

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2005
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Paul Tallent, Mayor Pro-tem Walter Derrick, Jimmy Williams, Joe Derouen, Jerry Williams, Scott Owens, Richard Parrish, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT: Jay Stokes, Melba Haralson, Jimmy Davis, Lon Welton

GUESTS PRESENT: Reba Smith, Beverly Tallent

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tallent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC HEARING to discuss proposed budget for fiscal year 2005/2006

The public hearing was opened at 7:00 p.m. and then closed with no public comments.

III. PUBLIC HEARING to consider a property tax increase

The public hearing was opened at 7:00 p.m. and then closed with no public comments.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT of date and time of meeting to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2005/2006 and set the tax rate

Mayor Tallent announced that the budget and tax rate will be adopted at the regular meeting September 15, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

V. CONSIDERATION OF CHANGES TO MAIN STREET PROJECT

City Manager Stokes stated that we have been notified by the engineering firm that the Main Street project will cost approximately \$1 million more than when we got the grant, and that is after cutting the star from the intersection. We met with TxDOT, who has about \$200,000 of improvements that were not included originally. Lon Welton, Main Street Manager, stated that the handrails are \$90 per foot and the original estimate was much lower. The lighting was originally estimated at \$1,500 per pole, now it's \$6,500. The original estimate to remove the overhead lines was \$300,000, now Vertizon and SWEPCO estimate \$650,000. City Manager Stokes said that we need to scale back the project, leave overhead lines and reduce the number of periodic lights. City Manager Stokes added that TxDOT has trouble getting bidders on this type of projects and often the bids come in at 20-30% over the engineer's estimates.

Councilmember Jerry Williams said he had no problem with leaving the overhead lines. Mayor Tallent said that we have no choice but to scale back the project.

Reba Smith, President of the Gladewater Antique District Association asked if this will delay the project. Lon Welton and Jay Stokes responded that it would not unless we dramatically change the scope of the project. It is still scheduled to begin the first of the year.

Councilmember Jerry Williams moved to eliminate the periodic lighting to some degree and keep the overhead utility lines for SWEPCO and Verizon in order to bring the project within budget. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 7-0.

VI. ADJOURN

Councilmember Parrish moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Adjourned by consensus.

JOHN PAUL TALLENT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY