

The City Council of the City of Taylor met on August 11, 2016, at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. Noting the absence of Council Member Robert Garcia due to a family emergency, Mayor Jesse Ancira declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Council Member Christopher Gonzales
Council Member Christine Lopez
Mayor Pro Tem Brandt Rydell

Isaac Turner, City Manager
Noel Bernal, Assistant City Manager
Ted Hejl, City Attorney
Susan Brock, City Clerk

INVOCATION

Chief Ekiss led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

No citizens came forward during this time set aside for items not on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVE ORDINANCE 2016-11 TO REZONE PROPERTY TO MULTI FAMILY FOR AVERY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

ORDINANCE 2016-11

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY BEING 8.2 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, IN THE P. COURSEY SURVEY, GENERALLY LOCATED AT AVERY DRIVE IN TAYLOR WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, AND LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN THIS ORDINANCE FROM SINGLE FAMILY R-1 TO MF-2 MULTI-FAMILY-HIGH-DENSITY-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, TO SHOW THE ZONING CHANGE ADOPTED HEREIN; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

2. APPROVE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH UTILITY ACCOUNT FOR TAYLOR HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMUNITY GARDENS AT THE MARY OLSON COMPLEX.
3. RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING HERITAGE SQUARE FLAG PROGRAM.
4. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JULY 28, 2016.

Mayor Pro Tem Rydell moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and Council Member Lopez seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA: REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

5. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM THE TAYLOR HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Mr. Benito Gonzales, Chairman, THA Board of Directors, and Ms. Ebby Green, Executive Director, presented an update on recent activities at the housing facilities as well as information on the status of the investigation findings to date. Council Member Lopez moved to accept the report as presented and Mayor Pro Tem Rydell seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE.

Motion passed.

6. CONDUCT BUDGET WORKSHOP III.

Ms. Rosemarie Dennis, Finance Director, presented updated information regarding the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016/2017. She provided the latest figures from the appraisal district on property taxes collected and the projected amount expected to be available when determining revenues for the budget. At the request of council previously unfunded items were added back into the proposed budget for their review. However, citing an opportunity to reduce the current tax rate, council directed Ms. Dennis and Mr. Turner to relook at the additional items listed and bring back only those that could be added and still allow the rate to be reduced.

7. DISCUSS AND ESTABLISH UPPER LIMIT ON THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE, TAKE

Ms. Dennis continued the discussion on the budget with regards to available options for setting the tax rate and the corresponding amount of revenue projected based on each proposed rate. After much discussion Council proposed lowering the rate to provide relief to citizens during a year when they have seen new fees and an increase in the wastewater and water rates.

Council Member Gonzales moved to establish the upper limit of the ad valorem tax rate at 0.813893 and to set the public hearing on the tax rate and budget on August 25, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Council chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Rydell seconded the motion. VOTE: Three voted AYE; One vote NO (Lopez). Motion passed.

8. CONSIDER PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

Mayor Ancira asked council members for any items in need of further discussion. He personally asked for an update on the 7th Street facility now that the bid has been awarded; he also requested staff to arrange a tour of the Wilco Expo Center; Mr. Rydell requested an update on the West End School disposition; Mr. Turner stated that he would be bringing a future item to address board member communications outside of their meetings.

(Mayor Ancira adjourned the Council into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.)

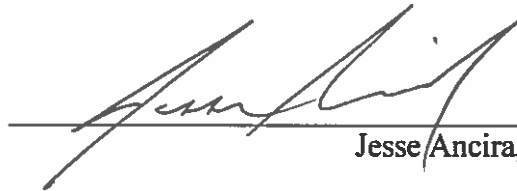
9. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Taylor City Council will conduct a closed executive meeting under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code in order to meet with its City Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the Attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas authorize and allow such a closed meeting and which Rules conflict with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

10. CONSIDER ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Mayor Ancira resumed the open meeting at 7:42 p.m. and stated that there was no action taken during the Executive Session nor any action to be taken in open session.


ADJOURN

With no further action Mayor Ancira declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Jesse Ancira, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Susan Brock, City Clerk