

City Council  
August 29, 2017

A worksession of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the Council Conference Room, City Hall, 401 South Rogers, on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 3:15 p.m.

Council Members Present: Kevin Strength, Mayor  
Mark Singleton, Mayor Pro Tem  
Chuck Beatty, Councilmember  
Mary Lou Shipley, Councilmember

Council Member Absent: David Hill, Councilmember

Others Present: Michael Scott, Assistant City Manager  
Lori Saunders, City Secretary

## **1. Call to Order**

Mayor Strength called the meeting to order.

## **2. Discussion of City of Waxahachie 2017-2018 fiscal-year Budget**

Mr. Michael Scott, Assistant City Manager, reported at the last budget workshop, Council requested further discussion pertaining to the Sports Complex, Utility Shop Building, and Waxahachie Fire Personnel.

### Sports Complex

Mr. Scott reported the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation recently approved \$550,000 to construct new parking lot off of one-way road, restripe parking from Frontage Road gate to Park Place and fill in pot holes with concrete. He presented photographs of four (4) areas of recommended improvements from Halff and Associates. After discussion, Council recommended the following:

- Reconstruct and pave existing parking area with curb and 2 inches of asphalt from service road entrance along soccer fields
- Fix and repair pot holes with asphalt near soccer field Concession Stand
- Micro-surface and stripe existing parking areas

### Utility Shop Building

Mr. Scott reviewed the preliminary project cost for a new Utility Shop Building noting a service enhancement of \$177,960 is in the budget for Architectural/Engineer fees. He reported the number has been reduced to approximately \$68,000.

Mr. Scott presented a spreadsheet of the project cost noting \$218,460.00 is designated from the Operations and Maintenance budget which are typically items not bonded due to the life they have such as furniture, phone systems, sewer tap, etc. Mr. Scott reviewed the costs for asbestos abatement, building demo, construction cost, concrete paving and contingencies and explained these cost are candidates for bonding of \$921,440.00 for a total project cost of \$1,140,000.00.

Mr. Scott recommended continuing with the architect for design and in the spring of 2018 issue bonds and move right into construction. He recommended revising the Service Enhancement from \$177,960 to \$218,460 which includes a lot more than just architectural services.

Mr. Scott stated the cost is being shared between the water department and wastewater department to help defray the price. He stated the goal is to be moved in the new building by September 31, 2018.

Council held discussion. Councilmember Mary Lou Shipley stated this project must be a priority due to the condition of the building. After further discussion, Council directed staff to move forward with the budgeting for the project.

#### Waxahachie Fire Department – Staffing of 6 new firefighter positions

Mr. Charles Harris, Director of Finance, reviewed the annual cost of staffing 6 new firefighter positions noting the cost of approximately \$504,000 for the first year and the annual cost after the first year will be approximately \$580,000. He explained the increase is due to recruiting firefighters that will require training versus someone moving over latterly with training. Mr. Harris stated the funds are available if Council wishes to move forward.

Fire Chief Ricky Boyd reported he will be applying for a SAFER Grant and won't know the outcome until July 2018. He explained if approved, the city fronts the money and the grant pays 75% of everything the first year, and 35% of everything for the second and third year. Chief Boyd stated a Resolution will be presented to City Council for approval. He explained the Resolution assures the federal government that if awarded, Waxahachie and Fire Rescue will pay 25% the first year and 65% the next 2 years. Council held discussion and concurred to wait until 2018 for consideration of staffing 6 new firefighter positions.

### **3. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Saunders  
City Secretary