

Minutes of Meeting of the City Council

Tuesday, September 2023 – 7:00 PM

Village of Surfside Beach
1304 Monument Drive
Surfside Beach, TX 77541

COUNCIL MEETING:

A. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2023 TAX RATE.

THIS PROPOSED TAX RATE OF .281508 WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

THIS PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 3.5 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$-49.57.

Close Public Hearing

B. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE FY2023-2024 BUDGET. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$104,416, which is a 6.88 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$40,188.

Close Public Hearing.

Mayor Bisso opened the public hearing for 2023 tax rate at 7:37 p.m. and closed the public hearing at 7:46 p.m.

Mayor Bisso opened the public hearing for FY23-24 budget at 7:46 p.m. and closed the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING:

- 1) CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE**
Mayor Bisso called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m. and noted that a quorum of City Council was in attendance, Zach Parsch was absent.
- 2) INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Robertson gave the invocation.
- 3) Discussion regarding the odor in the Village water.**
John Mercer was in attendance and spoke regarding the blending of the well water and Freeport/BWA water.
- 4) Mayor/council/department head reports.**
Gerber – spoke regarding TCEQ

Robertson – Big gratitude to City staff
Jalifi – Treaty and Wheelk road patching need to be improved
Green-Prats – Thanked staff
Chief – gave monthly PD report and introduced EMS staff

- 5) **Business of visitors not on the agenda.** None at this time.
- 6) ***ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND THE COUNCIL WILL ENACT THEM WITH ONE MOTION. UNLESS A COUNCIL MEMBER SO REQUESTS, NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS WILL OCCUR.***

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consider approval of minutes from the Council meeting and budget workshops on August 8, 9, 21, 31, and September 6, 2023.**
B. Consider approval of financials for July and August 2023.

Motion was made by Green-Prats to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 7) **Discuss and take possible action on Ordinance 2023-09-12A regarding issuing a burn ban.**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to adopt Ordinance 2023-09-12A regarding burn bans. Motion was seconded by Jalifi and passed unanimously.

- 8) **Discuss and take possible action to appoint new members to the Planning Committee in accordance with city ordinances.**

Motion was made by Robertson to table this item. Motion was seconded by Jalifi and passed unanimously.

- 9) **Discuss and take possible action to begin development of a wetland protection ordinance for Surfside.**

Motion was made by Gerber to take this ordinance to the Planning Commission for their recommendation. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats.

Discussion ensued.

Motion was amended by Gerber to take to the PC with the aid of Building Official Josh Hart for recommendation as to a Wetland Protection Ordinance for Surfside Beach. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats. The vote on this motion was tied with 2 for, 2 against; Mayor Bisso broke with tie with a vote of "no".

- 10) **Discuss and amend ordinance Article IV.. Use of golf carts, Sec 46-171 designating areas and times for Golf Cart and UTV operation, to add the times from dawn to dusk operation times to (a).**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to table this item. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 11) **Discuss possible legal action to address all individuals who refuse to pay hotel taxes.**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to table this item. Motion was seconded by Jalifi and passed unanimously.

- 12) **Discuss and take possible action to increase the Hotel/Motel tax rate.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to table this item. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 13) **Discuss and take possible action to appoint Sean Britt to the Tourism committee.**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to table this item. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 14) **Discuss and take possible action on Ordinance 2023-09-12C adopting the FY2023-24 Municipal Budget. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$104,416, which is a 6.88 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$40,188.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to approve the proposed FY 2023-2024 budget. Motion was seconded by Robertson and was approved with a roll-call vote as follows: Gerber – yes; Robertson – yes; Jalifi – yes; Green-Prats – yes; Parsch - absent.

- 15) **Discuss and take possible action to ratify the FY 2023-2024 Budget and find that the Proposed Tax Rate of .281508/\$100 will generate more property tax revenue than the previous fiscal year budget.**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to ratify the proposed tax rate of .281508/\$100. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 16) **Discuss and take possible action on Ordinance 2023-09-12D setting the 2023 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operation of .250471, and the Ad Valorem tax rate for Debt Service of .031037 totaling a rate of .281508**

Motion was made by Gerber to increase the property tax rate by the adoption of a tax rate of .281508 which is effectively a 4.61 increase in the tax rate. Motion was seconded by Jalifi and was approved with a roll-call vote as follows: Gerber – yes; Robertson – yes; Jalifi – yes; Green-Prats – yes; Parsch - absent.

- 17) **Discuss and take possible action on Ordinance 2024-09-12B regarding amending the Surfside Beach Dune Protection and Beach Access Plan sections 6 & 8.**

Motion was made by Green-Prats to accept the plan as presented. Motion was seconded by Robertson and passed unanimously.

- 18) **Discuss and take possible action to approve proposed changes to Surfside Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article IV Board, Commissions and Committees, Division 1 - Generally, Sec. 2-347. - Powers and duties.**

Motion was made by Robertson to table this item. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and passed with 3 for 1 against (Gerber).



Gregg Bisso, Mayor

Attest:



Amanda Davenport
City Secretary

