

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON OCTOBER 8, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ray at 7:00 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Justin Ray	City Manager, Austin Bless
Council Member, Andrew Mitcham	City Secretary, Lorri Coody
Council Member, Greg Holden	
Council Member, Bobby Warren	
Council Member, James Singleton	
Council Member, Gary Wubbenhorst	

Staff Present: Isabel Kato, Finance Director

**B. FISCAL 2018-2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ITEMS**

- 1. Conduct the second public hearing giving all persons interested the right to appear and to be heard on the proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.41 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds the lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code.)**

Mayor Ray opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. in order to give all interested parties the right to appear and be heard on the proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.41 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code).

After opening the meeting, he called upon Isabel Kato, Finance Director to summarize the subject of the public hearing. Ms. Kato gave a presentation outlining the proposal to increase the total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 1.41 percent.

In completing the Finance Director's presentation, Mayor Ray called upon those signing up to speak as follows:

**Mark Maloy, 7803 Hamilton Circle, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 553-8625:** Mr. Maloy spoke to City Council about the various projects that the City is currently undertaking. He felt that the City has had the funds to pay for these projects because over the years the appraisal values for properties within the City's taxing jurisdiction have significantly increased, resulting in larger amounts of property tax revenue without raising the proposed tax rate. He also stated that more revenue is available to the City because it has set the homestead exemption at 8 percent as opposed to the 20 percent maximum. He gave background information on why the tax rate was increased in 2007, explaining the plan to accumulate revenue in order to be able to fund projects without having to go out for public approved bonds. Mr. Maloy opposes the proposed tax rate.

**Laurel Calkins, 16001 Wall Street, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 466-1122:** Ms. Calkins told City Council of her idea of incorporating a bar-b-que with the City's Open House for

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the Volunteer Fire Department. She stated that she recently saw this idea in her travels and feels that it might be a good idea for our Fire Department.

**Nancy Yetter, 16121 Capri Drive, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 419-3609:** Ms. Yetter told City Council that she wants to pay less in taxes, which will result in having more money to pay for health care and the grandchildren. She wants City Council to increase the homestead exemption to 20 percent.

**Michael and Anna Stembridge, 15422 Jersey Drive, Jersey Village, Texas (713) 983-8647:** Mr. and Mrs. Stembridge spoke to City Council about the City's flood mitigation plans. He stated that his home is located in the floodway, and while he is supportive of the deepening and widening projects set for White Oak Bayou (WOB), he is concerned about how all these projects will affect his home. He stated that he was initially set for the second phase of homes to be elevated, but now the City has changed its plans and will focus on the WOB projects. He was concerned that his home was not eligible for any of the grants because he is located in the floodway. He opposes the new direction that the City is taking concerning flood mitigation grants/funding.

With no other persons signing up to speak on the proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.41 percent, Mayor Ray stated:

The City Council will meet on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center, 16327 Lakeview Drive, Jersey Village, Texas, for the purpose of voting on the proposed tax rate. He then closed the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

**C. SPECIAL SESSION ITEMS**

**1. Consider Resolution No. 2018-65, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA to elevate homes.**

Austin Bleess, City Manager, introduced the item. Based upon the workshop held earlier in the evening, this Resolution would authorize the City Manager to apply for grant funding to elevate homes. It would also commit the City to paying the required match for the grant program.

Council asked and the City Manager clarified that homes located in the floodway are eligible for elevation and buyout grants, but are not eligible for mitigation reconstruction grants.

With no further discussion on the matter, Council Member Wubbenhorst moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-65, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA to elevate homes. Council Member Holden seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Mitcham, Holden, Warren, Singleton, and Wubbenhorst

Nays: None

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The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-65

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM FEMA TO ELEVATE HOMES.

**2. Consider Resolution No. 2018-66, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA for mitigation reconstruction projects.**

Austin Bleess, City Manager, introduced the item. Based upon the workshop held earlier this resolution would authorize the City Manager to apply for grant funding for mitigation reconstruction.

With limited discussion on the matter, Council Member Warren moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-66, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA for mitigation reconstruction projects. Council Member Mitcham seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Mitcham, Holden, Warren, Singleton, and Wubbenhorst

Nays: None

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-66

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM FEMA FOR MITIGATION RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

**3. Consider Resolution No. 2018-67, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA to plan for mitigation projects.**

Austin Bleess, City Manager, introduced the item. Based upon the workshop held earlier this resolution would authorize the City Manager to apply for grant funding to for the E127 project. This resolution also commits the city to funding the cost share of the project. As this would be a joint project with HCFCF they would reimburse the city for some or all of the costs share required.

With limited discussion on the matter, Council Member Wubbenhorst moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-67, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant from FEMA to plan for mitigation projects. Council Member Mitcham seconded the motion. The vote follows:

Ayes: Council Members Mitcham, Holden, Warren, Singleton, and Wubbenhorst

Nays: None

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The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-67

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM FEMA TO PLAN FOR MITIGATION PROJECTS.

**D. ADJOURN**

There being no further business on the Agenda the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



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Lorri Coody, City Secretary