

**Council Minutes August 17, 2020**

**STATE OF TEXAS §**

**COUNTY OF TARRANT §**

**CITY OF BEDFORD §**

**The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in Special Session at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge Drive, on the 17th day of August, 2020 with the following members present:**

Michael Boyter	Mayor
Tom Burnett	Councilmembers
Dan Cogan (via videoconference)	
Ruth Culver	
Amy Sabol	

Councilmembers Gagliardi and Sartor were absent from the meeting.

constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Cliff Blackwell	Interim City Manager
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Wendy Hartnett	Special Events Manager
Don Henderson	Parks Superintendent
Meg Jakubik	Strategic Services Manager
Maria Joyner	Finance Director

Staff present via videoconference included:

Stephanie Ayers	Human Resources Director
Sean Fay	Fire Chief
Jeff Gibson	Police Chief
Kenny Overstreet	Public Works Director
Maria Redburn	Library Director
Bill Syblon	Development Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Boyter called the Special Session to order at 6:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL SESSION**

- 1. Public hearing on the annual budget for the City of Bedford, Texas for the fiscal period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021; levying taxes for 2020 tax year.**

Strategic Services Manager Meg Jakubik presented information on the annual budget. She discussed the City's budget policy cycle, the City's tax rate history, trends in General Fund revenue and expenditures, and a five-year forecast, which shows the City's fund balance never

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dropping below the 20 percent reserve requirement. She further discussed economic conditions, including increases in the Consumer Price and Municipal Cost Indexes, per capita comparisons with neighboring cities for spending and employees per 1,000 residents, and sales tax. She presented information on the revenues by fund, expenditures by department and classification of all funds, and revenues and expenditures from the General Fund. She presented information on the Debt Service Fund, including a debt service schedule and the annual funding requirements. She presented information on the Water and Sewer Fund, including the current rates and projections from the Trinity River Authority (TRA). She presented various water and wastewater decision packages as discussed during the August 1, 2020 budget work session. She further presented information on the Stormwater Fund, including current rates and various decision packages.

Ms. Jakubik presented information on the tax rate calculations, with the current tax rate being \$0.569000 per \$100 valuation, the no-new-revenue rate being \$0.562799, the voter-approved rate being \$0.571968, and the maximum tax rate to be considered and the one used in the proposed budget being \$0.569000. A comparison with the previous year's tax rate shows a 3.8 percent decrease in the debt component, and a 1.9 percent increase in the maintenance and operations component. She presented an overview of the overlapping tax rate with other entities, the impact of the tax rate on the tax bill for the average resident, which at the proposed rate is approximately \$41.00, and a breakdown of the monthly cost allocation for City services.

Ms. Jakubik presented an overview of changes made by the Council to the proposed budget at their special session held on August 3, 2020 as follows: costs savings from premium reductions and position freezes at \$482,460; division reallocations at \$401,968; two percent pay grade adjustments at \$400,377; cancer screening for firefighters at an ongoing cost of \$10,000; Texas Municipal Retirement System benefit expansion at \$1,320,460; a new perimeter fence and gates at the Law Enforcement Center at \$220,000; and Plymovent systems at Fire Stations 1 and 2 at \$110,000. She stated the vote on the budget would occur at the regular Council meeting on August 24, 2020.

Mayor Boyter opened the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

Nobody chose to speak during the public hearing.

Mayor Boyter closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

### **2. Public hearing to consider the proposed 2020 tax rate.**

Ms. Jakubik presented information on the proposed 2020 tax rate during the previous item. There was discussion on residents submitting comments to Council prior to the vote on the budget and tax rate and on a website provided by the Tarrant Appraisal District.

Mayor Boyter opened the public hearing at 6:54 p.m.

Nobody chose to speak during the public hearing.

Mayor Boyter closed the public hearing at 6:54 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Boyter adjourned the Special Session at 6:55 p.m.

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Michael Boyter, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Michael Wells, City Secretary