

**CITY OF SANTA FE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 29, 2020 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6, SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Jason Tabor.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jason Tabor
 Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman
 Councilmember IV Hoke
 Councilmember Jason O'Brien
 Councilmember Corey Jannett, excused from meeting at 7:30 p.m.
 Councilmember Fidencio Leija

Also in attendance were City Manager Glen Adams, City Secretary Janet L. Davis, Police Chief Philip Meadows, Police Captain Robert Shores, Municipal Court Administrator Lisa Snider, City Marshal Robert Wood, Director of Administrative Services Stacey Baker, Library Director Brenda Cheatham, Community Services Director Diana Steelquist, and Building Official Marty Haley.

Workshop: Discussion of 2020/2021 general fund operating budget

City Manager Glen Adams opened the workshop with a report from last night's Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation meeting when the Board of Directors agreed to provide funds to the city to help with the annual payment on the new excavator if the city would put that money towards drainage improvements. He said we have included the approximate \$40,000 contribution from the SFEDC as revenue in this proposed budget and have also included additional funding of \$40,000 in the street department for drainage operations. Mr. Adams updated Council on the changes made to the proposed budget based upon comments from the previous workshops, and he said the menu items are on the table for discussion and possible funding during the upcoming year. Council's priorities seemed to focus on additional pay increases for the equipment operators in the street department, an additional building inspector, a deputy marshal, and funds to complete the first phase of the therapeutic garden. Also discussed was funding for support of the Chamber's Heritage Festival and College of the Mainland's Promise Program. Discussion about development of a comprehensive plan was put on hold until the SFEDC is able to hold an election in May to request authorization from the citizens to expand the use of funding for projects other than streets, drainage, water and sewer. Council discussed the proposal to increase the retirement program to a 2 to 1 match for employees and the advantage of morale, retention, and the possibility to recoup training and development expenses was weighed against the recurring cost. Council also discussed replacing the entire police fleet of eight with two additional units beginning next year at an annual cost of about \$100,000 for the following five years. One-time expenses for replacement of the HVAC units at the community center and at city hall were strongly considered for funding during this upcoming budget year as well as equipment for the police department criminal investigation division. Next week's workshop will continue discussion of next year's funding, and the assessed property valuations and tax rate calculations will be reviewed.

Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

ATTEST:

JASON TABOR, MAYOR

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary