

**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES****BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15, 2012**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Budget Work Session Meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, City Hall at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the Council Meeting to go into Executive Session at 9:08 a.m.

Council Member Spelman was absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council went into Executive Session, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, to receive advice from Legal Counsel, to discuss matters of land acquisition, litigation, and personnel matters as specifically listed on this agenda and to receive advice from Legal Counsel regarding any other item on this agenda.

8. Discuss legal issues relating to the November 2012 election (Private consultation with legal counsel pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and Mayor Leffingwell called the Council Meeting back to order at 9:33 a.m.

1. Approve a resolution adopting a maximum proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate of 50.50 cents per \$100 taxable value that the City Council will consider for Fiscal Year 2012-2013; and setting the date that the Council will adopt the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 property (ad valorem) tax rate (suggested date is Monday, September 10, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.). (Public comment will be allowed on this item.)
Resolution No. 20120815-001 adopting a maximum proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate the City Council will consider for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 of 50.50 cents per \$100 taxable value was approved on a roll call vote on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Council Member Martinez' second on a 6-0 vote. Council Member Spelman was absent.

The motion to set the date the Council will adopt the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 property tax rate for September 10, 2012 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Austin City Council Chambers at Austin City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas was approved on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Council Member Martinez' second on a 6-0 vote. Council Member Spelman was absent.

6. Set Public Hearings on the proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 (Suggested dates and times: August 23, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. and August 30, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX). (Public comment will be allowed on this item.)

The public hearings were set for August 23 at 4:00 p.m. and August 30, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., City Hall at 301 W Second Street, Austin, TX on Council Member Martinez' motion, Council Member Riley's second on a 6-0 vote. Council Member Spelman was absent.

2. Approve an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20120802-013, calling the November 2012 special election to be held on November 6, 2012, providing for the conduct of the election and authorizing the City Clerk to enter into joint election agreements with other local political subdivisions as may be necessary for the orderly conduct of the election, setting the ballot order for the propositions to be presented to the voters, finalizing the wording of the propositions, and declaring an emergency. (Public comment is allowed)
This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
3. Approve an ordinance placing a charter amendment on the November 2012 ballot to provide conditions under which the city council may sell or lease any substantial part of the facilities of a municipal utility. (Public comment is allowed)
This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
4. Approve an ordinance placing a charter amendment on the November 2012 ballot to authorize the city council to create an independent board to oversee city owned utilities. (Public comment is allowed)
This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
5. Approve an ordinance amending the order calling the November 6, 2012 Special Election to provide for general obligation bond propositions, and declaring an emergency. (Public comment is allowed)
There was a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance starting with the City Manager's list of August 6, 2012 for a bond package of \$385 million that was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cole and seconded by Council Member Riley.

There was a substitute motion to adopt the Bond Advisory Task Force recommendations starting with a \$400 million package, with the following amendments to get the total package amount to \$385 million, on first reading only, that was made by Council Member Morrison and seconded by Council Member Tovo. The amendments were:

- **Reduce the APD Northwest Substation by \$6.9 million to \$5.8 million;**
- **Reduce the Emmett Shelton Bridge by \$2 million to \$3 million;**
- **Reduce the Austin to Manor Trail Phase 2 by \$1 million to zero;**
- **Reduce the IH-35 Improvements by \$2.3 million to \$18.75 million;**
- **Reduce the Bicycle, Urban Trail and Grant Match Program by \$2 million to \$3 million; and**
- **Reduce the Citywide Bikeways Program by \$1.5 million to zero.**

This failed on a 4-2 vote. Those voting aye were Council Members Morrison and Tovo. Those voting nay were: Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Cole and Council Members Martinez and Riley. Council Member Spelman was absent.

The main motion to adopt the first reading of the ordinance starting with the City Manager's list of August 6, 2012 for a bond package of \$385 million and including the following amendments was approved on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Council Member Riley's second on a 4-2 vote. Those voting aye were: Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Cole and Council Members Martinez and Riley. Council Member Spelman was absent. Those voting nay were: Council Member Morrison and Tovo. The amendments were:

- **To add \$2 million for the Women and Children's Shelter. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.**
- **To include \$2 million for the Barton Springs bathhouse. It includes a stipulation that Friends of Barton Springs have to raise \$250,000 matching funds. This passed on a 4-2**

vote. Those voting aye were Council Members Morrison and Tovo. Those voting nay were: Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Cole and Council Members Martinez and Riley.

- To add \$2 million for the Dougherty Art Center from Mayor Pro Tem Cole. This passed on a 5-1 vote. Mayor Leffingwell voted nay.
- To reduce the Northwest APD Substation by \$9,900,000 with the remaining funds to be used for land acquisition and design. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To reduce Urban Rail Planning by \$2 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To increase Austin Studios by \$5.4 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To increase the East 51st Street project by \$3.5 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To increase the Violet Crown Trail by \$2 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To include \$150,000 for the Wheelchair Accessible Fishing Pier. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To increase the Neighborhood Partnering Program by \$700,000. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To reduce the Park Patrol Facility by \$2,724,000. This passed on 5-1 vote. Mayor Leffingwell voted nay. Council Member Spelman was absent. Staff was directed to clarify the wording so it includes flexibility as to location and type of structure.
- To reduce the Montopolis Parking Lot by \$906,000. This item was withdrawn from the proposal.
- To reduce the Emmet Shelton Bridge by \$2 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To reduce the Harold Court Facility by \$5.048 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To increase affordable housing by \$13.3 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To reduce I-35 improvements by \$3.7 million. There was no objection so this amendment was accepted.
- To reduce Design of New Projects by \$1 million. This passed on 5-1 vote. Council Member Tovo voted nay. Council Member Spelman was absent.
- To reduce Street Reconstruction by \$4,606,000. This passed on 5-1 vote. Mayor Leffingwell voted nay. Council Member Spelman was absent.

The motion to adopt the first reading of the ordinance setting Proposition 12 in the amount of \$143,299,000, Proposition 13 in the amount of \$30,000,000, Proposition 14 in the amount of \$77,680,000, Proposition 15 in the amount of \$78,300,000, Proposition 16 in the amount of \$31,079,000, Proposition 17 in the amount of \$11,148,000, Proposition 18 in the amount of \$13,442,000 was approved on a 4-2 vote. Those voting aye were: Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Cole and Council Members Martinez and Riley. Those voting nay were: Council Members Morrison and Tovo. Council Member Spelman was absent.

BRIEFINGS

7. Presentation of the City's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013
This item was postponed to Monday, August 20, 2012 without objection.

Mayor Leffingwell adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 23rd day of August, 2012 on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Council Member Martinez' second on a 6-0 vote. Council Member Spelman was absent.