



# City of Farmers Branch

Farmers Branch City Hall  
13000 Wm Dodson Pkwy  
Farmers Branch, Texas  
75234

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

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Tuesday, August 6, 2019

12:00 PM

Study Session Room

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#### Special Called Budget Meeting

**Absent:** 2 - Mayor Pro Tem John Norwood, Council Member Cristal Retana

**Presiding:** 1 - Mayor Robert Dye

**Present:** 3 - Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Terry Lynne, Council Member Mike Bomgardner and Council Member Bronson Blackson

**Staff:** 6 - City Manager Charles Cox, Deputy City Manager John Land, Assistant City Manager Ben Williamson, City Secretary Amy Piukana City Secretary, Director of Finance Sherrelle Evans Jones

#### A. CALL TO ORDER - (12 P.M.)

Mayor Dye called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

#### B. AGENDA ITEM(S)

- B.1 19-364** Consider adopting a motion to place a proposal to consider adopting a maximum property tax rate of \$0.599507 on the City Council agenda of September 17, 2019; schedule two public hearings on the proposed maximum rate for August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019; and take appropriate action.

Director of Finance Sherrelle Evans Jones briefed City Council regarding this item. Ms. Evans Jones explained the proposed budget was developed maintaining the current tax rate of \$0.599507. Tonight's motion proposes the maximum property tax rate the City will consider, but does not adopt any tax rate. The final adopted tax rate may be less, but not more, than the tax rate proposed tonight.

Ms. Evans Jones explained Dallas County is responsible for calculating and certifying the effective and rollback tax rates for the City. However, it is anticipated that proposing a maximum property tax rate of \$0.599507 will exceed the effective tax rate calculation and, therefore, the City should proceed in following Truth-in-Taxation guidelines given the strict timetable for compliance and the current City Council meeting schedule. The *Notice of Proposed Property Tax Rate* is anticipated to be published by August 12th in order to comply with Truth-in-Taxation legislation.

In anticipating that the proposed maximum tax rate will exceed the lower of the effective or rollback tax rate, the State Property Tax Code requires that the City Council first pass a motion to propose the maximum tax rate it will consider and set two public hearing dates. Public hearings to discuss the tax rate are proposed to take place on August 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall and September 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall during the regular City Council meeting. The City Council will adopt a tax rate at the regular City Council meeting on September 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

The City Council discussed tax rate comparisons from surrounding cities, future funds necessary for Creek repairs, ways to trim the budget, storm water fees, and tax rate options.

In an effort to provide maximum flexibility in addressing the City's financial needs and recognizing that this City Council is in no way required to adopt the maximum rate for the adopted budget, Mayor Dye made a motion to consider adopting a maximum property tax rate of \$0.610000 on the City Council agenda for September 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Bomgardner. Motion approved by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Lynne, Council Member Bomgardner

**Naye:** Council Member Blackson

*Motion passed 2-1*

Council Member Bomgardner made a motion to schedule two public hearings on the proposed maximum property tax rate of \$0.610000 for August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019. Both hearings will be held at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers located at 13000 William Dodson Parkway, Farmers Branch, Texas 75234. Motion seconded by Mayor Dye. Motion approved unanimously.

## **C. ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Bomgardner made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mayor Dye. Motion approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Approved by:

Robert C. Dye, Mayor

Attested by:

Amy M. Piukara, City Secretary