

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barna gave the invocation and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

City Secretary, Kristi Gilbert, certified a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

Mayor Eric Barna
Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Ben St. Clair
Councilmember Scott Bradley (*arrived at 6:04 p.m.*)
Councilmember Betty Nichols Spraggins
Councilmember Bernard Grant
Councilmember Rob Thomas

Councilmembers absent: None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Linda Martin, 142 Moonlight Drive – Ms. Martin thanked the Council for the closure of Grant Road. Ms. Martin stated that they had noticed a significant decrease in traffic.

Steve Dault, 305 E FM 544 – Mr. Dault thanked the Council for helping him start his business in Murphy and invited the Council and residents to his grand opening.

5. PRESENTATION ITEMS –

Parks and Public Works Director Kim Lenoir presented the Council with information with regard to the City's activities related to Keep Texas Beautiful.

Katie Schoenekase, a student with the Murphy Middle School Environmental Club, presented the Council with activities that the club was currently involved in.

Ms. Lenoir presented the following awards:

Officer Joe Wetzel with the Ed Davis Litter Law Enforcement Award;
Tina Pilgrim, the teacher representing the Murphy Middle School Environmental Club, with the Sadie Ray Graff Education Award;
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Ben St. Clair with the Keep Texas Beautiful Gold Star Affiliate Award;
Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui with the Keep Texas Beautiful Award of Excellence; and,
Mayor Eric Barna with the Governor's Community Achievement Award 2nd Place.

Kristen Roberts introduced Jerry Sylo to present the proposed Magnolia Park Subdivision. Ms. Roberts stated the developer has worked closely with staff in revising their submittal.

Jerry Sylo, JVI Partner, 16301 Quorum Drive, Addison, presented the Council with a concept plan for the proposed Magnolia Park subdivision. Mr. Sylo stated the previous submittal included 68 lots

with a 5,000 square foot minimum lot size. Mr. Sylo stated the new submittal was comprised of 37 lots with 10,000 square foot lot minimums that increase to 12,000 square foot lots adjacent to current homeowners.

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 September 3, 2013 regular meeting minutes.

COUNCIL ACTION (6.A.):

APPROVED

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

7. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

A. Consider and/or act upon approval of an Ordinance adopting the fiscal year 2013-2014 budget and appropriating funds to a sinking fund to pay interest and principal on the City's indebtedness, and appropriating funds to support the City of Murphy for the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 2013 and ending on September 30, 2014.

Finance Director Linda Truitt presented the Council with a history of the proposed fiscal year 2013-2014 budget. Ms. Truitt stated the reserve fund balance is proposed to be \$2.3 million, approximately 19.75% of the budget. Ms. Truitt stated the budget includes a water and sewer rate increase scheduled to be effective December 1st.

Amy Brandon, 136 Oak Bluff – Mrs. Brandon stated that she was concerned that money has not been budgeted for the police Explorer group. Mrs. Brandon stated that her daughter is an Explorer and the group participates and volunteers in many city events. Mrs. Brandon stated the Explorers were good representatives of the community.

Dave Brandon, 136 Oak Bluff – Mr. Brandon stated that the Explorers had been very successful in state and national competitions. Mr. Brandon asked that the Council maintain the \$1,000 that they had allocated in the previous budget year.

Mayor Barna commented that the Council had held 10 to 12 meetings on the budget alone and had asked staff to make significant cuts. Mayor Barna thanked staff for their work on the budget.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.A.):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to approve an Ordinance adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2014 and making the appropriations as reflected in said budget. Councilmember Bradley seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*Ordinance No. 13-09-957*)

B. Consider and/or act upon ratifying the property tax revenue increase reflected in the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.B.):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to approve ratifying the property tax revenue increase reflected in the budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Councilmember Bradley seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

- C. Consider and/or act upon approval of an Ordinance levying ad valorem taxes for use and support of the municipal government of the City of Murphy for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2014.

Ms. Truitt stated that the requested tax rate was \$0.57 which is the same as the current fiscal year. Ms. Truitt stated the debt service rate went down, while the O&M increased resulting in additional dollars in general fund revenue.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.C.):

APPROVED

Councilmember Bradley moved to approve a property tax rate increase by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.570000 which is effectively a 2.35 percent increase in the tax rate, and to approve an ordinance fixing and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2013 and ending on September 30, 2014, and for each fiscal year thereafter until otherwise provided. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*Ordinance No. 13-09-958*)

- D. Consider and/or act upon awarding landscape bid for Central Park and PSA-Murphy in accordance to the agreement and plans and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

Ms. Lenoir stated that the bids were opened recently and included landscaping of Central Park and PSA-Murphy.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.D.):

APPROVED

Councilmember Bradley moved to award the landscaping bid as recommended to AquaGreen Global and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*CLA No. 1309001*)

- E. Consider and take appropriate action, if any, on an ordinance amending Section 9.100 of the Fee Schedule, water and sewer rates.

Ms. Truitt stated the fees were included in the budget with an effective date of December 1st. Ms. Truitt stated the fee increase is a matter of discussion at the upcoming planning session.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.E.):

APPROVED

Councilmember Bradley moved to approve an ordinance amending Section 9.100 for the Fee Schedule by increasing water and sewer rates with an effective date of December 1, 2013. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*Ordinance No. 13-09-959*)

- F. Discussion regarding scheduling a Council planning session.

Council held discussion with regard to scheduling a future planning session.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.F.):

No action taken.

NON ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Item 9 on Agenda)

The City Council convened into Executive Session at 6:56 p.m. pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551, Subchapter D, Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- A. §551.074 Deliberation regarding the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of :
1. City of Murphy Board of Adjustment Board Members, Murphy Municipal Development District Members and the Murphy Community Development Members; and,
 2. City Secretary

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION (Item 10 on Agenda)

The City Council reconvened into Open Session at 7:30 p.m. pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551, Subchapter D, Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- A. §551.074 Deliberation regarding the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of :
1. City of Murphy Board of Adjustment Board Members, Murphy Municipal Development District Members and the Murphy Community Development Members; and,
 2. City Secretary

No action was taken as a result of executive session items.

CONTINUE WITH INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEM 7.G.:

- G. Consider and/or act upon City of Murphy board and commissions:
1. Accept resignations of board members; and,
 2. Accept recommendations from the Council Interview Panel regarding appointing board members to the Board of Adjustments, Murphy Municipal Development District, and the Murphy 4B Community Development District.

COUNCIL ACTION (7.G.1.):

Councilmember Bradley moved to accept the resignations of Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui and Councilmember Nichols Spraggins from the Murphy Municipal Development District and Councilmember Thomas from the Board of Adjustments. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

RESIGNATIONS

COUNCIL ACTION (7.G.2.):

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to extend the term Alain Dermakar on the Murphy Municipal Development District to December 31, 2014. Councilmember Grant seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to appoint John Daugherty and Dave Brandon to the Municipal Development District for a term expiring December 31, 2013 and Robbie Hazelbaker to the 4B Community Development District for a term expiring December 31, 2014. Councilmember Bradley seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

8. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS

Chief Cox provided the Council with an update on the following items:

North Murphy Road Construction Update

Murphy Central Park Construction Update

Update on West Nile Virus

CLC Meeting, September 19, 2013

Joint Council and Planning and Zoning Meeting – September 23, 2013

Maize Days – September 28, 2013

Fire Open House – October 5, 2013

Texas Municipal League – October 8-11, 2013

Council Planning Session

9. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Eric Barna, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristi Gilbert, City Secretary

