

**MINUTES
CITY OF TEAGUE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
JULY 19, 2018 1:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER: *The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by Mayor James Monks and Quorum was announced with all present Aldermen seated at their respective places with Chris Nickleberry, Alderman Place IV absent.*

2. WORKSHOP AND DISCUSSION
 - Discussion on the proposed 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the City of Teague. *Budget was presented by City Administrator Theresa Prasil with input from the following Department Heads regarding their departments' prepared budgets and additional needs:*
 - *Public Works Director Jacob Cowling: Airport, Community Center, Parks, Streets, Sewer and Water Departments*
 - *Fire Chief Jody Bodine: Fire Department*
 - *Librarian Diane Willis: Library*
 - *Police Chief DeWayne Philpott: Police Department*

General Fund

General Fund Revenue

City Administrator Prasil explained that the Estimated Property Tax Value and Sales Tax Revenues are projected to decrease for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget. She also explained that due to recent House Bill 351 and Senate Bill 1913 the Municipal Judge has been given more discretion to decide how a ticket may be paid to include the need for more community service and full or partial waiver as explained in the two documents the Board of Aldermen received.

Administration

Alderman Michaud requested that the City Administrator be compensated for using her own vehicle for city business as she uses it on a regular basis and does not receive compensation and at this time she is having to make multiple trips to Fairfield to attend meetings.

City Administrator Prasil asked that a new line item be created and additional funds be allocated for TDCJ Facilities Issues as this will allow for better tracking and not interfere with the normal business expenses. She also stated that after completing the budget as it is today and speaking with the Department Heads and Administration staff we feel that we would like to eliminate the Janitorial Services in all departments excluding the Community Center and repurpose those funds in more pressing areas.

Airport

City Administrator Prasil stated that the EDC is currently working on a project with three possible businesses that would require some major improvements at the Teague Airport. She also stated that the EDC Director Bill Elliot has informed her that their board is very interested and would help fund the project in addition to obtainable grants.

Mayor Monks requested that the City Staff obtain quotes and check the legality of building new hangers at the airport.

Aldermen Rasbeary inquired about getting a new fuel system.

City Administrator Prasil explained that this is on the to do list. She also explained that the RAMP Grant, the City currently receives funds from, requires the City to address all other maintenance issues prior to any fuel system repairs/replacements and that we are hoping to have all those issues resolved by the end of this fiscal year with hopes of a new fuel system in the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.



Community Center

City Administrator Prasil made note that there are four new line items included with the proposed budget. Explaining that the new items will allow for better record keeping of the specific issues regarding the Over 55 and TWC Facilities. Mrs. Prasil also stated that many of the expenses incurred by this department is due to the Over 55 Center's staff damaging and breaking things.

Alderman Rasbeary stated so the City pays for all of the damages.

Mayor Monks asked if there is an agreement between the City of Teague and the Senior Center.

City Administrator Prasil replied no, not at this time.

Mayor Monks asked that Mrs. Prasil work on obtaining an agreement.

Fire Department

City Administrator Prasil and Fire Chief Bodine asked for an additional \$6,000, \$2,500 to purchase one additional set of bunker gear and \$3,500 to be added to the SCBA line item, explaining that the \$3,500 would allow for a total of 3 SCBAs to be purchased next year, which will leave the department only 8 more to replace.

Library

Librarian Willis stated that she would like the \$4,000 for the Janitorial Expense Line Item be moved to the Fire Department to help cover their needed cost.

Municipal Court

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

Museum

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

Parks

Presented by City Administrator Prasil and Public Works Director Cowling

Police

City Administrator Prasil stated that \$2,000 for Office Supplies will not be enough to last the Department the year and recommended that part of the Janitorial Funds that are to be repurposed be allocated to Office Supply Line Item.

Police Chief Philpott replied he agreed that the \$2,000 for Office Supplies was not enough, but he wants to take the complete \$6,000 and allocate it to Training. He explained that each officer is required to take certain classes and the current amount will not cover the expenses.

City Administrator Prasil asked Chief Philpott what the recently purchased online training subscription was for and for better explanation on why the department needed over \$8,000 for training.

Mayor Monks stated that he obtains most of his required CEU hours from TCOLE and other agencies for free.

Chief Philpott stated that he still feels that the department needs those funds in the Training Line Item.

Alderman Rasbeary stated he does not feel that \$3,000 is sufficient for uniforms for the department and also asked how many uniforms each current officer has?

Chief Philpott replied, each officer has two Class B and one Class A uniform.

Alderman Rasbeary replied that the officers need at least one additional set of uniforms.

Streets

Public Works Director Cowling presented possible road repairs and replacements which would require additional allocated funds.

Alderman Hertenberger expressed the need to fix what is underneath the roads first before redoing the roads.

The Board of Aldermen agreed to not allocate additional funds for major repairs and for the department to continue patching the streets.

Mayor and Alderman

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

Code Comp. / Animal Control

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

Utility Fund

Sanitation Department Revenue

Alderman Rasbeary asked how the Collection Center Pass revenue was working out? City Administrator Prasil replied, the City is still covering most of the expenses for the Collection Center and as of date, we have only collected \$1,215 for the passes.

Sanitation Department Expenditures

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

Sewer Department Revenue

Mayor Monks asked Mrs. Prasil to present the utility rate information that she prepared. City Administrator Prasil distributed the information and explained that the information provided included; current utility rate comparison with surrounding cities, proposed utility rate increases and utility rate comparison with surrounding cities with proposed increase. Mrs. Prasil explained that the presented budget, even without the additional identified needs, has a beginning total deficit of -\$134,407 and that we would have to find a way to cover the expenses and balance the budget. She stated with the presented rate increases, the City would be able to collect an additional \$208,000, which would cover the deficit and the additional identified expenditures. She also made note that with the presented rate increase the City of Teague would still be in line with rates of surrounding cities.

Alderman Hertenberger stated, I thought we did this last year.

City Administrator Prasil replied, we talked about raising the rates due to the infrastructure issues, but we never actually did.

Alderman Hertenberger asked, when was the last time we raised the utility rates?

City Administrator Prasil replied 2016, when we addressed the unit-based billing.

Alderman Ballew noted, we can not make a decision on this at this meeting.

City Administrator Prasil stated this is true, but we must find a way to cover the City's basic expenditures and the presented rate increase is an option. She also stated that if the Board does not want to go this route, that we will need to identify expenditures to cut or another way to generate the additional revenue. Mrs. Prasil making note that the City of Teague has one of the highest property tax rates in the area and that she did not feel that the City should increase the property tax rate.

It was agreed upon to update the Proposed 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget to reflect the proposed utility rate increase for the next Budget Workshop.

Sewer Department Expenditures

City Administrator Prasil expressed her appreciation of how hard the Operators work and the long hours they put in on a regular basis due to the condition of the City's infrastructure. She and Public Works Director Cowling are requesting additional funds to give the four operators \$1 per hour raise and the ability to hire one additional employee in the Sewer/Water Department. She stated that she personally experienced two incidents over the past week where every Public Works employee was working on a major infrastructure emergency and we still did not have enough employees. She also stated that the current employees are extremely tired and wore out from the long, through the night hours, from the emergencies regarding the water and sewer infrastructure.

Water Department Revenue

Alderman Rasbeary asked, how much more revenue would the water rate increase generate?

City Administrator Prasil responded an estimated \$120,000.

Water Department Expenditure

Public Works Director Cowling explained that there are several issues and projects that need to be addressed in the Water Department to include the following:

- Well 3 Inspection to identify necessary repairs, Inspection only \$15,370
- Well 4 & 2 need generators, approximately \$160,000
- Vehicles
- Water Meter Reading System, Johnson Supply still working on pricing (Due to FCC regulation changes)

Court's Special Funds, Police Forfeiture Fund, Interest Sinking Fund(TDCJ Bond)

Presented by City Administrator Prasil

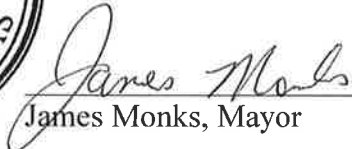
It was agreed upon to update the Proposed 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget to include the utility rate increases and the additional agreed upon expenditures and present the updated budget at the next Budget Workshop.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

The City of Teague,


Theresa Prasil, City Secretary / Adm




James Monks, Mayor