

AGENDA ITEM 6

City of Oak Ridge
Kaufman County, Texas

City Council Workshop Minutes
April 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Item 1

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Al Rudin at 6:00 PM. Present were Jimmy Quick, Nena Langford, and Janelle Davis. Rolando Guzman and Scherri Holmes came in at 6:03 PM. City Secretary Donna Sprague, and Code Enforcement Officer Jesse Wood were present. Rolando Guzman, and Janelle Davis left at 6:41 PM to attend another meeting. They returned at 7:30 to continue meeting at Oak Ridge. We had a power outage at 7:27 PM, but the Council continued business with the use of flashlights on cell phones.

Item 2

Discussion on Ham Operator Tower

There was much discussion on this issue. This would require a special conditional use permit for wireless communication. The city has never set fees for this type of construction. In order to get ready for solar power, and other modern devices there will have to be other workshops in future. This ham operator tower does meet all regulations, such as 50' and does not require a light on the top. Code Enforcement Office, Jesse Wood said that he had met with the person wanting to erect a tower, and it appeared that he had met all Federal and State requirements.

Item 3

Discussion on Tax Rate

The Mayor stated that the City was required to have a balanced budget. It will be necessary to look at raising the tax rate in order to accomplish this. A comparison of the values and the impact that different tax rate increases would cost was handed out to the council. No decision has to be made until the July meeting. This issue will continue to be discussed in future workshops.

Item 4

Discussion on Budget for 2017/2018

A proposed budget was prepared by the City Secretary. The Council discussed each item, and made some necessary changes. The need for a Bailiff, and Prosecutor were also discussed. Jesse Wood said he had the training to serve as the Bailiff. These two positions would be needed in the Court Budget. This was the 1st draft of the budget, and will not have to be approved until the July meeting. There will be additions and changes in future workshops.

Item 5

Discussion on November Election on Proposition 1

The General Election will be held on November 7, 2017. It will be an election on the proposed amendments to the Constitution. The Election authority combines precincts since the turnout is always so light. They do not use the City of Oak Ridge Building. We can conduct the election on the Proposition 1 to allow the City of Oak Ridge to receive the money for sales taxes here in this building. We will contract with Kaufman County to provide the necessary items to conduct the election.

Item 6

Discussion on Roads

The next work will be done on Abner, then Robin and Oak Ridge Drive. The Mayor and council are trying to find a date they are all free to do the work.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Item 7

Discussion on Yard of the Month

The city will be looking at yards from May through October to see which lawns have curb appeal, and are mowed. Janelle Davis was going to contact the Garden Club in Terrell on how they determine which yards to give out this award. There will also be a certificate designed and presented to the owner. The council would also like to have the community support to help with any lawn that deserves recognition.

Item 8

Discussion on Police Department

The MOU was the last item to be presented to the State for approval. The Kaufman County Commissioners Court signed it Monday at their meeting. Once a copy is sent to the State, and we are inspected by the State, the Police Department will be able to operate. We expect this to be done by June. The Police Chief informed us that if a vehicle needed to be impounded we had no liability under TRC rules. The fee is usually \$150.00 and an additional \$15.00 daily impound fee.

Item 9

Setting the Postings of City Hall Notices.

Jimmy Quick has been posting the sign on building for several months. He is to undergo double knee replacement surgery and will be unable to continue for a few months. Rolando Guzman said he would be able to keep the notices posted.

Item 10

Discussion on a June Town Hall Meeting

The time was set for Thursday June 15, 2017 from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM. It is the hopes that attendance can be informed about the need for the sales tax revenue on Proposition 1. It is not a tax as many believe. It is already being paid by every resident that has phone service, all utility services, internet, and other providers. Until this proposition is voted in by the residents, Terrell and Kaufman get the revenue we are entitled. This message has to be conveyed to the residents. The Council discussed going door to door. The mail that was sent before must have been misleading for the measure to fail by 11 votes. The word tax is such a misleading word in this case. It is Sales Tax, but that is only on business not residents, except the sales tax that is being charged by all utility companies right now.

Item 11

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Nena Langford, and seconded by Jimmy Quick to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

Al Rudin, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Donna Sprague, City Secretary