

THE CITY OF EASTLAND
CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING

August 2, 2023

EASTLAND, TEXAS §

EASTLAND, COUNTY §

The City Commission of the City of Eastland, Texas, met in Open Session at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours prior to the meeting.

CITY COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman	Larry Vernon
Commissioner	Cecil Funderburgh
Commissioner	Richard Rossander
Commissioner	Shirley Stuart

CITY COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Commissioner	James Doyle
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PERSONNEL PRESENT:

City Manager	J. J. Oznick
City Secretary	Roma Holley
Finance Director	Leslie Zander
Code Enforcement	Terry Simmons

Guests:

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Larry Vernon called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Manager J.J. Oznick offered the invocation and Chairman Larry Vernon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SUBJECT NOT LISTED ON THIS
AGENDA (Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

There were no comments from the public at this time.

IV. The Board of City Commissioners May Discuss and Take Action on
the Following Agenda Items

1. Discuss Tax Rate and Take Record Vote

Chairman Larry Vernon announced this agenda item and stated that we will be taking a Record Vote at this time. Chairman Vernon turned the discussion over to City Manager J.J. Oznick who introduced the proposed tax rate information and recommendations as follows:

Staff proposes to stay at current tax rate.
Staff proposed .523057

M&O rate .504336 Debt rate .018721

Commissioner Shirley Stuart made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh to stay at the current tax rate of .523057 with the M&O rate .504336, Debt rate .018721

Ayes: Funderburgh, Rossander, Stuart, Vernon
Nays: None
Absent: Doyle

V. Budget Workshop #2 of Budget Draft for FY 2023-2024

City Manager J.J. Oznick remarked that the budget books the commission received has all of the details in an easy to follow format.

City Manager Oznick highlighted some of the significant increases in the General Fund budget:

- Increase funding to \$12,000 per year for Eastland County Crisis Center
- Increase funding to \$8,000 per year for Eastland Centennial Library
- Increase funding to \$24,000 per year for Eastland County Museum
- Increase funding to \$30,000 per year for Eastland Chamber of Commerce

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh requested an increase in the amount of funding to the Eastland Crimestoppers Program. He stated that in 1990, he came before the City Commission and asked for \$600 per year for Crimestoppers. The Crimestoppers program operates with two different accounts. The money that is donated for rewards can only be used for rewards. Any other income goes into the general fund for use in keeping the program running. With the inflation that has taken place over the past 33 years, they have never asked for an increase even though it has been necessary for a while now Commissioner Funderburgh asked to increase the funding to \$1200 per year.

Chairman Vernon advised Finance Director Leslie Zander and City Manager Oznick to accommodate this request.

At this time, Chairman Vernon asked Finance Director Leslie Zander to explain to the Commission about a request for use of ARPA funds.

Ms. Zander stated that Tyler Technology is the host of our Utility Billing, Payroll and Accounts Payable as well as our Municipal Court data management system called INCODE. We have used INCODE for more than 20 years now. Tyler Technology is going to a Cloud-based database and we are in a good position right now to utilize ARPA Funds to invest in the future of the technology. There will be some increase in cost but there will also be better applications of the technology. A bonus is that it will decrease the need for two servers as only one will be needed for local information storage.

Along with the new technology, each office at City Hall will be receiving new computers along with new monitors and printers if needed.

City Manager Oznick stated this is an approved use of the ARPA funds.

Chairman Vernon thanked Ms. Zander for an outstanding presentation.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shirley Stuart, to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

Larry Vernon, Chairman
Board of City Commissioners

ATTEST

Roma Holley, City Secretary