

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
 CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
 OF A SPECIAL MEETING
 MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 18th day of May, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in a special meeting in the Council Chambers, 512 E. Brazos, West Columbia, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Kincannon called the meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. Present were Kincannon, Thomas, Maynor, Walker, Biedenfeld, City Manager Sutherland and City Secretary Kuban. Absent was Tindol.
2. BUDGET WORKSHOP – GOAL SETTING: Sutherland gave a power point presentation of the city's current financial status and goals and reported that we were ahead compared to last fiscal year. Biedenfeld stated that the overall goal is to increase revenues while decreasing expenses. Sutherland also gave an assessment of buildings, vehicles and equipment. Walker commented that there would be no way to meet some of the reported goals, such as 3 director level positions, 18% insurance increase, 2 police vehicles and a Class A pumper fire truck without a substantial tax increase.

Chief Odin reported on the status of current police vehicles stating that 3 Crown Victoria patrol cars are disabled and could be auctioned. Sutherland then reported on the electronic water meter installation project. She also reported that sales tax revenue has increased 13-18% from last year even including the payback amount through 2019. Maynor discussed the replacement of hydrants and using the old ones for parts if possible.

The subject of Well No. 4 was discussed with it being stated that the previously suggested use of reverse osmosis was very costly and not recommended at this time. Joining Brazos River Water Authority was then discussed as an option to digging a new well. It was stated that drought is more of an issue with the river than from the well. Sutherland stated that she presumed the city's forefathers didn't take this route for a good reason. It was reported that the engineers were pushing for joining the BRWA so the discussion would be continued.

The Dance Dr. repair project was then discussed remarking how the county engineers wouldn't recommend a level up even though that is the process that has been for the past 20 years. Being proposed now is to mill down and apply overlay as level ups cause eventual drainage issues as the road surface height increases. Options other than level ups will be considered for future repairs. Walker suggested milling the parking area of the Public Works warehouse after Dance Drive repair is completed

Walker stated that although he would always vote "yes" to providing bunker gear for fire department, he would not support the purchase of a new city fire truck since the city taxpayers are already paying the ESD tax that purchases the county truck. Maynor suggested pursuing grants. He then addressed the softball agreement that has been put off until after the current season. It was reported that their expenses have increased with losing the participation of CHS.

The future of the Recycle Center and EOC building was discussed with suggestions being made to demo each and sell properties. Access to Well No. 2 would have to remain through the Loggins Park/Recycle Center area and the EOC property could be used for additional downtown parking. PD could possibly relocate to the current Library building if it is moved to the old Jr. High and

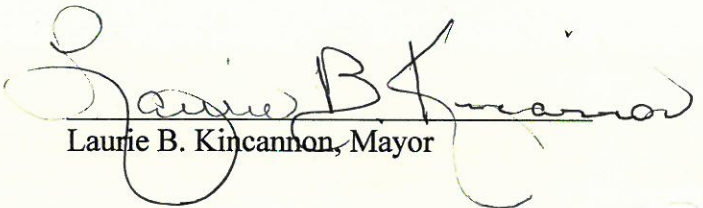
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hall as proposed. The library move will require talks between the city, county and Columbia Heritage Foundation with Kincannon stating it would be years away. Also discussed was the expiration of the Rotary contract for the Civic Center.

Chief Odin concluded the workshop by reporting that his department are among the lowest paid in the county and recommended raises would be based on TML salary survey. He is also pursuing a grant to replace the fingerprint machine at an estimated \$160,000. The county furnished the current one some 6-8 years ago. He stated that his grant status is currently #13 out of 47 applications and that Morpho-Trust would no longer service the current machine after 2016.

4. ADJOURN: Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 8:20PM.



Laurie B. Kincannon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelli R. Kuban
KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary