

## Minutes

City Council – Special Session Meeting – Budget Workshop #3

CITY OF SIMONTON

August 27, 2024

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the City Council – Special Session Meeting – Budget Workshop #3 held on August 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.**

A quorum was present with the following City Council Members in attendance:

Laurie Boudreaux, Kelli Matula, Courtney Cox, Faith Haley, Justin Boudreau, and Burns Turner

**City Staff present:**

City Secretary Nanci Mohr

**Public Present:**

Kristi Smith

Dan McJunkin

Kenneth Haley

Sheri Buck

2. **Invocation and Pledge**

Mayor Boudreaux gave the invocation.

Mayor Boudreaux led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Public Comments**

*In accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Government Code 551.007, City Council may not discuss or take action on any item NOT listed on the Agenda. Each member of the public wishing to speak must sign-up prior to the meeting and is limited to 3 minutes.*

Community member Kristi Smith requested that Council leave the bank reserves intact so that roadwork may be completed.

Community Member Sheri Buck also spoke to the issue of roadwork, citing that bad road conditions are a liability to the City.

4. **New Business – Review of 2024-2025 Proposed Budget**

Mayor Boudreaux gave a detailed explanation of each new section of the Proposed Budget. She corrected herself by stating that additional funds, not only grant funds, were used for past roadwork.

A discussion of the “no greater than tax rate,” definition followed, as well as a discussion regarding revenue and expense and the Working Budget. Council Member/Pro Tem Courtney Cox requested clarification related to franchise fees, bond conduits and software costs.

Council Member/Pro Tem Courtney Cox provided a list of items she would cut from the budget to include payroll, notices of public hearings, travel and training, technology, apparel and janitorial services. Council Member/Pro Tem Courtney Cox proposes using the interest revenue from CDARS accounts to fund additional costs and proposed amending the budget when a City Administrator is hired.

Council Member Faith Haley stated that she would like to apply “rollover funds” from last year to supplement payroll expenses.

Mayor Boudreaux requested a consensus from City Council regarding the proposed tax rate. Council Member/Pro Tem Courtney Cox stated that she would like a 0.21 ad valorem tax rate. Council Member Burns Turner agreed with the 0.21 rate. Council Member Faith Haley stated that she would like to view a budget version with a 0.24 tax rate. Council Member Justin Boudreau did not agree with a 0.21 tax rate or with using funds from reserves. Council Member Kelli Matula also disagreed with a 0.21 tax rate.

Council Member Burns Turner stated there were two reasons the City of Simonton was incorporated: (1) the availability to purchase flood insurance and (2) the concern of annexation by the City of Houston.

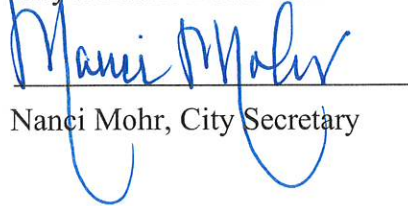
Mayor Boudreaux provided a follow-up that according to Fort Bend County, the life span of roads is approximately ten years, but depends on factors such as rain run-off.

5. The next City Council Special Session Meeting – Budget Workshop #4 is on September 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
6. Adjournment  
Mayor Boudreaux adjourned the City Council Meeting at 7:17 p.m. without objection.

**Respectfully submitted,**



Mayor Laurie Boudreaux



Nanci Mohr, City Secretary

