

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING OF THE
CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
6:00 PM

Chairman Eric Neal called the Special-Called meeting to order in the Commission Chambers, City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN: Eric Neal, District 3

COMMISSIONERS:

Michael Mitchell, District 2
Vernia Calhoun, District 5
Ed Smith, District 7

LaDarius Carter, District 4
Garrett Boersma, District 6

ABSENT: Gloria Moon, District 1

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Agnor, City Manager
Dean Searle, Acting City Attorney
J.C. Hughes, Public Services Director
Jack Redmon, Support Services Director
Wes Morrison, Planning & Development Director
Debbie Manuel, Acting City Secretary/Finance Director

Reggie Cooper, Fire Chief

INVOCATION & PLEDGE: Commissioner Carter

PRESENTATION

311. PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR.

Mike Hallum, CPA with Knuckols, Duvall, Hallum, & Co., presented the annual audit report for the 2014 fiscal year.

ORDINANCE

312. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL, TEXAS FOR THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR.

Lisa Agnor, City Manager, asked for approval of an Ordinance to adopt the Annual Budget of the City of Marshall, Texas for the 2016 Fiscal Year.

Commissioner Calhoun made a motion to approve the Ordinance to adopt the Annual Budget of the City of Marshall, Texas for the 2016 Fiscal Year. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed with the following vote:

**Ayes 4: Chairman Neal, Commissioners Carter, Calhoun, and Mitchell
Nays 2: Commissioners Boersma and Smith**

RATIFICATION OF PROPOSED 2015 TAX RATE INCREASE

313. **CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED 2015 TAX RATE INCREASE REFLECTED IN THE 2016 BUDGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.**

Lisa Agnor asked for ratification of the proposed 2015 tax rate increase reflected in the 2016 Budget in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code.

Commissioner Calhoun made motion for ratification of the proposed 2015 tax rate increase reflected in the 2016 Budget. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 6:0.

ORDINANCE

314. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AFFIXING AND LEVYING 2015 AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL FOR THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR AT A RATE OF \$0.542160 PER \$100 OF PROPERTY VALUE, WHICH IS EFFECTIVELY A 13.06 PERCENT INCREASE IN THE TAX RATE. THE TAX RATE OF \$0.542160 WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.**

Lisa Agnor asked for approval of an Ordinance affixing and levying 2015 ad valorem taxes for the use and support of the municipal government of the City of Marshall for the 2016 fiscal year at a rate of \$0.542160 per \$100 of property value, *which is effectively a 13.06 percent increase in the tax rate.* **The tax rate of \$0.542160 will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The Ordinance provides for apportioning each levy for operations and indebtedness.**

The proposed tax rate of \$0.542160 will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate and the tax rate will effectively be raised by 8.31 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$37.53.

Chairman Neal made a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.542160, which is effectively a 13.06 percent increase in the tax rate. Commissioner Calhoun seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 6:0.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND REQUESTS FOR CITY COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

315. **PRESENTATION OF THE MARSHALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT.**

Donna Maisel, Executive Director of MEDCO, presented MEDCO's semi-annual report.

316. DISCUSSION OF AND CONSIDERATION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO ALLOW THE HARRISON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO OCCUPY SPACE IN THE MEMORIAL CITY HALL FACILITY.

Janet Cook, Executive Director of the Harrison County Historical Museum, gave a brief history of the museum and spoke in support of the museum occupying space in Memorial City Hall.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to make Memorial City Hall a performance venue facility only. Chairman Neal seconded the motion.

Commission engaged in discussion, and John Flowers, Architect for the Memorial City Hall project, responded to questions regarding this agenda item.

Martha Robb, 3301 Victory Drive, requested that the commissioners allow the public an opportunity to speak on behalf of the museum being in Memorial City Hall.

After further discussion Commissioner Mitchell withdrew his motion and Chairman Neal withdrew the second.

Narcie Crosby, 211 N. Bolivar, addressed the Commission asking when the public would be allowed to speak regarding the Harrison County Historical Museum being housed in Memorial City Hall.

The Commission discussed another meeting being scheduled for September 21, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

317. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code – Consultation with Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the Attorney to the governmental Body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.

1. Discussion regarding issues related to contracts between Norit Americas, Inc., Harrison County, and the City of Marshall.

The Commission adjourned into Executive Session, the time was 7:35p.m.

The Commission reconvened from Executive Session, the time was 8:30p.m.

318. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Carter made a motion for adjournment. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 6:0.

APPROVED:



**Chairman of the City Commission
of the City of Marshall, Texas**

ATTEST:


Acting City Secretary

**Ordinances: O-15-07
O-15-08**