

STATE OF TEXAS)()(
COUNTY OF RUNNELS)()(
CITY OF BALLINGER)()(

On this the 13th day of September 2021 the Ballinger City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall located at 700 Railroad Avenue with the following members present:

Dawni Seymore	Mayor
Ken Manley	Council Member # 1
Richard “Rick” Morrish	Mayor Pro-tem
Ryan Lange	Council Member #3
Steven Gray, Jr.	Council Member # 4

City Staff:

Bonita Shields	City Secretary
Brian Frieda	City Manager
Sharon Hicks	City Attorney
Ray Cornutt	Chief of Police
Chad Mercer	Code Enforcement
John Pierik III	Finance Director

Others present: Brent Allen, Elaine Paske- **Citizens**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dawni Seymore called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Brian Frieda was asked to lead the group in a word of prayer and the pledge of allegiance and pledge to the Texas flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Rick Morrish made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 23,2021 meeting with one correction. Second by **Council Member Steven Gray, Jr.** and was unanimously approved.

BUSINESS:

APPROVING PUBLIC MANAGEMENT TO BE THE CITY OF BALLINGER’S GRANT ADMINISTRATOR REGARDING FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN:

Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. made the motion to approve hiring Public Management as the grant administrator for funds received under the American Recovery plan. **Second by Council Member Ryan Lange.** Motion carries with Council Members Rick Morrish, Ryan Lange and Steven Gray, Jr. voting “Aye” and Council Member Ken Manley absent.

APPROVING KSA AS THE CITY OF BALLINGER’S AIRPORT CONSULTANT FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 5 YEARS:

Council Member Ryan Lange made the motion to approve hiring KSA as the airport consultant for a period not to exceed five years. **Second by Council Member Steven Gray, Jr.** Motion carries with Council Members Rick Morrish, Ryan Lange and Steven Gray, Jr. voting “Aye” and Council Member Ken Manley absent.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

Monthly police department activity report:
Ray Cornutt reported to the Council that the police department worked 52 animal control calls, made 4 arrests, took 264 reports, worked 1 accident, answered 243 calls, issued 21 citations and \$11,384.00 was collected in court fines.

Reminder September 18, 2021 will be the fundraising event for the Carnegie Library. This event will be held in the green belt area behind city hall between 8th street and Broadway.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ENTER INTO PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE FY 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET:

Mayor Dawni Seymore opened the public hearing at 5:45 p.m.

John Pierik III reported to the Council that the figures that were discussed at the budget workshop are the same except for the adjustment that were brought up at the workshop.

No one was present for the public hearing and no other discussed was had.

Mayor Dawni Seymore closed the public hearing at 5:46 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ENTER INTO PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2021-2022 TAX RATE OF \$.532006/100 VALUATION:

Mayor Dawni Seymore opened the public hearing at 5:46 p.m.

Brian Frieda reported to the Council that the proposed tax rate has been set at \$.532006/100 valuation. The property values were increased this year and this tax rate and values will increase the revenue for current city taxes by \$40,890.00.

There was no one presented at the public hearing and no further discuss was had.

Mayor Dawni Seymore closed the public hearing at 5:47 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE FY2022 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BALLINGER:

Council Member Ryan Lange made the motion to approve the raising of more revenue from property taxes in the fiscal year 2022 budget compared to the previous year by \$40,809 or 4.7% as reflected in the budget documents. **Second by Council Member Rick Morrish.** The motion carries with Mayor Dawni Seymore voting "for", Rick Morrish voting "for", Ryan Lange voting "for" and Steven Gray, Jr voting "for". Council Members Ken Manley was absent.

Council Member Ryan Lange made the motion to approve Ordinance 09302021 to adopt the FY22 proposed operating budget for the City of Ballinger as presented. **Second by Council Member Steven Gray.** The motion carries with Mayor Dawni Seymore voting "for", Rick Morrish voting "for", Ryan Lange voting "for" and Steven Gray, Jr voting "for", Council Members Ken Manley voting was absent.

ADOPTION OF THE 201-2022 TAX RATE OF \$.532006/100 VALUATION:

Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. made the motion to approve ordinance 09032021A to set the city tax rate for October 2021 at \$.532006/100. **Second by Council Member Ryan Lange.** The motion carries with Mayor Dawni Seymore voting "for", Council Members Ken Manley voting "for", Rick Morrish voting "for", Ryan Lange voting "for" and Steven Gray, Jr voting "for".

APPROVE STAFF TO SECURE LEASE OF EQUIPMENT BUDGETED FOR IN THE FY 2022 BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRING POTHOLE AND OTHER DEFECT AS POSSIBLE:

Brian reported to the Council that this is the piece of equipment that was presented to them at the last meeting. The lease price for JCB Hydra dig is \$3,837.00 monthly. The residual of the equipment is going to be high which enable the city to turn around and use that at the end of the lease to get into the latest equipment offered. There is \$50,000 allocated in the budget for the lease payments. The lease includes 500 operating hours, and the term of the lease is 4-5 years. The equipment comes with thirteen attachments which include an asphalt cutter, grading beam, patch planners and compactors. This piece of equipment should help in saving man hour time fixing potholes. This would be a three-man crew. The street department would receive two weeks of training on the equipment. After further discussion, **Council Member Steven Gray, Jr.** made the motion to approve the lease of the JCB Hydra dig equipment. **Second by Ken Manley** and was unanimously approved.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT CONTINUED

Becky Springer reported to the Council that she sent out a public works update to the Council this afternoon. She also reported on the following items.

City crews have been replacing areas of sewer line and new manholes. Crews have been actively repairing sections of roadway where new water main had been placed recently.

Brush truck is operating as possible; however, staff has requested Republic To place roll off containers in a couple of locations to receive limbs by those that can haul them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the meeting to discuss any matters listed, as authorized by Texas Government Code.

- a. Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney** (To seek the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflict with the Texas Open Meetings Act).
- b. Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property** (The Council may consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property).
- c. Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.** The City Council may consider appointment, employment, compensation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of public officers or employees, and Commission Members (may also be reappointment).

The Council went in executive session at 6:02 p.m. as authorized by Section 551.071, 551.072 and 551.073.

RECONVENE:

The Council reconvened into regular session at 7:11 p.m.
No action taken from executive session.

ADJOURN:

Council Member made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.
Second by Council Member and was unanimously approved.

Dawni Seymore
Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita F. Shields
City Secretary