

**THE CITY OF CISCO  
CITY COUNCIL, REGULAR CALLED MEETING  
September 11, 2017**

**CISCO, TEXAS §  
EASTLAND, COUNTY §**

The City Council of the City of Cisco met in a regular called *session* at the Cisco City Hall in Cisco as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<b>MAYOR</b>	<b>JAMES KING</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE I</b>	<b>JASON WEGER</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE II</b>	<b>DENNIS CAMPBELL</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE III</b>	<b>WILLARD JOHNSON</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE V</b>	<b>TAMMY DOUGLAS</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE VI</b>	<b>CHRIS JOHNSON</b>

**PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

<b>CITY MANAGER</b>	<b>DARWIN ARCHER</b>
<b>CITY SECRETARY</b>	<b>TAMMY OSBORNE</b>

**PERSONNEL ABSENT:**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE IV</b>	<b>RANDY BOLES</b>
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Guests: Peggy Ledbetter, Stephen Forester, Butch Petree, Connie McAlister, J.R. McAlister, Robert Johnson, Pat Haigwood, Elisa Olguin, Andy Porter, Kari Porter, Janella Jarvis, Tammy Archer, Mary Rains, Doug Witt, Ginny Witt, Jon Carroll, Linda Duncan, Lon Duncan, Kara Thompson, John Diers, Ken McCulloch, Matthew Holm, Judy Posey, Bill Hallmark, Blake McDowell, Kelly Sellers, Paul Sellers, Norma Duncan, Herman Eaker, Craig Kent, Randy Johnson, Kassie Eaker, Jerry Elrod, Larry Sellers, Cheryl Howerton, Ronnie Allman, Doyle Seabourn, Jimmy Yowell.

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGES**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Pledge to the Texas Flag

**III. INVOCATION:**

Mayor King gave the invocation.

**IV. CITIZEN-VISITOR COMMENTS:**

Many citizens addressed the Council regarding the tax rate, with comments about the burden the higher rate would place on tax payers, and alternatives to lower the proposed tax rate. Speakers included: Judy Posey, J.R. McAlister, Jon Carroll, Robert Johnson, Pat Haigwood. Doug Witt, Ginny Witt, Andy Porter, and Jimmy Yowell.

Tracy and Barbara Rollins discussed the condition of Mancil Dr. and implored the Council to look at ways to cut down on dust on the street.

**V. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING CONDUCTED:**

**August 28, 2017**

Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell to accept the minutes as presented, second was made by Councilmember Douglas. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**VI. THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DISCUSS AND/OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. Consider and Discuss Jail Contract.—Judge Cheryl Howerton**

Judge Howerton explained to the Council that Eastland County Jail will no longer accept Class C Misdemeanor warrants due to claims of overcrowding. She presented the Council with a contract with Stephens County Jail as an alternative when defendants are arrested on Class C warrants. She said that she sees this as a short term solution and hopes that a compromise can be worked out with Eastland County Jail. Mayor King clarified that this contract would not negate our contract with Eastland County Jail, but instead would be an additional option for serving warrants. Councilmember Weger further concluded that Eastland County Jail would be a first resort, but if they were unable or unwilling to accept an arrestee, that Stephens County Jail would act as a backup. The Council discussed particulars of the contract including price, length of an average stay in jail, and semantics for transportation of arrestees. Mr. Archer added that this would be an important tool for proper enforcement of citations written in the municipal court.

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to accept the contract as presented, second was made by Councilmember Campbell. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**B. Consider and Discuss Proposal to Lease and/or Purchase Unparcelled Lake Property-Craig Winters**

Mr. Winters was not present, but Mayor King explained that the city had been approached to lease or purchase a piece of property at the lake that is unparcelled and ownership is not properly established.

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to table this item pending verification of ownership, second was made by Councilmember Weger. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**C. Consider and Discuss Cooperative Ambulance Service Contract.**

Mr. Archer commented he'd had a meeting with the cooperative to address issues. The EMS director indicated that he would look at making changes. Mr. Archer further recommended that the Council sign the contract for the year and revisit in six months looking at the implementation of those proposed changes. Councilmember W. Johnson pointed out that the contract does not specifically mention housing an ambulance within the city for any period of time and he would like that provision added.

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to amend contract to require keeping an ambulance in the city. Motion died for lack of a second.

The Council continued discussion of possible fixes that would satisfy the concerns with the contract.

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to table the item pending additional information, second was made by Councilmember Weger. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**D. Consider and Discuss Ordinance No. 0-2017-10**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2018, FOR THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Second Reading)**

Mayor King presented the Council with three options that would lower the tax rate including eliminating the Code Enforcement position and the newly proposed firefighter position, eliminate a transfer to the Utility Fund, or a combination of both. Mr. Archer went on record saying that he was not in favor of any of the options presented because setting a tax rate below the effective tax rate has lasting repercussions on future budgeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell to amend the budget, removing the additional fire fighter position., second was made by Councilmember W. Johnson. Motion prevails by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, King  
Nays: Douglas/Motion Carries  
Voted: 4 to 1  
Absent: Boles  
Abstain: C. Johnson

Motion was made by Councilmember Douglas to revisit the entire budget. Motion died for lack of a second.

The Council discussed what changes would need to be made and discussed at a called meeting for a new first reading in the near future.

The Council took a short recess at 7:24 p.m.

The Council reconvened into Open Session at 7:37 p.m.

**E. Consider and Discuss Ordinance 0-2017-11**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE 2017-2018 BUDGET YEAR OF CISCO, TEXAS; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Second Reading)**

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to table this item, second was made by Councilmember C. Johnson. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**F. Consider and Discuss Ordinance No. 0-2017-12**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, ADJUSTING AND AMENDING THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BUDGET; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Second Reading)**

Motion was made by Councilmember Weger to accept the ordinance as presented, second was made by Councilmember Douglas. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**G. Consider and Discuss Bulk Fuel Contract.**

Mr. Hallmark of KBR informed the Council that his company had agreed to provide remote monitoring and usage tracking systems in exchange for a five year commitment. Mr. Archer explained that the savings would be around \$10,000.00 per year. Mayor King recommended going out for bids for bulk fuel.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to go out for bids for bulk fuel, second was made by Councilmember W. Johnson. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**H. Consider and Discuss Water Treatment Plant Update.**

Mr. Archer informed the Council that the city had received a grant for \$500,000.00 through USDA toward reconstruction of the treatment plant. Councilmember Douglas asked if the construction contracts had been finalized to which Mr. Archer answered in the negative explaining that all funding entities needed to sign off on contract before it could be finalized and work begin.

No action was taken on this item.

**I. Consider and Discuss Grant of Property at 612 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. to the City of Cisco.**

The Council retired into Executive Session under Section 551.072 Real Property at 7:47 p.m.

The Council reconvened into Open Session at 7:57 p.m. and took the following action:

Motion was made by Councilmember Weger to accept the property, second was made by Councilmember Douglas. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, W. Johnson, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: Boles

**J. Consider and Discuss Long Range Planning.**

Mr. Archer explained that this would be an appropriate time to discuss calling a meeting to further discuss the budget. The council discussed several options for that called meeting. There was some confusion amongst the Council whether or not the called meeting would be a budget workshop so the Council agreed to return to Item D on the agenda to further discuss the budget.

(Back in Item D-Consider and Discuss Ordinance No. 0-2017-10)

Motion was made by Councilmember Douglas to hold a budget workshop, second was made by Councilmember C. Johnson. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Douglas, C. Johnson, King  
Nays: Campbell, W. Johnson/Motion Carries  
Voted: 4 to 2  
Absent: Boles

The Council then returned to Item J. Long Range Planning to schedule called meetings settling on a budget workshop on Tuesday, September 19, 2017, a first reading of the budget on Thursday, September 21, 2017 and then a second reading at the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 25, 2017.

Councilmember C. Johnson requested that the City Secretary update the minutes online.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to adjourn, second made by Councilmember C. Johnson. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Tammy Osborne, City Secretary**

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**James King, Mayor**

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