



## The City of Liberty Hill

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# CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & TAX RATE WORKSHOP MINUTES

**MONDAY – AUGUST 13, 2018 – 6:30 PM**  
**2801 Ranch Road 1869 - Liberty Hill, Texas**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Workshop was called to order by Mayor Rick Hall on Monday – August 13, 2018 at 4:09 PM in Council Chambers located at 2801 Ranch Road 1869 in Liberty Hill, Texas. Invocation was given followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge. **Council Members Present:** Mayor Rick Hall; Mayor Pro Tem Liz Rundzieher; Liz Branigan; Wendell McLeod; and Troy Whitehead. **Staff & Guests Present:** Dottie Palumbo; Greg Boatright; Sally McFeron; Michel Sorrell; Wayne Bonnet; Tracy Ventura; and Barbara Zwernemann.

### **BUDGET & TAX RATE WORKSHOP**

**Consider and discuss setting the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019 for the City of Liberty Hill, Texas.** Discussion was held on the Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019; possibly the rollback rate will be considered. The Finance Director asked that Council set the rate high but accept low at this evening's Regular City Council Meeting.

**Review and discuss Fiscal year 2018 – 2019 Budget for the City of Liberty Hill.** Michel Sorrell – Finance Director provided an overview of the proposed budget to City Council. She explained the two basic budgets represented in the Proposed Budget report, Department Head Requests and Baseline Budget.

- Consider 2 new billing employees
- Code Enforcement Officer – This position was considered but Council voted to put this on hold until January 1, 2019. Currently, LHPD is handling code enforcement duties. .
- 2 SRO's – This has been discussed by Council. The City attempted to apply for a COP grant but did not have required information from LHISD. More information may be needed.
- 3 Police Officers
- Mayor Hall mentioned maintenance employees in Public Works
- Parks and Recreation
  - Swimming Pool & Lifeguards
  - Will have some revenue (~\$25,000 first year)
- Street project - Allocate some money toward projects
- CIO Projects include:
  - Trails
  - Splash Pad
  - Pool
  - Fowler House
  - Municipal Court Building

- Forrest Street Building
  - 1869/Hwy 29 Intersection Improvements
  - Stubblefield Road Phase I and II
  - Roundabout
  - Drainage Plan
  - Van Alley
  - Wastewater Infrastructure Projects
  - Transportation Plan work
- Water
    - Would like a new well rather than painting tank #3
    - Might shut down #2 well which provides minimal output currently.

The tax base is \$250 million. One penny is \$25,000; so 0.48 would mean a loss of around \$50,000 from the budget. Wendell McLeod – Council member stated that he would like to see the tax rate set at 0.48. He would also like to have the “other” line items in the budget identified.

Mayor Rick Hall stated that he, along with Liz Rundzieher and Wendell McLeod, met with CAMPO, to see what they might help the City out with.

Mayor Hall and Police Chief Maverick Campbell discussed their budget and need for replacement and additional radios and related equipment. Chief Campbell stated that he would price out radio equipment within the next few weeks.

Mayor Hall discussed work done by Giraffe Enterprises and asked if this work could be done in-house. He stated the Public Works Department could do the work Giraffe Enterprises is currently doing. Barbara Zwernemann – City Secretary stated that in addition to lawn maintenance, Giraffe cleans City offices and has done set up / take down work for the 2017 Sculpture Festival, worked at Foundation Park, worked on the 2017 Christmas event, worked at Downtown Art Exhibit, Movies in the Park, the Independence Day Celebration and two community cleanup days which encompasses about 6 days of work.

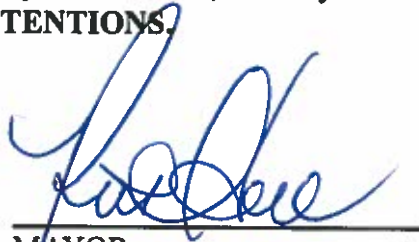
Michel Sorrell – Finance Director closed out the meeting by listing items Council would like reviewed:

- Update the Year-to-Date numbers
- Pull out the SRO’s
- Add in for Police Department radios
- Run numbers on two additional maintenance employees

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion from Liz Rundzieher and second by Wendell McLeod, the August 13, 2018 City Council Budget & Tax Rate Workshop was adjourned at 5:23 PM. **Motion passed on vote of 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

**PASSED & APPROVED on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of AUGUST, 2018 by the City Council of Liberty Hill on  
vote of \_\_\_ AYES; \_\_\_ NAYS; \_\_\_ ABSTENTIONS.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY SECRETARY