow evening at the regular council meeting in compliance with the charter. He reviewed the city's mission and vision statements and addressed current inflation, fund balance comparisons, revenue assumptions, staff recommendations for capital outlay purchases, proposed expenditures for maintenance and operations, and the budget timeline.

**Business:**

**a. Consideration and possible action: Providing guidance to the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation as they prepare to discuss and develop a proposed 2021/22 operating budget**

City Manager Glen Adams presented a budget guidance proposal for the SFEDC to consider when developing the upcoming 2021/22 budget. The proposal includes the current Hwy. 1764 project obligation, a business retention and expansion program, a new business program, contribution to the city's lease purchase payment for the excavator, supporting the Avenue P drainage project, funding the comprehensive plan, continuing the agreement with the city to provide administrative services to the SFEDC, and dedicating American Rescue Plan Act funding for the FM 646N water and sewer expansion project along with a lift station on west 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

**d. Discussion: American Rescue Plan of 2021 anticipated funding and potential projects and presentation by WCID #8 regarding their ability to support specific projects**

Representatives of WCID #8, including Tommy Anderson, James Newman, and Board Member Fritz Barnett, were present and Mr. Anderson said the water district cannot commit \$1 million for water and sewer expansion because their bond funds can only be repaid by ad valorem taxes from the district. He said they have already committed \$3 million to upgrade the sewer pipe, water pumps, ground storage tank, and a new well at water plant #1. Mr. Anderson said if they sold more bonds, an undue burden would be placed entirely on water district taxpayers in order to fund projects that would serve those outside the district. He said they propose the city entertain a bond program of \$11 million to run water and sewer north on both sides of FM 646 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Mr. Anderson said a 20-year bond at 3 percent would equate to an annual payment of about \$278,000 for the city and \$278,000 for the SFEDC and would increase taxes by about 3.7 cents. He said this falls within the scope of the Master Utility Plan developed jointly a few years ago. Councilmember Pittman said the optimal advantage is for both entities to work together to help each other grow the utility infrastructure. Mr. Anderson said the water district will continue to discuss options for expansion.

Council recessed at 3:04 p.m. and reconvened at 3:12 p.m.

**b. Discussion: Master Equity Lease with Enterprise Fleet Management Trust for leasing fleet vehicles for city operations**

Council discussed the proposed lease plan for the public works and police administrative vehicles but we continue to wait for the new prices to be released by the vehicle manufacturers. Mrs. Collins said the City of Alvin has seen benefits from this program.

**e. Executive Session, closed to the public, under Section 551.074, Government Code, to discuss the appointment of a Municipal Court Judge and a Municipal Court Associate Judge**

Council adjourned at 3:37 p.m. into Executive Session, closed to the public, under Section 551.074, Government Code, to discuss the appointment of a Municipal Court Judge and a Municipal Court Associate Judge and reconvened at 4:03 p.m.

**c. Discussion: Benefits of a comprehensive plan**

Mr. David Smith, former Mayor of the City of Friendswood, provided a synopsis of a comprehensive plan based upon his actual experiences and understanding of it. He used the analogy and family-unit planning life style and retirement finances to explain a city plan. He said the more detail, the better the plan and the more choices available. Mr. Smith said a comprehensive plan creates opportunities for future generations as it is a fluid document that guides planning and development. He said the plan will define what the community will look like in the future and how you get there and if you are willing to accept the consequences and cost in order to make it become a reality. Mr. Smith said a comprehensive plan assists with objective decision-making by guiding decisions, providing an opportunity and the ability to educate the public, and considering the financial impacts of decisions. He said some federal funding programs require a comprehensive plan to be in place with shovel-ready projects identified. He also said the Corp of Engineers require interactive discussion with citizenry and a comprehensive plan demonstrates that process. Mr. Smith said a consultant should serve as the facilitator for the council, committees, and citizens ideas and vision for the community. He said some citizens may disagree with the vision but they will have a healthy respect for it if they were a part of the process and were heard.

Council postponed tomorrow evening's scheduled meeting until next week, July 15, 2021.

Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

---

JASON TABOR, MAYOR

ATTEST:

---

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary