

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTIES OF POTTER  
AND RANDALL  
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 13th day of September 2016, the Amarillo City Council met at 4:00 p.m. for a work session, and the regular session was held at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 Southeast 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

PAUL HARPOLE	MAYOR
ELISHA L. DEMERSON	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 1
LISA BLAKE	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 2
RANDY BURKETT	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 3
MARK NAIR	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 4

Absent were none. Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

TERRY CHILDERS	INTERIM CITY MANAGER
BOB COWELL	DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
MICK MCKAMIE	CITY ATTORNEY
BLAIR SNOW	MANAGEMENT ANALYST
FRANCES HIBBS	CITY SECRETARY

The invocation was given by James A. Tudman, Wayland Baptist Church. Mayor Harpole led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Proclamations were presented for "Tri-State Fair Rodeo Time," and "Constitution Week."

Mayor Harpole established a quorum, called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and the following items of business were conducted:

ITEM 1: Mayor Harpole presented the minutes for September 6, 2016. Motion was made by Councilmember Burkett to approve the minutes; motion was seconded by Councilmember Nair, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

ITEM 2: Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance adopting the City of Amarillo budget for the 2016/2017 fiscal year. This budget allows for the City to continue providing effective public services, programs and assistance to Amarillo residents in the upcoming year.

Robert Goodrich, 4111 Stony Point, inquired about a budget amendment to consider a budget item for an ombudsman service for the citizens. Councilmember Demerson stated he did see the value but it was not appropriate at this time, but Council would continue the conversation. James Schenck, 6216 Gainsborough Street, inquired how soon the budget would be available to view line items. Mr. Childers replied the entire proposed budget was available on the City's website. Michelle Bonner stated it was posted on the website when it was filed with the City Secretary. Councilmember Nair motioned to adopt the proposed budget which reflects an increase in revenue derived from property tax revenues over last year's budget. It was seconded by Councilmember Blake and the following captioned ordinance passed on second and final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 7620

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2016, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017, FOR THE CITY OF AMARILLO; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH BUDGET; AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE AMARILLO MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD, MODIFY, INCREASE, OR DELETE VARIOUS FEES AND RATES; CHAPTER 4-6, ARTICLE 1, AND CHAPTER 4-1, ARTICLE I, CONCERNING VARIOUS FEES FOR PLAN REVIEW, INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS; CHAPTER 8-5, ARTICLE IV, CONCERNING CERTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

FEEES; CHAPTERS 18-2 AND 18-3, VARIOUS WATER AND SEWER RATES; AMENDING DEFINITIONS AND REGISTRATION PROVISIONS, CHAPTER 8-5 CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH; AMENDING CHAPTER 4-3 CONCERNING JUDICIAL REVIEW RELATED TO DANGEROUS STRUCTURES; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Blake, Demerson, Burkett and Nair; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 3:** Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance approving the City of Amarillo tax roll, setting an ad valorem property tax rate and levying a tax on all property subject to taxation within the City for the 2017 tax year. This ordinance establishes an ad valorem tax rate of \$0.32698 per \$100.00 property valuation for City maintenance and operations expenses and \$0.02374 per \$100.00 property valuation for existing debt expenses resulting in a total ad valorem rate of \$0.35072 per \$100.00 property valuation. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 3.24 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$1.32. Councilmember Nair stated pursuant to Texas Tax Code section 26.05(b), he moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate, being \$0.35072, which is effectively a 3.24% increase in the tax rate. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Blake and the following captioned ordinance passed on second and final reading:

**ORDINANCE NO. 7621**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS: APPROVING TAX ROLL; SETTING THE TAX RATE AND LEVYING A TAX UPON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION WITHIN THE CITY OF AMARILLO FOR THE TAX YEAR 2016; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Blake, Demerson and Nair; voting NO were none; Councilmember Burkett abstained; the motion carried by a 4:0:1 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 4:** Motion was made by Councilmember Demerson to ratify the City of Amarillo Tax Rate and Budget, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, section 102.007(c), I move that we ratify the budget and tax rate, as adopted, recognizing such budget will require more revenue from property taxes than did the budget adopted last year. seconded by Councilmember Nair. Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Blake, Demerson and Nair; voting NO were none; Councilmember Burkett abstained; the motion carried by a 4:0:1 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 5:** Mayor Harpole presented a resolution approving the 2016/2017 Budget for the Amarillo-Potter Events Venue District. This budget is funded through a 5% car rental tax and a 2% hotel occupancy tax. The Amarillo-Potter Events Venue District operates and maintains voter approved entertainment venues within the City. This budget is recommended for approval by the Amarillo-Potter Events Venue District Board. Cheryl Austin, 166 West Cliffside Drive, inquired as to how many hotels needed to be torn down and for Council to consider using the hotel tax for the demolitions. Councilmember Nair replied the funds were restricted as to how they could be used. Ms. Austin further stated the need to investigate the collection of the hotel tax. Councilmember Nair stated there are procedures in place. James Schenck, 6216 Gainsborough Street, inquired about reviewing the APEVD budget. Mayor Harpole stated the budget has been posted on the City's website with the agenda. Mr. Schenck further inquired when the 5% car rental tax was added. Dipak Patel, 46 Colonial Drive, inquired as to how much money would be lost in revenue from the Embassy Suites and how much funding the Civic Center will lose on their banquet facilities. Motion was made that the following captioned resolution be passed by Councilmember Nair, seconded by Councilmember Blake:

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-13-16-1**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS: APPROVING

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 FOR THE AMARILLO POTTER EVENT VENUE DISTRICT.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Blake, Burkett and Nair; Voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

ITEM 6: Mr. Childers stated the asbestos abatement is complete at the Charles Warford Activity Center and additional funding is needed for the proposed uses.

Mr. Childers left the meeting during this time.

Rod Tweet, Parks and Recreation Director, presented a renovations update on the Charles Warford Activity Center. He further stated patrons would be willing to pay reasonable fees to participate in selected facility programs and they encouraged afterschool and daycare programs. Jerry Danforth, Director Project Management, stated funding has been provided to get to Phase 1, which included among other things: the completion of the gym, computer lab, and commercial kitchen. He addressed other issues and challenges of this aged structure. Phase II had partial funding in place, which encompasses the pool area, parks staff area, storage for the pool equipment, a new mechanical area and a place for pool chemicals. He stated they were told of a small leak in the system, but it appears the water drain lines must be replaced. Phase III would depend on funding from grants and the outcome of Proposition 4. Phase IV would include a police substation and funding will depend on grants and the outcome of Proposition 4. Mr. Danforth estimated an additional \$1.25 million. Mr. Cowell stated there would be another update after the November election. Councilmember Demerson stated it has been a collaborative effort.

Recessed into Executive Session.

ITEM 7: Mayor Harpole advised that appointments are needed for certain boards and commissions. Motion was made by Councilmember Demerson, seconded by Councilmember Burkett to appoint to the Community Development Committee, Manny DeLasSantos to replace Bill Bandy, Edna Neal to replace Julian Reese, and reappoint Gilbert Guzman, such terms to expire December 31, 2017; to reappoint to the Library Advisory Board, Joy Brennaman and Cullen Lutz; such terms to expire July 19, 2019; to appoint to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Dick Ford to replace David Craig, such term to expire May 15, 2019; and to reappoint to the Traffic Advisory Board, Barbara Richardson and appoint Alonzo Everhart to replace DJ Stubben, such terms to expire July 1, 2019.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Blake, Burkett and Nair; voting NO none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

ITEM 8: Mayor Harpole presented the consent agenda and asked if any item should be removed for discussion or separate consideration. There were none. Motion was made by Councilmember Blake to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilmember Burkett.

A. Award - RFID Conversion Project for East and Northwest Branch Libraries:

East Branch:	\$25,233
Northwest Branch:	\$56,103
Total Award to Bibliotecha/3M:	\$81,336

This item awards the purchase of security and inventory management systems for the East and Northwest Branches of the Amarillo Public Library. The systems will provide enhanced customer service features and additional security for inventory protection. This purchase includes workstations, software, security gates and technical support. The systems will replace outdated systems that are no longer supported by the manufacturer and will be compatible with the one Bibliotecha/3M installed at Downtown Library.

B. Purchase – Oshkosh Runway Snow Brooms for the Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport:

Purchased off of HGAC Buy Board	
Federal Share:	\$1,236,454.00



Airport Share: \$137,384.00  
 Total Costs \$1,373,838.00

This item is for the purchase of two (2) Oshkosh Runway Snow Brooms H Chassis with ISL9 350 Snow Blower attachment for the Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport. The two snow blowers replace two (2) 1989 Oshkosh Runway Snow Blowers, both have reached the end of their useful life, and parts are obsolete.

C. Approval -- FAA AIP Grant No. 3-48-0007-40-2016, with the Federal Aviation Administration:

This grant provides for 90% funding of capital improvement program projects at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport.

D. Approval – High Service Vertical Turbine Pump:

Awarded to Ruhrpumpen Pump Company -- \$52,372.00

This item is will purchase one High Service Vertical Turbine Pump for River Road Waste Water Treatment Plant.

E. Acceptance – Texas Traffic Safety Program Grant Agreement – STEP Comprehensive Grant:

Grantor: Texas Department of Transportation

Grant Amount: \$168,424.80

Match Amount: \$221,249.15

Total Awarded: \$389,673.95

This item accepts the Fiscal Year 2017 Texas Traffic Safety Program Grant. The Texas Department of Transportation provides funding to the Amarillo Police Department to focus additional resources to fund patrol and enforcement of speed enforcement, occupant protection (seatbelt and child safety seats), distracted driving and Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) offenses.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Blake, Burkett and Nair; Voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

Mayor Harpole announced that this is the end of the regular agenda, but this time is reserved to hear from any citizen concerning matters pertaining to City policies, programs or services not on today's agenda. The public forum is set under the Open Meetings Act and that during the public forum the City Council can respond with a statement of fact, a statement of City policy or decide whether to place an item on a future agenda.

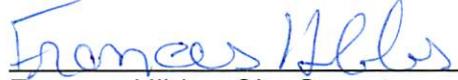
Jesse Pfrimmer, 5723 South Milam Street, stated there is a Convention of States gathering on Monday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Southeast Library. Bob Roth, 6701 Alpine Lane, Amarillo Railroad Museum, inquired as to the bell and whistle missing from the Madame Queen. John Ingerson, 48 St. Andrews Drive, stated the Charles Warford Activity Center was an awesome project for the City. He inquired as to getting corporate sponsors instead of waiting 4-5 years to finish. Mayor Harpole stated citizens had a similar concern on the City Zoo years ago and began a group. Mr. Cowell replied the City has received funds and support from the Amarillo Area Foundation and there are other pending funding applications. James Schenck, 6216 Gainsborough Street, stated he was concerned about the reason the activity center closed and he was not overwhelmed with the number of participants. He stated the City may be subsidizing potential loses with no idea of the total costs of each phase. He further stated he felt there were hidden items in the Propositions and inquired where the City received the \$1.5 million. Keith Grays, 2322 Northwest 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated \$1.7 million was set aside for the TIGER grant which was not allocated has been used for Phase I. He stated reference should be to North Central Amarillo instead of North Heights. He further stated their voices have been heard from the community engagement meetings and that police response times would be better.

Councilmember Burkett announced there was a private downtown structure walking tour sponsored by the Panhandle Plains Museum on September 23, 2016 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Herring Hotel and finishing at 5:30 p.m. at Crush Wine Bar. Mayor Harpole left the meeting during this time. Cheryl Austin, 166 West Cliffside Drive, expressed her feelings about the demolition of properties. Kit Rudd, 6850 Grande Drive, stated he would be leaving a week from Friday and planned to visit the Dallas City Council. He

requested full support of the Amarillo City Council and sponsorship. He further requested connections to speak to the owners of the St. Anthony's BSA property. Carolyn Thornton, 4101 Southwest 45 Avenue, thanked the Council for listening to the citizens. Scott Summers, 4822 Southwest 11 Avenue, stated he was upset with the APD property room and Municipal Court. He stated the return of property has been a slow process. Dipak Patel, 46 Colonial Drive, stated there was dishonest people and an investigation as needed. There were no further comments.

Mayor Harpole advised that the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

  
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Frances Hibbs, City Secretary

  
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Paul Harpole, Mayor