

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 27TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1980, AT 5:00 P.M.

On the 27th day of August, 1980, the City Commission of the City of Lufkin, Texas, convened in special meeting in the Council Room at City Hall with the following members thereof, to-wit:

Pitser Garrison	Mayor
Percy A. Simond, Jr.	Commissioner, Ward No. 1 (new plan)
Don E. Boyd	Commissioner, Ward No. 2 (new plan)
Bob McCurry	Commissioner, Ward No. 3 (new plan)
Pat Foley	Commissioner, Ward No. 4 (new plan)
E. C. Wareing	Commissioner, Ward No. 4 (old plan)
Richard Thompson	Commissioner at Large, Place B (old plan)
Harvey Westerholm	City Manager
Roger G. Johnson	Assistant City Manager
Ann Griffin	Assistant City Secretary

being present, and

Robert L. Flournoy	City Attorney
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being absent when the following business was transacted.

1. Budget Workshop Disc. - Proposed City Budget Fiscal Year 1980-81

Mayor Garrison stated that this special meeting had been called to work on budget for Fiscal Year 1980-81 to provide opportunity for Commissioners to share questions and concerns regarding same. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated he had been informed that it was too late for the City of Lufkin to go to 100% valuation of property for the purpose of taxation by City. Mayor Garrison asked that Tax Assessor/Collector, Roy Sinclair, be asked to attend meeting to inform members of Commission what procedure was involved in this change of valuation.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that a large expenditure in the amount of \$110,000 for replacement of heat exchanger at sewer plant should be financed by time warrant in lieu of one year purchase. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated if there was a reasonably high amount each year for this work the time warrant would only delay the inevitable. Public Works Coordinator, Dwayne Humphrey, stated that this was the first heat exchanger to be replaced since the plant started operation in 1975. Mayor Garrison asked if the system would be eliminated when the worm project was completed. Mr. Humphrey stated that the heat exchangers would then be used as a back-up system. Commissioner Pat Foley then stated that he would like to see large items of maintenance spread out over several years. Mayor Garrison stated that his first reaction was the same as Commissioner Foley's, but with the revision of the Water and Sewer revenue budget, there would be money enough to take care of the heat exchanger and same should be paid this budget year.

With the arrival of Roy Sinclair, Tax Assessor/Collector, Mayor Garrison asked that information about changing valuation for tax purposes be explained to City Commission. Mr. Sinclair stated that when the market value of property is changed each individual must be notified by mail. It was stated that the change can be made any time, but the change to 100% valuation would be mandatory next year. Mr. Sinclair stated that the proper time to notify the people would have been before the Board of Equalization met to provide opportunity to protest.

Commissioner Wareing stated that if City values were given to people now without change in taxes, the shock will be less next year when all values change. Commissioner Wareing further stated that the central taxing agency would set tax by taking highest of three values, i.e. city, county, and school.

Mayor Garrison stated that the City Commission would need to discuss the salary adjustment for the coming year. Motion was made by Commissioner E. C. Wareing and seconded by Commissioner Richard

Thompson that an 8% salary adjustment across the board be approved for Fiscal Year 1980-81 budget. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Commissioner Percy Simond stated that he felt people with lower pay scale should receive a larger raise but he would support an 8% raise for top salary range and 9 or 10% for bottom. Mayor Garrison stated that the City Commission had staggered raises as suggested in years past. Commissioner Pat Foley stated that the last two years' raises had been given with this consideration and he felt this year an across the board raise would be beneficial.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated he would like to see the Commission allocate a certain number of people for each department. Commissioner Don Boyd stated that the City should not reduce the number of employees if the City services would suffer. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated that the Street Department was different from other departments of the City because some of their work could be contracted to local firms.

Mayor Garrison stated that he felt street lighting should be charged to administration or public safety, but not to street department budget, and maintenance of public grounds should not be charged to the parks department budget. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated that street lighting should be a separate item under light and power.

Mayor Garrison stated that if there were any significant changes in number of employees of a given department, the City Manager could report same to Commission. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated that he would like to have a monthly report of number of employees in each department because he was interested in areas where the City was short of employees. City Manager Westerholm stated that the City needed flexibility to decide what was best for the City, paying overtime or hiring new people to handle large workloads.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that since the City Commission set the budget for the City, possibly the City Manager needed guidelines in the most important areas. Commissioner Don Boyd stated that if each department remained within their budget the number of employees should be decided by each department head. City Manager Westerholm stated that the salary budget was based on the number of employees currently employed and if additional people were hired this would exceed budget amount.

Commissioner Bob McCurry stated that the street department was in need of required number of employees to keep streets of Lufkin in the best possible condition.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bob McCurry and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley to tentatively approve budget expenses. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Mayor Garrison stated that with the proposed increases in water, sewer, and sanitation rates the revenue needed for the 1980-81 budget would be provided and an excess of \$72,000 would be generated over the required 1 & 3/4 times coverage of the debt requirements.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that out of City water users were presently being charged the following rates:

1 mile from City Limits	1½ times City rates
over 1 mile from City Limits	2 times City rates

Commissioner Foley stated that these users should be charged same rate as inside City users with increase in rates.

Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated that maintenance of water lines, reading of meters, and other services given to customers outside City Limits are more costly and he felt same should be charged accordingly. Commissioner E. C. Wareing further stated that most other water districts are charging

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more than the City, and he objected to developers making a profit at the expense of the people of Lufkin. Commissioner Pat Foley stated that the City may desire to sell water at a bulk rate to customers outside City Limits. City Manager Westerholm stated that the City might want to increase the bulk rate from 39¢ per 1,000 gallons to 57¢ per 1,000 gallons. Mayor Garrison stated that large bulk rate users should be encouraged to drill their own wells because the City is spending money to drill more wells and build storage tanks.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that water, sewer and sanitation rates be revised as stated in budget. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Commissioner Don Boyd stated that the fines charged by City for overparking, speeding, etc. should be increased to deter second offences. Commissioner E. C. Wareing stated that the fines charged by City should keep up with inflation.

Mayor Garrison stated that the Commission had approved all items of proposed budget and invited additional comments.


Commissioner Percy Simond questioned salary for credit union employee being paid out of City budget. It was stated that credit union paid for any extra help.

Commissioner Bob McCurry stated that \$191,000 was shown under investment of funds on last year's budget, but new budget shows -0- in this category. City Manager Westerholm stated that he would review this figure and notify City Commission at later meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that proposed budget be approved and hearing date for same be set for September 2, 1980, at 7:30 p.m. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

2. There being no further business for consideration, meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.





Mayor, City of Lufkin, Texas
Pro Tem



Assistant City Secretary