

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION  
MINUTES  
JULY 27, 2006  
10:00 A.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, Vickey Green, Lon Welton, Rick Appl, Richard Ross, Kerry Blakemore, Clay Robertson

GUESTS PRESENT: Chris Meeks, Steve Hoover, Brenda Brown, Ruby Henry, Hughleen Gilbert, Earnestine Hawkins, Sue Parrish, Elijah Anderson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tallent called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance. In the interest of time, he permitted guests to speak out of order regarding Item VI.

Earnestine Hawkins, Hughleen Gilbert and Ruby Henry all spoke regarding the poor condition of Phillips Springs Road and requested that it be fixed. Mayor Tallent said that there will be enough funds to fix Phillips Springs. Steve Hoover explained that the bad spots will be taken out; a new base will be put in and reasphalted. Drainage work will be done and it will be sealcoated.

II. PUBLIC HEARING to discuss plans to apply for a \$150,000 Texas Capital Fund Main Street Program grant

Mayor Tallent opened the public hearing at 10:10 a.m. City Manager Jay Stokes explained the scope of the project and said we applied for this grant last year and did not make it. Erika Herrera, our grant consultant agreed to resubmit it this year at no charge.

With no public comments, the public hearing was closed at 10:12 a.m.

III. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION for \$150,000 Texas Capital Fund Main Street Program grant

Councilmember Derouen moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried 6-0.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF TCEQ NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION

City Manager Stokes explained that we were not compliant for two quarters with the trihalomethanes and we received a letter of enforcement action. We are now in compliance and we pleaded our case with TCEQ and the fine amount was lowered 10% to \$2,520. We are well in compliance now and have been for along time. The limit is 80 ppm and we are at 28 ppm. Steve Hoover said it goes lower in the winter; however it is a continual job to stay in compliance as TCEQ will lower the limits again in the future.

Councilmember Jerry Williams moved to pay the fine, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Derrick. Carried 6-0.

V. CONSIDERATION OF INTERJURISDICTIONAL MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Mayor Pro-tem Derrick moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Parrish. Carried 6-0.

VI. BUDGET WORKSHOP

City Manager Stokes said we are blessed that revenues continue to exceed expectations and we would like to purchase some capital improvement items in FY 2006 budget. Budget adjustments and amendments will be presented for a vote at the August meeting.

With that in mind Mr. Stokes presented the highlights of the FY 2007 budget.

- The tax base jumped up about \$31m, mostly from oil and gas production.
- The ad-valorem tax rate can be lowered by 1%, which is below the roll back rate.
- Salaries can be increased by 4.1% (based on the CPI) and employees can still get their step increases.
- Water rates will remain flat, however we don't know how much the Moore Lift Station project will cost.
- Capital improvement items include two new fully equipped patrol units, an asphalt roller, Phase II work at the water treatment plant, sludge dewatering box, and completion of Area C sewer projects.

Mayor Tallent said he would like to see the Lake Warden's salary raised to about \$18,000, from \$14,500.

There was discussion regarding planning for and setting aside funds for the upcoming expense to upgrade the water treatment plant. It was decided to set aside surplus revenues at the end of the budget cycle.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams entered the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Several Councilmembers expressed praise and appreciation to City Manager Stokes and staff for an excellent job in preparing the budget.

There was discussion regarding the possibility of building a park on the south side of town and various options available.

VII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Parrish moved to adjourn at 11:10 a.m., seconded by Councilmember Owens. Adjourned by consensus.

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JOHN PAUL TALLENT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY