

WOODWAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Budget Work Session – August 14, 2023

The Woodway City Council met in a work session in the Donald J. Baker Council Chambers at Woodway City Hall, 922 Estates Drive, Woodway, Texas on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. The following individuals were in attendance:

Mayor: Amine Qourzal
Mayor Pro Tem: John W. Williams
Councilmembers: David Russell, Storey Cook, Gayle Avant, Janell Gilman and David Keyston
City Manager: Shawn Oubre
City Secretary: Donna Barkley
Other City Staff: Brenda Hernandez, Mitch Davison, John Norman and Khalil El-Halabi, Todd Gill and Keith Lowrey
Contract Staff: None

Mayor Qourzal called the work session to order at 4:00 p.m. This work session was held for the purpose of discussing the 2023/2024 proposed annual budget. As it was a work session only, no action was taken. The regularly scheduled council meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. He also stated that he would like to take a break around 5:00 p.m., before the regular meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. He asked the City Manager to provide an update on the proposed budget. After that, he will open the floor for public comments and then the rest of the time will be for discussion amongst the City Council.

Dr. Oubre provided that since the last meeting we have received the certified tax roll and have come up with the no-new-revenue tax rate and the voter-approval tax rate. In discussion with the finance director, we feel confident we can balance this budget using the no-new-revenue tax rate which is .373701.

He also asked for direction from the Council on the following:

- Future Capital Outlay
- Future Capital Projects
- 5% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment)
- Increase in fire pay
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Increase the payment of employee dependent health care coverage from \$400.00 to \$500.00

Mayor Qourzal opened the floor for public comments and the following citizens spoke:

- David Fulbright, Woodway resident – Expressed concerns with the number of houses for sale
- Vern Hogan, Woodway resident – Expressed concern with the amount of surplus
- Richard Hess, Woodway resident – Expressed concern with the amount of surplus and tax rate

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- Mike Holman, Woodway resident – Spoke on fine-tuning the budget based on expenses
- Cheryl Keyston, Woodway resident – Expressed concern about the number of houses for sale
- Sandy Fulbright, Woodway resident – Expressed concern about being taxed out of community
- Lori Whitsell, Woodway resident – Spoke on appraisals and taxes
- Linda McGregor, Woodway resident – Spoke on the possibility of going below the no-new-revenue tax rate

There was a lengthy discussion amongst the councilmembers on the proposed budget and no-new-revenue tax rate.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mayor Qourzal adjourned the work session at 5:16 p.m.

Donna Barkley, City Secretary

Amine Qourzal, Mayor