

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION HELD AUGUST 3, 2023. The City Council of the City of Crowley, Texas met in Work Session on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers, 201 East Main Street, Crowley City Hall, Crowley, Texas.

Present were Mayor Billy P. Davis
Council Member Jerry Beck, City Council Place 2
Council Member Jesse Johnson, City Council Place 3
Council Member Jim Hirth, City Council Place 4
Vacant, Place 5

City staff included: City Manager Robert Loftin
Deputy City Mngr/Finance Director, Lori Watson
Asst City Mngr/EDC Director, Jack Thompson
City Attorney, Rob Allibon
City Secretary, Carol Konhauser
Fire Chief, Pleasant Brooks
Public Works Director, Mike Rocamontes
Director of Projects & Utilities, Matt Elgin
Planning and Comm Dev Director, Rachel Roberts
HR Administrator, Lisa Hansen
Assistant Finance Director, Heather Gwin

Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Johnny Shotwell, City Council Place 1
Council Member Scott Gilbreath, City Council Place 6

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Mayor Billy Davis called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m. City Secretary Carol Konhauser called roll and noted a quorum was present.

DISCUSSION OF NON-ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Discuss SB 2476 prohibition on balance billing of patients for "out-of-network" EMS services at rates set by local governmental entities, and receive guidance from council regarding their desire to amend EMS fees to rates which match average medical service charges.**

Fire Chief Pleasant Brooks explained that during the latest legislative session, SB 2476, relating to consumer protections against certain medical and health care billing by municipal ground ambulance service providers, was enacted by the Governor. The new bill is aimed at protecting patients from surprised bills and helps to ensure municipalities will be paid fairly by insurance companies. To ensure fair payment, the bill requires the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) to maintain a database of charges; municipalities should submit established charges to TDI prior to January 1, 2024. These rates will be used by TDI to ensure health insurance companies pay the political subdivisions directly for non-network services. After reviewing the cities emergency services rates, staff determined the current charges were significantly lower than those of surrounding municipalities, and therefore would like guidance on council's desire to raise rates to those charged by similar agencies.

Council all agreed that emergency services rates should be adjusted to those rates similar to those charged by other agencies for the same services.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- 1. Discuss and consider approving the minutes from the regular meeting held July 20, 2023.**
No discussion

2. **Discuss and consider approval of Resolution No. R08-2023-393 designating the ACM/Finance Director as the officer/employee responsible for complying with Section 26.04 of the Texas Tax Code for the city and providing an effective date.**

No discussion.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **None.**

No discussion

CITY BUSINESS

1. **Discuss and approve the second reading of Resolution R07-2023-390, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Crowley, Texas authorizing the Crowley Economic Development Corporation's to expend funds for Project No 2023-10, Purchase of Main Street Property, to promote, develop and expand business development; providing for two separate readings in compliance with Section 505.158, Texas Local Government Code; and providing an effective date.**

No discussion

2. **Discuss and elect a Mayor Pro-Tempore pursuant to the City of Crowley Home Rule Charter, Section 3.03.**

No discussion

3. **Discuss tax rate calculations, and establish the proposed tax rate (take a record vote).**

Assistant Finance Director Heather Gwin gave a presentation to council on the calculations for the proposed 2023 Tax Rate. She stated that this year's taxable values increased by \$272 million which is approximately 19.74% increase from the previous year. Of the \$272 million increase, \$38 million was from new improvements. Based on these new values, the no-new-revenue-rate would be .556294, the voter approval rate would be .579697 and the deminimis rate would be .594890. Last years tax rate was set at .645203, and it was staff's recommendation to set this year's tax rate at .594890, which would be .050313 decrease per \$100 of taxable value.

Mayor Billy Davis clarified that setting tonight's tax rate was simply the maximum tax rate council would be allowed to approve.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the work session was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION HELD AUGUST 3, 2023. The City Council of the City of Crowley, Texas met in Regular Session on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, 201 East Main Street, Crowley City Hall, Crowley, Texas.

Present were Mayor Billy P. Davis
Council Member Jerry Beck, City Council Place 2
Council Member Jesse Johnson, City Council Place 3
Council Member Jim Hirth, City Council Place 4
Vacant, Place 5

City staff included: City Manager Robert Loftin
Deputy City Mngr/Finance Director, Lori Watson
Asst City Mngr/EDC Director, Jack Thompson
City Attorney, Rob Allibon
City Secretary, Carol Konhauser
Fire Chief, Pleasant Brooks
Public Works Director, Mike Rocamontes
Director of Projects & Utilities, Matt Elgin
Planning and Comm Dev Director, Rachel Roberts
HR Administrator, Lisa Hansen
Assistant Finance Director, Heather Gwin

Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Johnny Shotwell, City Council Place 1
Council Member Scott Gilbreath, City Council Place 6

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Mayor Billy Davis called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 p.m. City Secretary Carol Konhauser called roll and noted a quorum was present.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Council Member Jesse Johnson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. None

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

1. Discuss and consider approving the minutes from the regular meeting held July 20, 2023.
2. Discuss and consider approval of Resolution No. R08-2023-393 designating the ACM/Finance Director as the officer/employee responsible for complying with Section 26.04 of the Texas Tax Code for the city and providing an effective date.

Council Member Jim Hirth made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda item(s), second by Council Member Jerry Beck; council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. None.

CITY BUSINESS

1. **Discuss and approve the second reading of Resolution R07-2023-390, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Crowley, Texas authorizing the Crowley Economic Development Corporation's to expend funds for Project No 2023-10, Purchase of Main Street Property, to promote, develop and expand business development; providing for two separate readings in compliance with Section 505.158, Texas Local Government Code; and providing an effective date.**

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to approve the second reading of Resolution R07-2023-390; second by Council Member Jerry Beck, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

2. **Discuss and elect a Mayor Pro-Tempore pursuant to the City of Crowley Home Rule Charter, Section 3.03.**

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to nominate Council Member Jim Hirth as Mayor Pro Tem; second by Council Member Jerry Beck, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

3. **Discuss tax rate calculations, and establish the proposed tax rate (take a record vote).**

Council Member Jesse Johnson made the motion to set the maximum proposed tax rate at 0..594890/\$100, which is greater than the voter approval rate but not greater than the de minimis rate, and set the public hearing on the tax rate for Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm to be held in the Council Chambers located at 201 E Main Street, second by Council Member Jerry Beck, council voted unanimously to approve the motion as presented. Motion carried 4-0. The Roll Call vote as follows:

Council Member Jerry Beck, City Council Place 2 - in favor
Council Member Jesse Johnson, City Council Place 3 - in favor
Council Member Jim Hirth, City Council Place 4 - in favor
Mayor Billy P. Davis - in favor

ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Reports/appointments or reappointments.

1. Reports:
None
2. Appointments/Reappointments:
None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

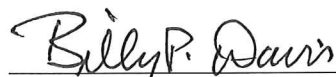
Mayor Davis asked if there were any citizens or visitors wishing to speak.


ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Mayor Davis then asked if there were any community interest items.

As there was no further business, Mayor Billy Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

ATTEST:


Billy Davis, Mayor


Carol C. Konhauser, City Secretary