

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2007 — 5:30 P.M.  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
209 S. WASHINGTON  
KAUFMAN, TEXAS 75142**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBERS**

<b>MAYOR</b>	<b>WILLIAM FORTNER</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO-TEM</b>	<b>LONNIE BOUNDS</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>GIL ALTOM JR.</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>JEFF COUNCIL</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>CHARLES GILLENWATER</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>BARRY RATCLIFFE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>VON CARL THOMAS</b>

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Mayor Fortner called the Meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. Councilmembers present were William Fortner, Von Carl Thomas, Jeff Council, Barry Ratcliffe, and Gil Altom Jr. Mayor Fortner declared a quorum present. Councilmember Charles Gillenwater arrived at 5:43 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds was absent. Also present were City Manager Curtis Snow, ACM/City Secretary Jo Ann Talbot, Director of Finance Cathy Cummins, and Fire Chief Eddie Brown.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS (5 MINUTES)** Citizens may address the City Council on any subject but must first complete a Request to Speak Form. Comments are limited to five (5) minutes, but no more than five (5) minutes per individual, and are not transferable. Citizens comments not to exceed a total of 15 minutes.

No comments were made from citizens.

1. Conduct a Public Hearing on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Annual Program of Services (Budget per Section 7.05, Home Rule Charter of the City of Kaufman, Texas.)

Mayor Fortner declared the Public Hearing open at 5:38 p.m.

No comments were made from the public.

City Manager Curtis Snow reported for the record the Proposed FY 08 Budget shows a total operating budget of \$7,137,859. This figure has been adjusted from what was originally filed. Staff added \$30,000 to the General Fund (to be paid through reserves) for two basketball courts. Staff also added \$74,000 to the Utility Fund (to be paid for through

reserves) for the water grant match that was recently announced. If you remove the Fire Truck payment and Water Tower payment the net budget without the use of bond proceeds is \$6,809,530.00

The increase in this budget over last year is \$328,329 or 4.82%. This increase is for \$210,000 in projects from the Impact Fee fund, \$74,000 for grant match money and \$30,000 for the basketball courts. The efforts in this budget show a lot of control in spending and strategically placing the community's resources towards worthwhile projects like street improvements, new parking lot in the sports complex, and update of the comprehensive plan. There is also a good deal of resources geared toward improving compensation for City employees to help them catch up to the market rate.

On the revenue side there is a 3% water rate increase to move revenues up to current spending levels. There is also a slight tax increase to also reduce the City's need to draw from reserves. No other rate increases are included in this budget.

Mayor Fortner declared the Public Hearing closed at 5:40 p.m.

2. Conduct a Public Hearing on a proposed Tax Rate Increase for the City of Kaufman.

Mayor Fortner declared the Public Hearing open at 5:40 p.m.

No comments were made by the public.

City Manager Curtis Snow informed the City Council that even though the City is reducing the tax rate from \$0.62 cents from last year to \$0.6088 cents there will be a net increase in taxes collected. Total Assessed Valuations for property in Kaufman increased to where it would only take \$0.57 cents to collect the same revenue as last year. This increase is primarily to reduce the City's need to draw from reserves to fund capital improvements.

Mayor Fortner closed the Public Hearing at 5:42 p.m.

3. Discuss the Proposed Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Annual Program of Services (Budget).

City Manager Curtis Snow gave a report of the survey from the City Council on the proposed budget as follows:

Of the new programs offered, the Council supported all. Of the two projects offered by Mayor Fortner, the Council supported the new basketball courts. \$30,000 has been added to the budget to build two new

courts. Projects that one or two council members found they could not support were: increase retirement, compensation study, color printer, improve front lobby, laser printer, convenience station improvements, seasonal help, parking lot improvements at sports complex, mower and a new meter reader.

The skate board park the Council did not support. The basketball courts placement will be decided by the Park and Recreation Board.

Councilmember Ratcliffe commented that he did not want the City to forget about the Youth Football Field at the Sports Complex for the future.

Councilmember Altom inquired about the linear (green space) Park at Prairie Creek Branch area for bike and hike trails.

Councilmember Thomas inquired about if there were any plans to change the one way in and one way out of the Sports Complex.

Councilmember Altom asked about a cross walk on the Square to the Courthouse.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER.**

City Manager Curtis Snow reminded the City Council of the Special City Council Meeting – Monday, September 10, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

**REQUEST/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.**

No comments were made by the City Council.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further comments made Councilmember Council moved and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Mayor Fortner called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried.

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**WILLIAM FORNTER  
MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**JO ANN TALBOT  
CITY SECRETARY**