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KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING | SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE, KENNEDALE, TX 76060

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hollis Matthews called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Hollis Matthews, Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin, Place 1; Gary Mitchell, Place 2; Kenneth Michels, Place 3; Austen Degenhart, Place 4; James Connor, Place 5; **ABSENT:** None.
Staff: Darrell Hull, City Manager, James Brown, Fire Chief; Michael Holguin Police Chief; Caroline Green Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services, James Cowey Director Community Development & Public Works, Anne LaMere Finance Director, Elizabeth Partridge Director of Library Services, Board Secretary Rosie Ericson.

1. INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin gave the invocation; Councilmember Michels led the pledges.

VISITORS FORUM was inadvertently left off: We had two speakers at this time:

1. Livene Rose-Numoz of **1718 Stages Leap Trail, Kennedale, Tx 76060**; spoke in opposition to the Magnolia Hills Phase II; concerned about the access road through the Vineyards
2. Sam Cordova **6812 Oak Crest Drive, Kennedale, Tx 76060** address the council on revising the Water billing ordinance to reflect a grace period.

II. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Display/Showcase the new Kennedale Ambulance – Council took a 10-minute recess to look at the new Ambulance.

B. Swearing in ceremony

Tim Scott

Indya Murray

Police Chief Michael Holguin swore in the new officers.

C. Announcements from the Mayor

Proclamations:

*Payroll Week Proclamation
Senior Center Month
Library Card Sign-up Month*

Mayor Matthews presented the Payroll Week proclamation to Tanisha Sherman the Payroll Tech. Elizabeth Partridge Director of Library Services was presented the Senior Center Month and Library Card Sign up Month

III. REGULAR SESSION

A. Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Finance Director Anne LaMere began the public hearing. On August 16th the City Council met for a workshop sessions. All of your comments and suggestions have been included in the revised budget and has been posted on our website.

Mayor Hollis opened up the public hearing at 6:08 p.m.

1. **Rockie Gilley** resides at **220 S. Dick Price Road, Kennedale, TX 76060**; firstly Mr. Gilley wanted to congratulate the staff on the first balanced budget. Mr. Gilley also stated that increasing taxes must not go one we should not continue to be #4 on the list of highest taxes.

Public Hearing closed at 6:14 p.m.

B. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin asked the citizens to look at the budget and on the website. It's clear and clean and is an interesting read; very good information included.

Councilmember Mitchell also complimented the staff on a job well done.

Councilmember Michels also expressed praise on the budget and lower taxes for the first time in a long time.

Councilmember Degenhart stated that if this budget is approved as it stands we will move from the fourth position to the eighth position on highest taxes.

Councilmember Connor thanked Anne LaMere for speaking with him on Labor Day. Mr. Connor wanted to share some comments publicly. It was 1988 when the tax rate was .32 cents. Not .69 cents as Mayor Pro Tem stated. Mr. Connor also stated he liked this budget and it was very easy to read. He further commented that the raises that the non-sworn staff were given 5% and 10% for public works. He felt it was a little offset. He is aware Public Woks works very hard; but that the City Hall staff also works hard and deserve a little bit more; he thought maybe later on in the year we can do something for City Hall non-sworn staff if we do a budget amendment.

Mayo Hollis asked that City Manager Darrell Hull make a comment. Mr. Hull stated it takes a team to accomplish the budget not just one person, and he will continue to follow the vision of the Council and Citizens want.

Motion Accept. Motion to accept the budget as presented **Move By**

Degenhart and **Seconded By** Michels. Record vote – Jan Joplin In favor; Gary Mitchell in favor; Kenneth Michels in favor; Austin Degenhart in favor and James Connor in favor.

C. Announce dates for public hearings on tax increase

Anne LaMere announced the date of September 13 for the public hearing on the tax increase.

D. Discussion and any necessary action regarding repayment to the Fund EDC 15 for sales taxes related Walmart between 2008-2021.

The Mayor called for a break for 10 minutes to get papers in order.

Reconvened to discuss repayment of the EDC fund. Finance Director Anne LaMere discovered that the taxes are allocated between the City (75%) and the EDC Fund (25%) the City portion goes to the General Fund.

Motion Action. Motion to repay the Fund EDC15 for sales taxes related Walmart between 2008-2021 in the amount of \$378,204.05. **Moved By** Connor; **Seconded By** Joplin. **Motion passes unanimously.**

E. Discussion and any necessary action by Council regarding Mayor's veto of **Case #PZ 22-10**

Councilmembers share their comments they have received from citizens regarding Magnolia Hills Phase II. Councilmember Degenhart also stated that the City is beginning the process of updating the UDC/Comprehensive Plan; suggestion that we put new development on hold until completion of the review. Councilmember Michels agreed with Dagenhart's comments as well as Councilmember Mitchell stated they all want what is best for the citizens and the city. Mayor Pro Tem discussed her issues with the project and felt what she has heard is no small lots and less density. Joplin is in favor of denying the case. Discussion continued and became argumentative and citizens expressed their frustration.

Motion to sustain the veto by Michels; no one seconded so the motion dies on its own.

Motion Action Overrule Motion to overrule the Mayors veto was Moved by Connor Seconded by Joplin. Record vote to overrule the veto. Mitchell in favor; Michels abstaining. Vote carries 4-1 to overrule the veto and is overridden by the Council.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Mayor recessed into executive session at 7:15 p.m. Before recessing the Mayor announced a 15-minute break.

A. ***In accordance with §551.071 — Consultation with the City Attorney pertaining to any matter in which the duty of the City Attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct may conflict with the Open Meetings Act, including discussion of any item posted on the agenda, legal issues regarding***

the Open Meetings Act, and the following:

1. Review Comprehensive and UDC Plan ordinance

**V. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION, AND TAKE ACTION NECESSARY
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, IF NEEDED**

The Mayor reconvened into open session at 8:19 p.m.

No action was taken at this time.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to Adjourn. Action Adjourn. Motion By Michels; Seconded By Connor.
Motion passes unanimously.**

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



MAYOR JAN JOPLIN



SECRETARY, ROSIE ERICSON

