

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 21, 2015 AT 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barna called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barna led the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

3. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

Susie Quinn, City Secretary, certified a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

Mayor Eric Barna
Mayor Pro Tem Scott Bradley
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui
Councilmember Ben St. Clair
Councilmember Betty Nichols Spraggins
Councilmember Sarah Fincanon
Councilmember Rob Thomas

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ray Shahan, resident, is still requesting a full investigation on PD3-10-590 regarding the zoning/rezoning of the Ranch subdivision. He gave Council a packet of minutes from 2004 which includes an investigation of some former employees. He requested Council to study the copied minutes or return the packet to him.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation of financial report and investment report as of June 30, 2015.

Finance Director, Linda Truitt updated council on the current financial standings. Currently the investments in June are almost 20 million dollars which down about half a million since May; the interest rate has increased to .14% as a result of the bank depository contract which was entered into a couple of months ago. Sales tax is currently trending about 10% above last year. It appears that we should make the projected budgeted amounts for sales tax. At the end of June, the budget numbers are at 75% and it appears the City will meet the target revenue amounts in the General Fund. Permits had a slight increase to seven (7) for June of this year versus six (6) for June of last year. Total for the year is 35 versus 76 for June of last year. Projections should be met by year end. Expenditures totals are at 63.11% which is not the current 75% but the City will be purchasing a new Fire Truck and payroll accumulations will have us meeting the year end projections. Next she discussed the Utility Fund and the fact that water revenues are a big concern. We will probably end about a million dollars short of projected revenues. On the expenditure side, we will be close to the projected year end. The required Investment Report that is presented quarterly was also discussed.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

All consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

- A. Consider and/or act upon the July 6, 2015 special meeting minutes.
- B. Consider and/or act upon the July 7, 2015 regular meeting minutes.
- C. Consider and/or act upon the July 13, 2015 budget discussion minutes.
- D. Consider and/or act upon the July 14, 2015 budget discussion minutes.

COUNCIL ACTION (6.A., 6.B., 6.C., 6.D):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

7. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. Consider and/or act upon authorizing the city manager to enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (ILA) with the City of Richardson for the purpose of Murphy Fire Rescue personnel obtaining initial firefighter training with the Richardson Fire Department.

City Manager Fisher explained the need for this agreement. This opens the field of applicants who apply at the City of Murphy if this is approved. A candidate who comes to the City as a certified paramedic will be obtaining their initial firefighter training with the Richardson Fire Department.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.A.):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to authorize the city manager to enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (ILA) with the City of Richardson for the purpose of Murphy Fire Rescue personnel obtaining initial firefighter training with the Richardson Fire Department. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

- B. Consider and/or act of the Community Survey project process.

City Manager Fisher discussed how we want to structure the questions of the survey. Council discussed the areas we need to have on the survey that will be the same or similar every year to record the gap analysis, and specific questions on projects that Murphy could build or services we could provide with a cost association.

The cost sheet was discussed for email only and additional post cards being mailed out. The decision of how many responses we want to have for our target number of responses. The price points are for responses of 300, 500 or 600. There was also discussion on the possibility of receiving more than 600 responses which if that occurs, the City needs to receive the raw data

for all responses. That is to be clarified with Decision Analyst. Social media was brought up to drive interest and responses for the survey. Councilmembers discussed different aspects for the questions to be on the survey such as questions to find out what citizens think about how we are doing, services we offer and services we should offer, and their contentment and quality of life.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.B.):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to direct City Manager to direct City Manager to work with Decision Analyst to move forward with the goal of 600 survey responses; to not approve the postcard option at this time, email distribution of the survey; one geospatial map using one variable, and if more than 600 responses are received, to ascertain that all overage of raw data will be supplied to the City. Deputy Mayor Siddiqui seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

- C. Consider and/or act to approve an Ordinance of the City of Murphy, Texas approving the terms and conditions of a boundary adjustment agreement between the City of Murphy, Texas and the City of Plano, Texas; Authorizing the City Manager or his authorized designee, to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Murphy; and providing an effective date.

City Manager Fisher gave an overview on how this came about. Plano will resurface the road and the boundary line will move to encompass the whole road. When this happens it will establish clearer boundary lines for emergency assistance in addition to improving the current pothole ridden road to being a safe and repaired road for Murphy as well as non-Murphy residents to travel. A discussion was had on regarding the life of the road once it has been properly repaired, Fisher confirmed that seven (7) years with good weather conditions is feasible.

Public Comment on this item:

Shayan Nizami, a resident who uses this road gave a personal account of the current condition of this road. He explained Plano fixed the pothole and after the rains, it opened up larger than previously. Drivers were driving in unsafe manners due to the road condition. It is his request that Council approve this item.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.C):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to approve Ordinance Number 15-07-996 of the City of Murphy, Texas approving the terms and conditions of a boundary adjustment agreement between the City of Murphy, Texas and the City of Plano, Texas; Authorizing the City Manager or his authorized designee, to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Murphy; and providing an effective date. Councilmember Fincanon seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

8. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS

- A. Timbers Nature Preserve

This project is coming to an end, and the bathroom should be delivered on Thursday.

B. Betsy Lane Road Widening Project

We have a problem with COSERV, there is a gas line that needs to be relocated.

C. South Maxwell Creek Parallel Trunk Sewer Line

This project is on track and going smooth.

D. North Murphy Road

Safe Routes contractors are working to get the crosswalks completed by August 24th by the time school starts. The stone on the Rolling Ridge retaining wall will begin shortly, and there is a discussion currently on what type of stone to use for the wall.

TxDOT did not allocate funding for the weed growth resulting in the areas near and around the construction on North Murphy Road, so the City is discussing various options.

9. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm and stated that Council would move to the Community Room to conduct the budget worksession.

10. OPEN BUDGET WORKSESSION - CONVENE TO THE COMMUNITY ROOM

Mayor Barna opened the budget worksession at 7:12 pm, in the Community Room, with all Council Members present.

A. Discussion regarding the FY 2016 General Fund and Utility Fund Revenues and Expenditures and other associated budget discussions.

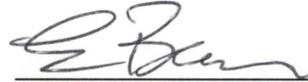
City Manager Fisher gave an overview of the updated proposed budget. Total adjustments for the General Fund are \$446,800 from the prior conversations from budget meetings. The fund request of \$215,800 from the Community Development Corporation was approved.

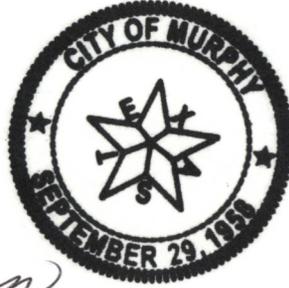
There was discussion regarding about the tax rate decreasing as appraisals level out but expenditures increasing as population growth continues, and how that will need to be managed. For the Utility Fund the water sales and water rates were discussed at length. Also discussed is the need to pass along the cost that the City consumes for the residents from the North Texas Water District and to see how the El Nino affects water sales in the upcoming months. Council wants to review this again after the new fiscal year begins to determine if it will be necessary to increase water rates as recommended by the consultant.

11. ADJOURN BUDGET WORKSESSION

The budget work session adjourned at 7:53 pm.

APPROVED BY:


Eric Barna, Mayor



ATTEST:


Susie Quinn, City Secretary