



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
AUGUST 26, 2024
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Malissa Minucci
Pat Shelbourne
Cris Blackburn
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 2
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Timothy Hamilton
Randy Richards
Lana Ewell
Randy Barkley

Interim City Manager/ Director of Finance
City Secretary
City Attorney
Director of Parks and Community Services
Assistant Director of Public Works
Director of Library Services
Fire Chief

INVOCATION

Pastor Dennis Hester of The First Baptist Church of Watauga and Police Chaplin gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Miner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Blackburn talked about the Clear the Shelter event at the Animal Shelter.

Councilmember Neal announced the Kids Fish and mentioned the Animal Shelter.

Mayor Miner added he will adopt a dog at the Animal Shelter this week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public testimony were received.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No requests for public testimony were received.

REPORT

1. **Report on Strategic Plan Update as discussed at June 1, 2024 Budget and Strategic Planning Retreat.**

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the item. She spoke about the date and wording changes to the priorities in the strategic plan. She mentioned that the Short-Term Rental workshop is scheduled for September 9, and the Cyber Security report is on the October Agenda; the council requested more information on both of these items in the Retreat.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider action to approve a rate increase for legal services as requested by Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith. Deby Woodard, Assistant Director of Finance**
2. **Consider action to approve the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2024. Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance**
3. **Consider the approval of the Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending June 30, 2024. Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance**
4. **Consider action to adopt an Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas adopting the Capital Outlay Plan for fiscal years 2025-2029; providing for repeal; providing a savings clause; and providing an effective date. Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance**
5. **Consider action to adopt an ordinance by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas approving the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Service Plan Update and 2024 Assessment Roll for the Park Vista Public Improvement District of the City of Watauga, Texas; providing for repeal; providing for severability and providing an effective date. Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance**

6. Consider action to approve the Watauga Economic Development Staffing Reimbursement Agreement for Fiscal year 2024-2025. Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance
7. Consideration of Voting Member and Alternate Member reappointment/appointment to the City of Fort Worth Water and Wastewater Wholesale Customer Advisory Committee. Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works
8. Consider the approval of the reappointment of Andra Dunn to Place 2 on the Parks Advisory Board. Arthur Miner, Mayor
9. Consider the approval of the reappointment of Mayor Arthur Miner to Place 1 on the Watauga Economic Development Corporation. Linda Proskey, City Secretary
10. Consider the approval of the reappointment of Kristen Chapman to Place 6 on the Library Services Board. Arthur Miner, Mayor
11. Consider the approval of the reappointment of Macy Forrester to Place 7 on the WEDC and to Place 4 on the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Arthur Miner, Mayor
12. Consider the approval of the reappointment of Tim Bobseine to Place 4 on the Parks Advisory Board. Arthur Miner, Mayor
13. Consider the approval of the appointment of Kelly White to Place 4 on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Arthur Miner, Mayor
14. Consider approval of the minutes for the August 12, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting. Linda Proskey, City Secretary

Mayor Miner asked if any council member would like any item pulled from the consent agenda. Hearing none he asked for a motion.

Councilmember Hill made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Downey seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing on the proposed ad valorem tax rate of \$0.57020 per \$100 assessed value for the tax year 2024, comprised of \$0.361051 on each \$100 valuation for maintenance and support of the general government and in the amount of \$0.209149 on each \$100 valuation of property for the interest and sinking fund.

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the item. She mentioned the proposed tax range of .5702400 dollars evaluation and does provide the maintenance operations revenue for the general government, which includes police and fire services, library, parks, and community services. As well as other departments. In addition, the revenue also funds service payments for previously issued debt as well as the proposed 2024.

Mayor Miner opened the public hearing at 6:42 pm

There were no requests to speak

Mayor Miner closed the public hearing at 6:42 pm

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consideration and approval of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of "City of Watauga, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2024" providing for the payment of said certificates by the levy of an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property within the City and further securing said certificates by a lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues of the system; authorizing the execution of any necessary engagement agreement with the City's Financial Advisors and/or Bond Counsel; and providing an effective date {CAPTION}.**

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance introduced Mark McLiney, who is with Samco. He went over the bids that were received. The best bid came in at 3.58% from BK Financial, and a total of 7 bids were received from all over the country.

Hearing no questions from the Council Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Councilmember Shelbourne made the following motion: I move that the City Council adopt an ordinance authorizing the City of Watauga, Texas, Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series, 2024.

Councilmember Hill seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

2. **Discuss and consider action adopting an ordinance by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas approving and adopting a budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025; providing for the appropriation of funds in the budget; providing for repeal; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.**

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the item.

Hearing no questions from council Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Councilmember Hill made a motion to approve the item as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Minucci seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

3. **Consider action on the adoption of an ordinance by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas levying ad valorem taxes for the 2024 Tax Year for use and support of the municipal government of the City of Watauga, Texas for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year; apportioning each levy for specific purposes; providing the date when taxes shall be due and timely paid; providing for repeal; providing for severability; providing an effective date; and levying ad valorem taxes for Fiscal Year October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 in the amount of \$0.570200 per \$100 of assessed value, comprised of \$0.361051 on each \$100 valuation of property for maintenance and support of the general government and in the amount of \$0.209149 on each \$100 valuation of property for the Interest and Sinking Fund.**

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance presented the item. She said that there are three steps to this item which need to be voted on.

- 1) Councilmember Taylor made the motion: I move to approve a debt service tax rate of .209149 for \$100 valuation for the 2024 tax year. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion.

Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 2) Councilmember Taylor made the motion: I move to approve a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.361051 per \$100 of valuation for the 2024 tax year. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion.

Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 3) Mayor Miner stated A record vote will be required for the following item, and at least 60 percent of the members of the City Council, five members, must vote in favor of the item to pass.

Councilmember Taylor explained that while the State requires the city to call this a tax increase, we are not increasing the tax rate.

Councilmember Taylor made the motion: I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of .5702 for \$100 valuation. Which is effectively a 5.57% increase in the tax rate and to approve the ordinance as presented. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion.

Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

4. **Discuss and consider action ratifying a property tax increase reflected in the City of Watauga budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025, in accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 102.007; providing for repeal; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.**

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the item. She mentioned that state law does require that if the city's property tax raises more revenue from property taxes under the preceding year, the governing body must hold a separate vote to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the budget even though the tax rates maintained at .5702.

Councilmember Taylor made the motion: I move that we ratify the property tax increase shown in the budget, since the budget requires raising more revenue from property taxes than last year. Councilmember Downey seconded.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, discuss matters relating to personnel as follows: City Manager duties.**

Council recessed into executive session at 7:07 pm.

RECONVENE

The City Council returned to open session at 7:27 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION

1. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, discuss matters relating to personnel as follows: City Manager duties.

No action was taken. Mayor Miner stated that Human Resources would post the city manager's position on September 1, 2024.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

No items for future agendas

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm

Approved: this 28 day of Oct, 2024

Signed: this 29 day of Oct., 2024

ATTEST: [Signature]
Linda Proskey /s/

Linda Proskey, City Secretary

APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor



