

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a regular meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Sachse City Hall, 3815-B Sachse Road, Sachse, Texas. Those present were Mayor Mike Felix, Mayor Pro Tem Paul Watkins, Council Members Brett Franks, Charlie Ross, Bill Adams, Cullen King, and Jeff Bickerstaff. City Manager, Gina Nash; City Secretary, Michelle Lewis Sirianni; Human Resources Director, Melinda Walter; Public Works and Engineering Director, Greg Peters; Finance Director, Teresa Savage; Finance Manager, Berna Fitzpatrick; Accountant, Karen Ramirez; Parks and Recreation Director, Lance Whitworth; Library Manager, Mignon Morse; Community Development Director, Dusty McAfee; Police Chief, Bryan Sylvester, and Fire Chief, Marty Wade.

Mayor Felix opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO U.S. AND STATE FLAG: The invocation was offered by Councilman King and the pledges by Mayor Pro Tem Watkins.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be acted on by one motion, with no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member or citizen so requests.

17-3968 - Approve the minutes of the September 5, 2017 workshop meeting.

17-3969 - Approve the minutes of the September 5, 2017 regular meeting.

17-3956 – Approve a resolution for the amended Library Circulation Policy.

17-3972 – Approve an ordinance authorizing certain budget amendments pertaining to the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget.

Councilman Adams made a motion to approve items the consent agenda items as presented. Councilman Bickerstaff seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Councilman Adams congratulated the Police and Fire Chief for a successful first annual Public Safety Day. It was a great time and informational.

Councilman Ross announced upcoming Library events which included on September 19, Talk Like a Pirate at 6:00 p.m. Also the Library is seeking teen volunteers mostly for summer months, and on October 2, the Library will be changing their hours of operation to Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilman King recognized Jackson Schwartz that is in attendance from Troop 442 working on a merit badge. Councilman King announced the Animal Shelter is in need of kitten food and there's plenty of kittens as well as dogs that would love to be adopted.

Mayor Felix announced several upcoming events which included:

- October 3 – National Night Out
- October 4 – Walk to School Day
- October 11 – Fire Station Open House
- October 21 – Pumpkin Prowl at Salmon Park
- October 28 – Fall Fest at Heritage Park
- November 23 – Turkey Trot at Sachse High School
- December 6 – Christmas Extravaganza with night parade at 6:00 p.m. followed by the tree lighting.

17-3974 Proclamation recognizing Lloyd Henderson.

Bobby Tillman of the Sachse Historical Society presented a plaque recognizing Mr. Henderson to his family. Mayor Felix read a proclamation and presented it to Mr. Henderson's family. Mr. Henderson was acknowledged for his many years of service as a City Manager, contributions to the Historical Society, and accomplishments made through his life that cherished Sachse and the community.

CITIZENS INPUT:

No comments were made.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

17-3973 Consider an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of City of Sachse, Texas, Combination Tax and Limited Surplus Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2017A; levying an annual ad valorem tax and providing for the security for and payment of said certificates; approving the official statement; providing an effective date; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject.

Mrs. Nash presented Council with a calendar outlining the steps that have been taken thus far and a recap of the project list and potential projects associated with this item. Mr. Jason Hughes with

First Southwest, provided Council with their bond ratings, pricing, and interest rates. Mr. Hughes stated that the City received a low rate of 3.072% which is reflective of their strong management and financial responsibility. The City would have the option to pay over a 25 year term or refinance or pay off after ten years.

Councilman King asked the Council to consider GO's for the community center. Councilman King supports the need for the community center, but would like to see a different method of funding used.

Councilman Franks stated that Council had a chance to place this item on the bond election in 2006 and did not. The community center has been at the top of every park survey and the department now has dated classrooms, classes that total over 1400 participates, and are in need of space. Councilman Franks would like to see this item move forward.

Councilman Bickerstaff reiterated that they have heard from the residents since 2006 on this item and he believes it is the appropriate way to go.

Mayor Felix stated that normally Council has not used CO's on similar items and would use an alternate method of funding. However, if Council continues to wait the amount could keep doubling and there is no guarantee that it would happen even in the future.

Councilman Adams stated the center would provide programs and a place for teens. Councilman Adams also noted that it's due to the strong financial ratings of the City and management of the City, they are able to do this. The City has and will continue to be financially responsible.

Mayor Felix opened this item for public comment.

Corrine Smith, 4008 Blossom Drive, stated she is opposed to this item. Mrs. Smith would like to see the item taken to the voters.

Lindsay Buhler, 7119 Cottonwood Circle, supports the community center and thanked staff for all they do.

Kathy Cobb, 3820 Sixth Street, is opposed. Mrs. Cobb stated the roads and infrastructure are important. She questioned location of building, on-going costs, and insurance.

Cyndi Mitchell, 3128 Welsh Lane, spoke on behalf of Diana Smith, 4802 Sachse Road, by stating Ms. Smith supports the plan for the center and has been number one on the park survey for the past nine years. The City has been fiscally conservative and would like to see the item move forward. Mrs. Mitchell stated that they have seen this item since 2006. Mrs. Mitchell stated she would like to see this item opened up to the residents to see what they would like to see in it.

Councilman Bickerstaff made a motion to approve an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of City of Sachse, Texas, Combination Tax and Limited Surplus Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2017A; levying an annual ad valorem tax and providing for the security for and payment of said certificates; approving the official statement; providing an effective date; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject. Councilman Franks seconded that motion. The motion passed with a vote of five (5) to two (2). Councilman King and Ross voted in opposition.

17-3953 Consider an ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018; providing that expenditures for said year shall be made in accordance with said budget; appropriating and setting aside the necessary funds out of the general and other revenues for said fiscal year for the maintenance and operation of the various departments and for various activities and improvements of the City; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Mrs. Savage stated this item is the final step in adopting the budget. No information has changed since the last meeting.

Councilman Adams made a motion to approve and adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018. Mayor Pro Tem Watkins seconded that motion. The motion passed with a six (6) to one (1) vote. Councilman Ross was opposed.

17-3954 Make a motion to ratify the property tax increase in the budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Mrs. Savage stated state law requires a separate vote to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the budget.

Councilman King made a motion to ratify the property tax increase in the budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Councilman Bickerstaff seconded that motion. The motion passed with a six (6) to one (1) vote. Councilman Ross was opposed.

17-3955 Consider an ordinance levying ad valorem taxes for the year 2017 (Fiscal Year 2017-2018) at a rate of \$0.747279 per one hundred dollars (\$100) assessed valuation on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Sachse as of January 1, 2017 to provide revenue for the payment of current expenses; providing for an interest and sinking fund for all outstanding debts of the City of Sachse; providing for due and delinquent dates together with penalties and interest; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date.

Mrs. Savage stated that all legal notices were posted on this item, which will levy the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.747279.

Councilman King made a motion to approve an ordinance levying ad valorem taxes for the year 2017 and that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.747279, which is effectively a 7.14 percent increase in the tax rate. Councilman Franks seconded that motion.

Councilman Bickerstaff added that the hardest thing they do as a Council is the budget. He stated that the Council has established a level of service that requires a certain rate. For example, the residents asked to staff Fire Station #2, so they did; the quality of the staff, and things that will allow the City to grow.

The motion passed with a six (6) to one (1) vote. Councilman Ross was opposed.

17-3971 Consider a resolution amending the Master Fee Schedule by amending ambulance services, library circulation fees, residential and commercial construction/remodel fees, refuse services, and water and wastewater rates.

Mrs. Savage highlighted the changes that are being amended to ambulance services, library circulation fees, residential and commercial construction/remodel fees, refuse services, and water and wastewater rates. The proposed fee schedule also includes the annual requested rate change from Republic Services and the revised water and wastewater rates that were approved by Council in 2014. Mrs. Savage stated that the Master Fee Schedule is available from the home page of the website.

Kathy Cobb, 3820 Sixth Street, asked for clarification regarding the ambulance service fees and what certain Acronyms meant. Fire Chief Wade answered her questions. Councilman Franks also provided insight on the ambulance service fee and noted that residents are waived this fee since they are already paying taxes in the City.

Councilman Bickerstaff made a motion to approve a resolution amending the Master Fee Schedule by amending ambulances services, library circulation fees, residential and commercial construction/remodel fees, refuse services, and water and wastewater rates. Councilman Franks seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Felix adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

ATTEST:


Michelle Lewis Sirianni, City Secretary


MIKE J FELIX, MAYOR



