

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2006 — 5:30 P.M.
209 S. WASHINGTON
KAUFMAN, TEXAS 75142**

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

MAYOR	PAULA BACON
MAYOR PRO-TEM	LONNIE BOUNDS
COUNCILMEMBER	GIL ALTOM JR.
COUNCILMEMBER	FLOYD CHOYCE
COUNCILMEMBER	JEFF COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER	WILLIAM FORTNER
COUNCILMEMBER	BARRY RATCLIFFE

INVOCATION: Councilmember Fortner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds called the Meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Councilmembers present were Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds, Councilmember Altom, Councilmember Choyce, Councilmember Council, Councilmember Fortner and Councilmember Ratcliffe. Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds declared a quorum. Mayor Bacon was absent. Also present were City Manager Curtis Snow, ACM/City Secretary Jo Ann Talbot and Director of Finance Cathy Cummings.

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. Citizen's comments not to exceed a total of 15 minutes.

No citizens comments were made.

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds declared the Public Hearing open at 5:35 p.m.

City Manager Curtis Snow informed the Council that the proposed tax rate is \$0.621613 per \$100 of appraised value. Though this is the exact same tax rate as last year, it produces more tax dollars. Last year the tax rate was \$0.621613. The appraised value this year for existing property

increased from \$228,986,004 to \$250,606,010, therefore, the tax rate would decrease to \$0.6075 to raise the same amount of taxes from existing property owners as last year.

Because property values did increase, and because we have \$15,588,560 in new taxable value, the existing tax rate will generate for the City approximately \$134,558 more than last year. This tax rate will have the net effect of increasing the average tax bill by \$21.87.

The justification for maintaining the tax rate at the current rate is to meet the operating demands for increased electricity, fuel costs and compensation increases. Electricity costs in the General Fund increased \$20,000. Fuel cost increased approximately \$5,000 and compensation for employees increased \$75,000. The remainder of the increase has gone to the increased cost of asphalt (\$30,000.)

A \$134,558 increase in revenues to the General Fund.

Staff recommends the Council set this rate at the September 18 Council meeting to support necessary operations.

Councilmember Fortner asked what were other surrounding cities' tax rates. City Manager Curtis Snow reported that the City of Forney tax rate is \$.49, Crandall tax rate \$.65, Kemp \$.82.5, Mabank \$.41.5 and Terrell \$.65.

There being no one to speak at the Public Hearing Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds closed the Public Hearing at 5:42 p.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

2. Consider approval of Resolution R-18-06 of the City of Kaufman, Texas approving and authorizing the submission of an application for funding through the Office of Rural Community Affairs/Planning Capacity Building Fund; and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's Executive Officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's Participation in the Community Development Program.

City Manager Curtis Snow informed the Council that this Resolution allows the City to apply for a Community Planning Grant, which the city may receive assistance in accomplishing studies of public infrastructure and facilities. The grant is a 20% match. The base fee (\$11,000) is used to establish a base line which includes mapping, land use, housing and population and is used for all of the other studies to be conducted. Staff recommends applying for the base grant with additional studies: Street Conditions Study (\$6,200), Water Study of Distribution and Supply

(\$9,300), Waste Water Study of Collection and Treatment (\$9,300), and Drainage Study of Streets and Flood Hazard Areas (\$9,300).

Mr. Tim Glendening, TFGA and Associates, Plano, Texas, informed the Council that worked through Gary Traylor's office for planning grants. The City's match is \$15,000.00 and the total grant is \$45,100.00.

Councilmember Fortner moved and seconded by Councilmember Altom to approve Resolution R-18-06 of the City of Kaufman, Texas approving and authorizing the submission of an application for funding through the Office of Rural Community Affairs/Planning Capacity Building Fund; and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's Executive Officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's Participation in the Community Development Program. Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Mayor Bacon was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER.

Special City Council Meeting – Monday, September 11, 2006

REQUEST/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.

No comments were made by the members of the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT.

Councilmember Altom moved and seconded by Councilmember Council to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Bounds called for a vote with all voting AYE, the motion carried. Mayor Bacon was absent.

**LONNIE BOUNDS
MAYOR PRO-TEM**

ATTEST:

JO ANN TALBOT, CITY SECRETARY