

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
HELOTES CITY COUNCIL
August 3, 2023

The City of Helotes City Council met for a special meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 12951 Bandera Road, Helotes, Texas. This was an open meeting, subject to the open meeting laws of the State of Texas.

Present: Rich Whitehead, Mayor
Craig Sanders
Jen Sones
Dave Cato
Cynthia Massey
Matthew Merchant

Staff Present: Marian Mendoza, City Administrator
Celina Perez, City Secretary

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Whitehead called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Roderick Barnes, Compass Church, led the invocation. Mayor Whitehead led the pledges to the U.S. flag and to the Texas flag.

OPEN SESSION:

2. Citizens to be Heard.

No one signed up to speak.

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

3. Presentation of and discussion on the proposed FYE 2024 Municipal Operating Budget and the proposed Tax Year 2023 ad valorem (property) tax rate. (Mayor and Staff)

Marian Mendoza, City Administrator, presented the proposed FYE 2024 Municipal Budget. The largest revenue source for the City is property tax, which is about 40% of the FYE 2024 General Fund Revenue. The proposed rate for Tax Year 2023 decreased to \$0.311455 per \$100 valuation. The Maintenance & Operations Rate (M&O) is \$0.270325, and the Interest & Sinking Rate (I&S) is \$0.041130. Helotes has one of the lowest property tax rates compared to neighboring cities. The second largest revenue source for the City is sales tax, which is about 35% of the FYE 2024 General Fund Revenue. The FYE 2024 Budget highlights are the addition of two full time police officers, a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), increased health care premiums, a full-upgrade of the server system, and new employee program incentives for tuition reimbursement towards higher education classes in the employee's field of work, bilingual pay differential, and an updated certification pay ranges. The budget also includes hourly rate increases for the City Engineer and

City Inspector, equipment for police and fire, fuel, vehicle maintenance (several vehicles are no longer under warranty), and medical supplies. The FYE 2024 Municipal Budget proposes a revenue total of \$9,980,829, an expenditure total of \$9,238,758, a working capital of \$742,071, leaving an estimated unreserved fund balance of \$7,716,058. The proposed budget will be posted on the City website and available at City Hall for public viewing.

4. Discussion of and action on setting the proposed Tax Year 2023 ad valorem (property) tax rate and setting the meeting to adopt said proposed tax rate on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. (Staff)

The proposed property tax rate for Tax Year 2023 decreased to \$0.311455 per \$100 valuation, however, the rate exceeds the no-new revenue rate of \$0.301098. As a result, the City is required to hold a public hearing.

Motion was made by Council Member Sanders to set the proposed 2023 Property Tax Rate at \$0.311455 per \$100 valuation, composed of the Maintenance & Operations Rate (M&O) at \$0.270325 and the Interest & Sinking Rate (I&S) at \$0.041130; to set the public hearing on September 14, 2023, at 7 PM; and to adopt the property tax rate at the regular City Council meeting on September 28, 2023, at 7 PM. Second by Council Member Massey.

Motion to approve carried unanimously.

5. Discussion of and action on setting a public hearing on the proposed FYE 2024 Municipal Operating Budget and the FYE 2024 City of Helotes Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) Operating Budget on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. (Staff)

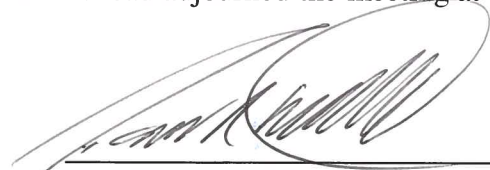
Motion was made by Council Member Sones to set a public hearing on the proposed FYE 2024 Operating Budgets on September 14, 2023, at 7 PM, and that said budgets will be adopted at the regular City Council Meeting on September 28, 2023 at 7 PM. Second by Council Member Merchant.

Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Before adjourning, Council Member Sanders thanked Marian and Staff. Mayor Whitehead echoed the same sentiments.

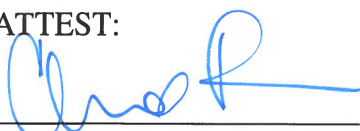
Adjourn.

With no more business to come before Council, Mayor Whitehead adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.



Rich Whitehead, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celina Perez, City Secretary