



**CITY OF HEDWIG VILLAGE, TEXAS
PUBLIC HEARING
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017
9:00 A.M. - 955 PINEY POINT ROAD**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Muecke called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Present: Mayor Brian Muecke

Councilmember Carrol McGinnis

Councilmember Barry Putterman

Councilmember Shirley Rouse

Councilmember Bob Wiener

Councilmember Matt Woodruff

Kelly Johnson, City Admin./Secr.-Treasurer

Absent: Lane Standley, Building Official

David Gott, Police Chief

Alan Petrov, City Attorney

Lisa Modisette, Assistant City Secretary

2. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive and consider public input and comments regarding the tax rate of \$0.279721/\$100 valuation that has been proposed.

Anne Retzler, 913 Magdalene, suggested residents should be notified by mail or email about the tax increase. She suggested postponing the vote on the tax rate increase until the residents are notified. She could not find any details on the city's website on how the funds would be spent in 2018. She suggested street maintenance should only be completed as needed. She stated drainage has been studied for the last 18 years and the city should not spend additional money on studies. She believed the money spent on the new street poles and signs were foolish spending. She believes a detailed explanation to, and an open discussion with, residents is needed concerning any tax increase for infrastructure.

Andrea Hermann, 930 Karos, reminded council that an explanation is needed prior to spending the residents' tax money. She stated there is no plan on how to spend the funds on drainage. She understands why a new study is needed but the city should have a solution before asking for a tax increase.

Frank Hinnant, 11402 Holidan Way, opposes any tax increase. He read a letter Joseph Perillo, 11406 Holidan Way, in opposition to the tax increase. He stated the Drainage

Committee has not seen any drainage plans. He stated the city should have a drainage plan before raising the property taxes.

Tom Speck, 11751 Cawdor Way, stated he is against the city creating a drainage reserve. He stated long term projects should be funded by long term debt. He stated residents are not against drainage but against the drainage funding plan. He stated requiring the residents to fund a project without a plan or approval from Harris County Flood Control District is irresponsible. Funds should not be budgeted without approval from the necessary regulatory entities. He stated information needs to be provided to the residents.

Harry Craig, 839 Merridel, stated his home flooded in 2009, 2015, and 2016. He is in favor of drainage and the drainage reserve. He stated the current ongoing drainage study shows new information on water flow. He is confident that council will be responsible in managing the city's money.

John Niemann, 6 Robinwood, stated he is familiar with the budget process. He agrees that long term bonds are appropriate for any drainage work but the residents need more details on the plan.

Julia Hamilton, 11747 Cawdor Way, stated the residents have no information to base a decision on. She stated information should be readily available and distributed to the residents. She stated the city should not be asking for funds upfront for any infrastructure work.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED FY 2018 BUDGET

Mayor Muecke stated the October 10, 2017 Drainage Open House will include an update from Jeff Cannon, with LJA Engineering, Inc., on the drainage study and will include an analysis and options. He stated he was not opposed to new debt for drainage.

Jeff Cannon presented an update on the drainage study at the August Council Meeting. Four options were discussed with one option being the best solution to the drainage issues in Hedwig Village. The best option would result in a drop of approximately six to twelve inches of water during a 100 year rain event. The option includes subterranean drainage and modification to the city's streets.

Mayor Muecke discussed the additional funds needed before construction can commence, present to HCFCFCD for approval, and to design the construction plans. The estimate to fund this work is \$1,000,000. Mayor Muecke is hopeful the work can be done for less. HCFCFCD requires review and approval on any drainage plan that adds more water to any drainage channel.

Councilmember Woodruff stated the new drainage study was needed. The old studies cannot solve the current problems due to conditions changing over time. The drainage study is not

complete but council needs to set a tax rate and approve a budget for 2018. The public hearings and meetings council has had are required and necessary. Council budgeted for the additional work on the drainage plan, regulatory approval, and the design. He stated that the city will begin the process of issuing long term debt once the city has the necessary approvals and, as stated in previous meetings, a vote by the residents.

Councilmember McGinnis stated the city should not collect funds for drainage before HCFCFCD has approved the plans.

Councilmember Rouse stated she is concerned that the Drainage Committee has not been kept informed on the progress of the study and how the decision was made to narrow the drainage options Jeff Cannon presented from four to one.

Mayor Muecke stated the city has no new information to share with the Drainage Committee because the study is not yet complete. He stated that of the four options presented by Jeff Cannon only one option was truly viable.

Councilmember Wiener stated the drainage update at the August council meeting clearly showed the water flowing northeast along the Piney Point Fault Line. He stated the residents are in favor of correcting the drainage issues with long term bonds.

Councilmember McGinnis stated he was in favor of the completion of the drainage study. He stated the city should have enough information to start a dialogue with HCFCFCD. He stated the city could fund the additional drainage work by short term tax note or certificate of obligation.

Councilmember Putterman discussed the necessary steps needed if the city decided to issue bonds to fund the Village Fire Department and the drainage.

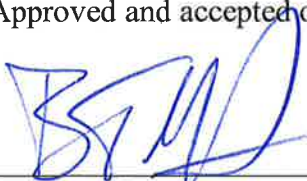
4. ADJOURN

Councilmember McGinnis moved, Councilmember Putterman seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Councilmembers McGinnis, Putterman, Rouse, Wiener and Woodruff voted "Aye", "Noes" none.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approved and accepted on February 8, 2018.



Brian T. Muecke, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Modisette, Asst. City Secretary