

SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
LONE STAR CITY COUNCIL
FIRE HALL – 201 WEST INDUSTRIAL
August 29, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

*We reserve the right to enter into Executive Session on any Agenda item pertaining to
TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. Sections 551.071-551.078, 551.087-551.089*

In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, the City of Lone Star issues this public notice. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in executive or closed session, the board will convene in such executive or closed session in accordance with Section 551 of the Texas Government Code, Et Seq. The City Council will consider and act on the following items:

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice.

MINUTES

Present were Mayor Randy Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerri Chism, Aldermen Rudy Dudley, Mona Brown, Tony Johnson, Cody Wommack and Secretary Tina Love.

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Randy Hodges at 6:11 pm

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS – Keith Reiter expressed his opinion about voting only for an increase in cost without any budget cuts.

3. ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Review, discussion, and possible action of the 2022-2023 General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund Budgets and proposed property tax rate for 2023.

Council reviewed the proposed General Fund and Water & Sewer budgets and made additional adjustments. Previous discussions referenced the possibility of Water & Sewer rate increases. The City Secretary provided various models calculating Water & Sewer rate increases at 5%, 8%, and 10% for the Councils consideration. Another option discussed was to not replace retiring employees. The City could consider having Water and Sewer payments made to a local bank and deposited similar to what Bowie Cass did when an employee retired and their local office closed. This would reduce an expense on the General Fund. Cody Wommack has spoken with representatives at Cypress Bank and Lone Star State Bank and this option could be considered. Citizens would need to have an established bank account or pay a minimal fee for those who don't. The Mayor discussed all options are up for consideration and the City will need to monitor and adjust spending throughout the year.

A motion to select model #2, which increases the Water and Sewer rates 5%, was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Jerri Chism. Four voted Aye, one no vote.

The topic to hire a fourth officer was discussed. During previous budget meetings, citizens expressed concern about their safety with the City having only three officers. If the budget disallows the hiring of a fulltime officer, then the City should consider hiring a part-time officer.

A motion to hire a part time officer at \$15.00/hr. was made by Rudy Dudley with a second from Mona Brown. Four voted Aye; One no vote.

4.0 ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerri Chism with a second from Mona Brown. All present voted Aye.

/s/ Randy Hodges
Mayor

/s/ Tina Love
City Secretary