

City of Pilot Point, Texas

Minutes of the September 9, 2020

City Council Budget Work Session Meeting

The City Council of the City of Pilot Point, Texas met on this date at 6:30 p.m. for a regular City Council meeting. City Council members present were Mayor Shea Dane-Patterson, Andy Singleton, Jim Porter, Pearlie Simpson, Dean Cordell and Matt McIlravy. City Staff members present were City Manager Britt Lusk, Police Chief Tim Conner, Economic Development Corporation Director Denise Morris, Financial Manager Lana Ensminger, Public Works Director Trent Vandagriff, Development Services Director John Taylor, Fire Chief Heath Hudson and Acting City Secretary JoAnn Wright.

A. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dane-Patterson announced a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. PLEDGE TO FLAGS

1. United States of America
2. Texas Flag

*Honor the Texas Flag, I pledge allegiance to thee,
Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible*

Mayor Dane-Patterson led the pledges to the flags.

D. INVOCATION

Invocation was led by Councilmember and former United Methodist Preacher Dr. Jim Porter.

E. REGULAR AGENDA

Discuss, consider and possible action on a resolution accepting the resignation of Whitney Delcourt and declaring vacancy for place two.

August 31, 2020 Councilmember Delcourt submitted a letter of resignation effective immediately.

Mayor Dane-Patterson moved to accept the resignation of Councilmember Delcourt. Councilmember Cordell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Discuss, consider and possible action on City's policies and procedures to fill the vacancy in Place 2 of the City Council.**

Councilmember Delcourt resigned effective immediately on August 31, 2020.

The Council Member's resignation is effective on the date the resignation accepted by the City Council or on the 8th day after the date of its receipt by the City, whichever is earlier. Sec. 201.023 Tex. Elec. Code.

The City Council, within 30 days of the declared vacancy, must appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of Council Member Delcourt's term or until the next regular City election, whichever occurs first. -Per Sec. 3.06 of the City Charter.

If council follows previous procedures, the following schedule is recommended:

The City Secretary's Office will accept applications until September 21, 2020 and the interviews and appointment take place on September 28, 2020. This timeframe will meet the requirements of the City Charter.

Councilmember Porter moved to appoint a new councilmember place 2 on meeting of 9/28/2020. Councilmember Cordell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Discuss and consider FY 2020 / 2021 Budget**

City Manager Lusk stated he took the comments from previous meetings and department heads looked over the budget to see where it could be cut. Staff went back to the voter approved rate of .64 percent which is tight and balanced.

City Manager presented council with the proposed budget and went over some items:

- 5-year payback to Reserve
- 10% W/S increase for Residential

- 15% W increase for Non-Residential
- \$2.00 Drainage increase for Residential and \$3.00 increase for Commercial
- Audit fees reduced by \$8,000
- Attorney fees increased by \$25,000
- Sprinkler removed from Old City Park of \$10,000
- Fence repairs increased from \$10,000 to \$14,000
- 10% + \$50,000 revenue fee transfer line item
- VAR Revenue @ 3.5% of 0.619717

At the new rates and with the cuts proposed there are the following differences:

- Fund 1 (General Fund) \$2,227.56
- Fund 2 (Water and Sewer) \$9,020.61

What does this mean for our citizens?

Property tax amount will be on a \$200,00 home will be \$14.32 below the Di Minimus rate.

Councilmember Singleton ask if there was a starting date for the new wastewater treatment plant.

Public Works Director Vandagriff stated the City has submitted a discharge permit to the State and is waiting on the permit process with TCEQ.

Councilmember Porter asked about the loans for the plant.

City Manager Lusk stated the city could get a low interest loan

Mayor Dane-Patterson asked if utilities were cleared on the property.

Public Works Director Vandagriff stated yes.

City Manager Lusk showed a comparison rate with other cities. The proposed rate is lower than many of the surrounding cities.

Councilmember Porter stated Council is pleased that this new proposed rate is lower.

Mayor Dane-Patterson stated appreciation for the lower rate but stated that the older citizens and people on fixed incomes will still be suffering. Ms. Dane-Patterson asked for the staff to keep looking to see if there was anything else that could be cut from the budget. Ms. Dane-Patterson stated that she hated to see the sprinkler system in the Old City Park out of the budget, but she would rather see a much-needed police officer than grass in the park.

Councilmember Cordell stated that he had worked out a deal with the Public Works Director and one of his sources to get the pipes for park sprinklers and was going to get volunteers to do the work, but the past administration turned it down. Mr. Cordell stated that he would like to try to work out another deal, if he could.

Mayor Dane-Patterson stated one other thing she has a question about is the fences that are needing repair.

Public Works Director Vandagriff stated at ballpark. Fences were taken down for work and repair. The fences need to be repaired to make safe. There may also be something in there for fencing around the tee ball field or dugouts.


F. ADJOURN

Councilmember Porter mentioned the article about Councilmember McIlravy from the Pilot Point Post Signal and the adoption of their family.

Mayor Dane-Patterson moved to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Councilmember Cordell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


 Shea Dane-Patterson, Mayor

ATTEST:


 Lenette Cox, Acting City Secretary