

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS
HELD IN THE CITY HALL 4301 CITY POINT DRIVE
SEPTEMBER 7, 2023**

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trevino called the meeting to order September 7, 2023 at 7:01 p.m.

Present:	Oscar Trevino	Mayor
	Tito Rodriguez	Place 1
	Rita Wright Oujesky	Place 2
	Suzy Compton	Place 3
	Mason Orr	Place 4
	Blake Vaughn	Associate Mayor Pro Tem, Place 5
	Kelvin Deupree	Mayor Pro Tem, Place 7
Absent:	Scott Turnage	Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Place 6
Staff Members:	Mark Hindman	City Manager
	Traci Henderson	Assistant City Secretary
	Maleshia B. McGinnis	City Attorney
Absent:	Alicia Richardson	City Secretary/Chief Governance Officer

A.1 INVOCATION

Council member Rodriguez gave the invocation.

A.2 PLEDGE

Council member Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

A.3 CITIZENS PRESENTATION

Mr. Jeff Paul, 5125 Colorado Boulevard, thanked the police department for visiting with him related to varied issues on his street and the importance of town hall meetings.

Ms. Shawna Stiles, 3908 Lochridge Court, spoke in opposition of chickens.

A.4 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to speak from the public.

A.5 REMOVAL OF ITEM(S) FROM CONSENT AGENDA

No items were removed from the consent agenda.

B. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

B.1 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JULY 29, 2022 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION.

APPROVED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WRIGHT OUJESKY, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER COMPTON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 29, 2022 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION AS CORRECTED.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 6-0.

B.2 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2023 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION.

APPROVED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WRIGHT OUJESKY, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2023 CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 6-0.

C. PUBLIC HEARINGS

C.1 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 PROPOSED OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET.

Mayor Trevino opened the public hearing and called on Director of Budget and Research Trudy Lewis to present the item.

Ms. Lewis provided an overview of the city's mission statement; organizational chart; and

employees per resident for the last 10 years. Ms. Lewis shared the annual budget guiding principals, which includes citizen input via biennial surveys, request tracker submissions; City Council goals and objectives; market conditions related to regulatory changes; inflation and labor market. Ms. Lewis provided results from the previous citizen survey; and City Council goals and the labor markets. Ms. Lewis reviewed the proposed fiscal year operating budget. The General Fund makes up 40%; Utility Fund 28%; Debt Service 10%; Park Fund 8%; Crime Control and Prevention District fund 5%; Aquatic Fund 4%; Golf Fund 2%; all other funds 3%.

City Council and staff discussed the budget if the proposed tax rate fails; person responsible to adjust the new budget funds available; funding priorities; citizen survey questions; growth metrics/method used to determine departmental growth; one time use funds related to salaries; future salary funding; shared resources/funding for jail and dispatch center; number of renters in the city; non-voter approved debt and interest; procurement requirements; internal versus external legal services; and consideration of a third party efficiency audit.

Mayor Trevino asked the Assistant City Secretary to call on those who completed a public meeting appearance form to speak during the public hearing.

The following people spoke in opposition: Ms. Crystal Main, 9216 Winslow Court; Mr. David Lowe, 7424 Park Place Drive; Ms. Desiree Harding, 8000 Stanley Street; Ms. Tracey Bennett, 3825 Scruggs Drive; Mr. Larry Fortney, 8016 Mickey Street; Mr. Steve Ritter, 6129 Marquita Mews; Mr. John Schleeter, 6553 Northern Dancer Drive; and Mr. Pete Collins, 6737 Mabell Street.

The following people spoke in support: Mr. Todd Espy, 4301 City Point Drive, (spoke on behalf of Police Association); Mr. Chad Baker, 1434 Eason Road, Jacksboro, Texas (spoke on behalf of Firefighter Association and more than 10 individuals present); Ms. Jane Birkes, 8321 Main Street; Mr. Jeff Paul, 5125 Colorado Boulevard; Ms. Shawna Stiles, 3908 Lochridge Court; and Ms. Karen Boyer, 8624 Lantana Drive.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Trevino closed the public hearing.

Mayor Trevino announced there is no further action required from City Council tonight. On Monday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m., the City Council will vote on the adoption of the 2023-2024 proposed budget.

C.2 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TAX YEAR 2023 (FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024) PROPOSED TAX RATE

Mayor Trevino opened the public hearing and called on Director of Budget and Research

Trudy Lewis to present the item.

Ms. Lewis shared the 2023 net taxable values; Tax Year 2023 proposed tax rate; city offered tax exemptions; tax ceilings; homestead tax rate impact comparison; average residential taxable value; proposed tax rate comparison; average residential tax bill; and average single family home value. The proposed city tax rate distribution by department is 49% public safety; 25% streets and traffic; 8% facilities; 7% administrative services; 4% Library; 4% neighborhood services; and 3% parks and recreation. Ms. Lewis reviewed the tax rate distribution for the school district, county and city.

City Council and staff discussed determination components of the tax bill; certified tax roll and the authenticity/accuracy of the tax roll; concern of over-taxing citizens; state law that governs tax rate; city's limited participation with Tarrant Appraisal District (TAD); timing options to appoint to the TAD Board; and value protesting options for citizens.

Mayor Trevino asked the Assistant City Secretary to call on those who completed a public meeting appearance form to speak during the public hearing.

The following people spoke in opposition: Mr. Devin Pipes, 6312 Brynwyck Lane; Ms. Crystal Main, 9216 Winslow Court; Mr. Matt Reed, 5145 Gentling Place; Ms. Ingrid Trimm, 8440 Stephanie Drive; Mr. James Trimm, 8440 Stephanie Drive; Mr. David Lowe, 7427 Park Place Drive; Ms. Stacey Ritter, 8400 Donna Drive; Mr. John Schleeter, 6553 Northern Dancer Drive; Ms. Tracy Bennett, 3825 Scruggs Drive; Mr. Larry Fortney, 8016 Mickey Street; Mr. Joe Proctor, 8604 Matt Drive; Ms. Kaitlyn Pleasant, 7708 College Circle; and Ms. Teresa Farquhar, 8904 Ashcraft Drive.

The following people spoke in support: Ms. Shawna Stiles, 3908 Lochridge Court; Ms. Pam Horton, 7324 Lindwall Court; and Mr. John Dias, 4904 Delta Court.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Trevino closed the public hearing.

Mayor Trevino announced there is no further action required from City Council tonight. On Monday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. the City Council will vote on the adoption of the tax rate.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trevino adjourned the meeting at 9:57p.m.

Oscar Trevino, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci Henderson
Assistant City Secretary