

**MINUTES  
HALTOM CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING  
August 21, 2023**

A Special Budget Meeting by the City Council of the City of Haltom City, Texas, was held on August 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Haltom City Hall, 5024 Broadway Avenue, with the following members present:

Mayor An Truong	Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Linda Thompson
Dep. Mayor PT (DMPT) Kyle Smith	Council Place 1 Marian Hilliard (Virtual)
Council Place 2 Kyle Hantz	Council Place 5 Susan Soule
Council Place 7 Don Cooper	
Council Place 4 Eric Morris was absent.	

Staff Present: Rex Phelps, City Manager (CM); Sidonna Foust, Assistant City Manager (ACM); Alicia Kreh, City Attorney (CA); Art Camacho, City Secretary (CS); Erica Gill, Library Director (LD); Cody Phillips, Police Chief (PC); Christi Pruitt, Park and Recreation Director (PRD); Stormy Johnson, Finance Director (FD); Elise Loftis, Assistant Finance Director (AFD); Brian Jacobs, Fire Chief (FC); Toni Beckett, Human Resources and Risk Management Director (HRRMD); Dave Klopfenstein, IT Director; Glenna Batchelor, Planning and Community Development Director (PCDD); Bryce Davis, Emergency Management Director (EMD); and Greg Van Nieuwenhuize, Public Works Director (PWD).

**WORKSESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Truong called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney** - The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from the City Attorney about any matters listed on the agenda, in addition to the following matters: open meetings, open records, code of ethics and conflicts of interest, and nonconforming mobile home park.

**Section 551.072 – Deliberation about Real Property** - Deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, and property owned or leased by the City.

**Section 551.087 – Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations** – Deliberation regarding financial or other incentives to a business prospect.

Mayor Truong called for an Executive Session at 6:01. The Council returned to Regular Session at 6:40 p.m.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. **Proposed FY2024 Budget** – Conduct a public hearing and consideration and/or action regarding approval of Ordinance No. O-2023-013-03 adopting the FY2024 budget. **1<sup>st</sup> Reading.** FD Johnson presented the agenda item. Mayor Truong called for a Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. No citizen came forward. Mayor Truong closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. Council Member Soule moved, seconded by MPT Thompson, to approve Ordinance No. O-2023-013-03 adopting the FY2024 budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. ***The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.***
2. **Proposed FY2024 Tax Rate** – Conduct a public hearing and consideration and/or action approving Ordinance No. O-2023-014-03 adopting the FY2024 Tax Rate. **1<sup>st</sup> Reading.** ACM Foust presented a PowerPoint illustrating the TAD asserting the property tax value, the lower rate effect, and used an example for the tax rate options. CM Phelps also commented on the increase of sales tax offsetting the property tax and encouraging competitive sales tax revenue growth. ACM Foust then presented data on property value increases, the M&O/I&S percentages, the inflation rate adjustment on the tax rate, and the breakdown of the property tax exemptions provided for Haltom City citizens.

Mayor Truong opened the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m. The following citizens came forward:  
(1) Cindy Sturgeon – Inquired about the choosing of the \$.567283/\$100 rate over the \$.546074/\$100 rate and the reason for the Public Hearing. ACM Foust explained that an increase in property tax value will automatically trigger an increase in property tax revenue if the tax rate is not changed, which will result in a legally required Public Hearing for the public.

(2) Jayson Steele stated the TAD property values results in favor of a resident, but also leads to an increased tax toward maintaining the city operations due to inflation, which would result in a loss if the No New Rate was adopted.

No other citizen came forward. Mayor Truong closed the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m. MPT Thompson moved, seconded by Council Member Soule, to approve Ordinance No. O-2023-014-03 and that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.567283, which is effectively a 3.88% percent increase in the tax rate revenue. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

3. **Fee Schedule** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of Resolution No. R-2023-014-03 amending the fee schedule. FD Johnson presented the agenda item, and no questions were asked. Council Member Soule moved, seconded by MPT Thompson, to approve Resolution No. R-2023-014-03 amending the fee schedule. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

4. **Investment Policy** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of Resolution No. R-2023-015-03 adopting a revised investment policy. FD Johnson presented the agenda item and recommended an 80% maximum limit on investment pools of the City’s portfolio, but only up to 50% in one pool. MPT Thompson moved, seconded by Council Member Soule, to approve Resolution No. R-2023-015-03 adopting the investment policy. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

5. **Signatories** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of Resolution No. R-2023-016-03 designating the authorized signatories for all City financial transactions. FD Johnson presented the agenda item, and no questions were asked. MPT Thompson moved, seconded by Council Member Soule, to approve Resolution No. R-2023-016-03 designating the authorized signatories for all City financial transactions. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Truong adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:



Art Camacho, City Secretary



An M. Truong, Mayor