

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS, HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, 4700 DREXEL DRIVE, HIGHLAND PARK, TX, 75205, AT 8:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Will C. Beecherl, Mayor Pro Tem Craig Penfold, and Town Council Members Marc Myers, Lydia Novakov, Don Snell, and Leland White.

Mayor Pro Tem Craig Penfold gave the Invocation.

Mayor Beecherl asked if anyone wished to address the Town Council and explained that the Town Council may not discuss or make decisions on items not listed on the agenda. Issues raised may be referred to staff for research and possible future action. No comment was made.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Beecherl presented a proclamation to the Highland Park Harvey R. “Bum” Bright Library designating September 2023 as Library Card Sign-Up Month. Kortney Nelson, Town Librarian, and Library staff were present to receive the proclamation. Mayor Beecherl thanked the Library staff for all of their hard work.

PUBLIC HEARING

Conduct a public hearing to receive citizen comments on the Proposed Combined Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Steve Alexander, CPA, Director of Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer, explained that the public hearing provides a forum for public comments on the Proposed FY 2023-24 Combined Budget ("Proposed Budget"). On July 31, 2023, the Town Administrator submitted the Proposed Budget to the Town Council, the Town Secretary, and the Finance and Audit Advisory Committee. The Texas Local Government Code requires that the Town hold a public hearing on the Proposed Budget. Notice of this public hearing was published in the *Daily Commercial Record* on August 4, 2023, and posted on the Town's website. An additional public hearing will be held on September 5, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. No comment was made.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Craig Penfold, seconded by Council Member Lydia Novakov, the Town Council voted unanimously to approve Items A. through B. on the Consent Agenda. Prior to the vote, Mayor Beecherl explained that the Town Council reviewed these items prior to the meeting.

- A. Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council study session held on August 1, 2023.*
- B. Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on August 1, 2023.*

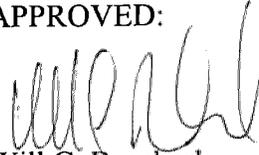
MAIN AGENDA

Review and discuss a proposal to set a preliminary property tax rate of \$0.220530 per \$100 of taxable assessed value and schedule one public hearing to receive public comments regarding the proposal to consider the tax increase. Steven Alexander, CPA, Director of Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer, explained that the Texas Property Tax Code requires that when a proposed tax rate exceeds the "no-new-revenue tax rate," the taxing unit's governing body must vote on a proposal to consider a tax increase. Additionally, the governing body must vote to place a proposal to adopt the rate on the agenda of a future meeting as an action item. The vote does not bind the governing body to the preliminary tax rate set; however, should the Town Council consider a tax rate other than the set preliminary tax rate at a later date, it cannot consider a higher tax rate. The 2023 Tax Calculation Worksheet details the computation of the Town's "no-new-revenue tax rate" and "voter-approval tax rate." The Town's "no-new-revenue tax rate" is \$0.203305, and the "voter-approval tax rate" is \$0.220530 per \$100 taxable assessed valuation. The staff recommends setting the preliminary tax rate of \$0.220530 per \$100 valuation and placing a proposal to adopt a property tax rate of \$0.220530 per \$100 taxable assessed value on the agenda for the Town Council meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. The staff further recommends scheduling a public hearing on the preliminary tax rate at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

Mayor Beecherl adjourned the Town Council meeting at 8:11 a.m.

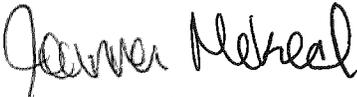
Approved on this the 5th day of September 2022.

APPROVED:



Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

ATTEST:



Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary