

**MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF KAUFMAN
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2007 — 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 209 S. WASHINGTON, KAUFMAN, TEXAS**

MAYOR	WILLIAM FORTNER
MAYOR PRO-TEM	LONNIE BOUNDS
COUNCILMEMBER	GIL ALTOM JR.
COUNCILMEMBER	JEFF COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER	CHARLES GILLENWATER
COUNCILMEMBER	BARRY RATCLIFFE
COUNCILMEMBER	VON CARL THOMAS

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Fortner called the Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Councilmembers present were William Fortner, Lonnie Bounds, Gil Altom Jr., Jeff Council, Charles Gillenwater, Barry Ratcliffe, and Von Carl Thomas. Mayor Fortner declared a quorum present. Councilmember Thomas left the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Also present were City Manager Curtis Snow, ACM/City Secretary Jo Ann Talbot, Director of Finance Cathy Cummins, and Asst. Fire Chief Ronnie Davis.

NOTE: A Work Session is used to explore matters of interest to one or more City Council Members or the City Manager for the purpose of giving staff direction into whether or not such matters should be placed on a future regular or special meeting of the Council for citizens input, City Council deliberation and formal City action. At a work session, the City Council generally receives informal and preliminary reports and information from City staff, officials, members of City committees, and the individual or organization proposing council action, if invited by City Council or City Manager to participate in the session. Participation by individuals and members of organizations invited to speak ceases when the Mayor announces the session is being closed to public input. Although Work Sessions are public meetings, and citizens have a legal right to attend, they are not public hearings, so citizens are not allowed to participate in the session unless invited to do so by the Mayor. Any citizen may supply to the City Council, prior to the beginning of the session, a written report regarding the citizen's opinion on the matter being explored. Should the Council direct the matter be placed on a regular meeting agenda, the staff will generally prepare a final report defining the proposed action, which will be made available to all citizens prior to the regular meeting at which citizen input is sought. The purpose of this procedure is to allow citizens attending the regular meeting the opportunity to hear the views of their fellow citizens without having to attend two meetings.

1. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give Staff direction regarding the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Program of Services (Budget).

City Manager Curtis Snow explained to the Council how the City collects revenues and how the City expends the revenue. He also explained how the property tax rate is figured. City Manager Curtis Snow reported the overall tax rate went down, but it still raises more revenue than it did last year because of rising property values. The tax rate in the current budget was a little over 62 cents. To collect the same revenue in the next fiscal year (the effective tax rate), would have to set our tax rate at 57 cents. We opted to set it at 60 cents. It looks like the rate went down but it is almost a 3 cent increase. The additional 3 cents is expected to produce \$138,747, or 8.89 percent, more property tax revenue than the current year. Of that amount, \$46,064 is tax revenue raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. The proposed 2007-08 tax rate of \$0.6088 per \$100 of valuation marks a 2.06 percent decrease from the current rate of \$0.621613.

Other items that were discussed for the new year's budget were:

The General Fund budget proposes an additional \$75,565 for a 4 percent employee salary increase as well as a \$36,130 increase for improved retirement benefit. Street improvements will continue with \$200,000 set aside for street overlay and \$75,000 for regular street maintenance. A proposed personnel study has also been budgeted. City Manager Curtis Snow expressed his concern of the employee turn over in the past 4 years. He also mentioned that if funds were available that a five percent increase may be a consideration for the employees in this new budget.

The Water and Sewer Fund has planned expenditures of \$2.6 million, a 1.66 percent increase of the current year's \$2.57 million. A portion of that increase, \$38,000, will go for a new person in the meter reading area. This additional person will allow two crews to operate most of the time. As the same in the General Fund, the Water and Sewer Fund has set aside 4 percent increase for employees and an additional \$13,218 will fund retirement increases. On the revenue side, the city is proposing a 3 percent increases in water rates. Capital Improvements that have been proposed are: \$12,000 for an employee compensation study. Annual surveys conducted by city staff suggest Kaufman employees are being paid 21 percent below the average of similar sized cities. The city's compensation and classification plan has not been updated in more than eight years. Other items budgeted are: \$8,000 for lobby improvements at City Hall, \$65,000 for an update of the city's land use plan and subdivision ordinance; \$75,000 to complete the parking lot at the Kaufman Sports Complex.

Mayor Fortner commented that he would like to see a half court basketball located at the Sports Complex. He also said he would like to see the Park and Recreation Board work on a skate board park. Mayor Fortner also asked that when the City remodeled the foyer at City Hall to spend funds for an interior decorator.

ADJOURNMENT.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Councilmember Thomas left the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2007**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER Mayor Fortner called the Meeting to order at 7:49 p.m. Councilmembers were William Fortner, Lonnie Bounds, Gil Altom Jr., Jeff Council, Charles Gillenwater, and Barry Ratcliffe. Von Carl Thomas was absent. Mayor Fortner declared a quorum present. Also present were City Manager Curtis Snow, ACM/City Secretary Jo Ann Talbot, Director of Finance Cathy Cummins, and Asst. Fire Chief Ronnie Davis.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (5 MINUTES) Citizens may address the City Council on any subject but must first complete a Request to Speak Form. Comments are limited to five (5) minutes, but no more than five (5) minutes per individual, and are not transferable. Citizens comments not to exceed a total of 15 minutes.

No citizen's comments.

1. Consider rescheduling the date, time and place for a Public Hearing regarding the City's Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Budget.

Councilmember Gillenwater moved and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds to set Tuesday, August 28, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall to hold a Public Hearing on the City's Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Budget. Mayor Fortner called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Councilmember Thomas was absent.

2. Consider setting the dates, times and place for Public Hearings on the proposed property tax rate increase.

Councilmember Altom moved and seconded by Councilmember Bounds to hold a Public Hearing on September 10, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., City Hall on the proposed property tax rate increase. Mayor Fortner called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Councilmember Thomas was absent.

Councilmember Council moved and seconded by Councilmember Gillenwater to hold a Public Hearing on August 28, 2007 at 5:30 p.m., City

Hall on the proposed property tax rate increase. Mayor Fortner called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Councilmember Thomas was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER.

No Announcements from City Manager.

REQUEST/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.

No request or comments made by members of the City Council

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds moved and seconded by Councilmember Council to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Fortner called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Councilmember Thomas was absent.

**WILLIAM FORTNER
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**JO ANN TALBOT
CITY SECRETARY**