

STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF RUNNELS §  
CITY OF BALLINGER §

On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023, the Ballinger City Council meet 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
Richard “Rick” Morrish	Mayor Pro-Tem
Steve Gray	Councilmember Place #4
Ken Manley – Arriving at 5:55p.m.	Councilmember Place #1

Absent:  
Ryan Lange Councilmember Place #3

Staff Present:	
Blaine Ross	City Secretary/Interim City Manager
Sharon Hicks	City Attorney
Cord Bowman	Public Works Director
Ray Cornutt	Chief of Police
Doug Martella – Via Phone	Financial Advisor

- 1. Call meeting to Order:** Mayor Seymore call the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.
- 2. Prayer and Pledges:** Councilmember Gray gave the invocation and lead the pledges.
- 3. Citizen Presentations for Items not on the Agenda:** Citizen Hardy expressed his concern about the city’s finances, water supply and dumpster issues. Citizen Mike \_\_\_\_\_ expressed his concern about the water supply and street conditions.
- 4. Public Comment on Agenda Items other than a Public Hearing:** None
- 5. Consent Agenda:**
  - a. Approve Minutes from the August 23, 2023 City Council Meeting.  
Councilmember Morrish made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023 City Council meeting. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. At 5:46 p.m., Mayor Seymore moved the meeting to item 6f, November 2023 Election Matters.
- 6. Regular Agenda Items for Discussion, Consideration and/or Action:**
  - a. **5:45 Public Hearing – Starting at 5:51 p.m.**
    - i. For the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-20234 Budget. Doug Martella presented the fiscal year 2023-20234 budget. Public Hearing closed at 6:33 p.m.

**b. 6:00 Public Hearing – Starting at 6:34 p.m.**

- i. On the proposed Tax Rate of \$0.5520052 per \$100 of valuation for the Tax Year 2024. Doug Martella presented the fiscal year 2023-20234 tax rate. Public Hearing closed at 6:37 p.m.

**c. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding:**

- i. **Ordinance 2023-09-001** of the City of Ballinger, Texas to adopt the FY 2023-2024 Budget, and
- ii. **Resolution 2023-09-001** acknowledging and ratifying the adoption of the FY 2023-2024 budget that will require raising more revenue from taxes than the prior year. Item c was tabled until another council meeting.

**d. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding Ordinance 2023-09-002** of the City of Ballinger, Texas, to adopt the 2023 Property Tax Rate of \$0.552052 per \$100. Item c was tabled until another council meeting

**e. REMOVE FROM THE TABLE:** Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding an Ordinance setting rates for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023

- i. Water Rates.
- ii. Garbage Rates. Item e was tabled until Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**f. November 2023 Election Matters**

- i. Approve Certification from City Secretary that positions for Mayor and Council Member Place 2 are unopposed.
- ii. Issue Order cancelling election for those positions only. Starting at 5:46 p.m. Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the Election Matters. Councilmember Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**g. REMOVE FROM THE TABLE:** Selling the Humvee at auction. Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the sale of the Humvee at auction. Councilmember Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**7. City Manager’s Report:**

- a. Public Works Update: Streets, Wastewater Water, Water Treatment Plant. Public works director Bowman gave the monthly Water Treatment Plant report and updated the council on repairs to sewer mains and street repairs.

**8. Future Agenda Items – Discuss and Consider: None**

**9. Executive Session:** Council Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code.

- a. **Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney.**
  - i. Finance Agreement Termination with JCB
- b. **Section 551.072 Deliberations about Real Property.**
- c. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.**
  - i. Housing Authority Board Member

**10. Reconvene and take Action if needed from Executive Session:** The City Council reconvened in open session at 8:06 p.m. Mayor Seymore stated that no votes or action were taken on JCB. Councilmember Gray made a motion to appoint Martha Pinckney as a member to the Housing Authority Board. Councilmember Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. Adjourn:** Councilmember Manley made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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Dawni Seymore  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Blaine A. Ross  
City Secretary