



THE STATE OF TEXAS §

September 8, 2020

COUNTY OF GRAYSON §

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Bells, Grayson County, Texas was held remotely via Zoom Teleconferencing on September 8, 2020.

Members Present: Angela LeBlanc-Mayor Tammy Hartline – Councilwoman
Roger Goodwin – Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Richtermeyer - Councilman
Jennifer Washburn - Councilwoman Diane Snavelly - Councilwoman

Staff Present: Beth Woodson – City Administrator Nick Williamson – Public Works
Pam Winkler – City Secretary Lee Culley – Chief of Police

AGENDA

1. Call to Order @6:01 pm

2. **Public Hearing**

For the purpose of receiving community input on the Budget, which will cover the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021.

This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$16,099, which is a 4.19 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 \$4,101.

3. **Public Hearing**

For the purpose of receiving community input on the tax rate of 0.546400 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Bells, which is a tax rate greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that CITY OF BELLS is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Bells last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Bells this year:

	2019	2020	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.583661	\$0.546400	decrease of -\$0.037261 OR -6.38%
Average homestead taxable value	\$134,461	\$140,934	increase of 4.81%
Tax on average homestead	\$785	\$770	decrease of -\$15 OR -1.87%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$384,015	\$400,114	increase of \$16,099

4. **Citizens Forum:** *At this time, any person may address the Council regarding an item on this meeting agenda that is not scheduled for public hearing. Also, at this time any person may address the Council regarding an item that is not on this meeting agenda. Each person will be allowed up to three (3) minutes to speak. No discussion or action may be taken at this meeting on items not listed on this agenda, other than to make statements of specific factual information in response to a citizen's inquiry. (Sec. 551.042 and 551.007 of Open Meeting Act).*

None.

5. **Reports**

a. BVFD b. Police Department c. Public Works

Ronnie Lewis presented the report for the BVFD.

Chief Culley presented the report for the Police Department.

Nick Williamson presented the report for Public Works. Tammy Hartline asked why there were pending work orders from February and would like to see them complete. Roger Goodwin asked when the work on the sanitary line on Pecan was to start. Nick Williamson said the start date was set for September 11th the delay is due to getting supplies.

Action Items

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** *All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

- a. Consider and approve monthly financial report.
b. Consider and approve minutes for regular meeting on August 11, 2020 and special session August 18, and August 25, 2020.

Roger Goodwin made a motion to approve the regular session minutes on August 11, 2020 and special sessions on August 18, and August 25, 2020 and the monthly financial report.

Jennifer Washburn seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

7. Consider and approve Ordinance 09082020 Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Tammy Hartline made a motion approve Ordinance 09082020 Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Roger Goodwin seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

8. Consider and approve Ordinance 090820209A ratifying the property tax revenue increase for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 Budget.

Bill Richtermeyer made a motion to approve Ordinance 09082020A ratifying the property tax revenue increase for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 Budget. Tammy Hartline seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0

9. Consider and approve Ordinance 09082020B levying a tax rate for the use and support of the municipal government of the City of Bells for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Roger Goodwin made a motion to approve Ordinance 09082020B levying a tax rate for the use and support of the municipal government of the City of Bells for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Bill Richtermeyer seconded the motion, motion carried 3-2 with Tammy Hartline and Jennifer Washburn voting against.

10. Consider and act upon the status of Cemetery Financials for expenditures.

Mayor stated that the Cemetery isn't bringing in enough funds to cover the mowing of the Cemetery and that the prices of plots needs to be revisited, but in the meantime, close the savings and move it to the checking to finish out the mowing season. Tammy Hartline stated that we needed to consider hiring a part time employee in the future to do our mowing.

Tammy Hartline made a motion to close the Cemetery Savings and move funds to Cemetery Checking to cover the mowing season for this year. Diane Snively seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

11. Consider and approve additional Interest and Sinking Fund payment of \$8,500.00 to the 2017 Bond Sewer/Street Improvement Loan.

Diane Snively made a motion to approve additional Interest and Sinking Fund payment of \$8,500.00 to the 2017 Bond Sewer/Street Improvement Loan. Roger Goodwin seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

12. Consider and approve Fire Protection Agreement between Grayson County and City of Bells for 2020-2021 fiscal year.
Tammy Hartline made a motion to approve Fire Protection Agreement between Grayson County and City of Bells for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Diane Snavelly seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
13. Consider and nominate Marty Dicken for the Planning and Zoning Commission Place 1 with expiring term June 30, 2021.
Diane Snavelly made a motion to nominate Marty Dicken for the Planning and Zoning Commission Place 1 with expiring term June 30, 2021. Roger Goodwin seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
14. Consider and act bids for the purchase of a 14ft Dump Trailer.
Tammy Hartline made a motion to act on bids for the purchase of a 14 ft Dump Trailer and to check with Trailer Guys in Trenton, if the bid was lower than Big Tex Trailer World of \$7,072.50 to purchase from lower bidder. Jennifer Washburn seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
15. Consider and act on request for building permit and water service for Plat 2 at 813 W. Bells Blvd.
Mayor stated that at this location the water pressure was low, and the line would not hold another house on it. Tammy Hartline stated that she felt that we had told him before that he could put a house there. City Administrator said a re-plat of the property was the only thing the council has approved. Bill Richtermeyer asked if the line was something that the City could replace on their own, City Administrator stated we couldn't due to the lack of funds and not enough employees.
Roger Goodwin made a motion to table until council could visit with City Engineers. Bill Richtermeyer seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
16. Consider and act on request from Steven Gardner for right of choice to switch water supply service to Pink Hill Water Supply.
Steve Gardner stated that he was interested in switching water supply because he had trouble getting his bill, particles in his water, boil alerts and low pressure. He had chosen City of Bells Water supply 10-12 years ago because Pink Hill could not provide him water. Mayor reported that City Attorney said that he would not authorize any change in service.
Roger Goodwin made a motion to turn down the request to change water supply and to have the guys meet with Mr. Gardner regarding the other complaints. Jennifer Washburn seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
17. Consider and act on Recreational Vehicles parked on Commercial zoned sites within the City of Bells.
Tammy Hartline stated that House of Payne had reached out to her regarding a travel trailer on site at the commercial strip mall where her business is located. This travel trailer has been moved to several different places, blocking the driveway every time. And there was a horrible smell from the septic. Mayor said the office has sent a certified letter that was lost, and we will be sending another one and hand delivering a letter this week regarding the septic.
Tammy Hartline made a motion to have a Police Officer hand deliver a letter regarding the septic and to have City Administrator amend the current Recreational Vehicles Ordinance to include Commercial zoned sites and to have the Planning and Zoning Commission involved in the approval of Ordinance. Diane Snavelly seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
18. Consider and approve request from Bells Volunteer Fire Chief to move funds from line items to Radio Equipment line item to purchase wireless headsets for communications between crew and GC Dispatch.
Tammy Hartline made a motion to move funds from line items to Radio equipment line item to purchase wireless headsets for communications between crew and GC Dispatch. Roger Goodwin seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.
19. **Informational Reports:** *These reports are for information only. No discussion is appropriate unless there is a specific item listed below or there is a request that the item be placed on a subsequent agenda as a discussion and action item. Sec. 551.0415 of Open Meetings Act):*
 - a. Mayor's Report: **Due to changes at the Grayson County DA's office, our Municipal Court Prosecutor Michael Sissney can no longer be our prosecutor and Judge Brooks has recommended someone else and that will be on the October Agenda.**
 - b. **Regarding a meeting on September 22, please respond to the text.**

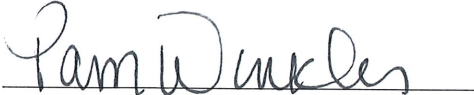
c. Council's Report:

Diane Snavelly stated that she had a street complaint of a big pothole on Frio.

Jennifer Washburn asked if Halloween events the City normally host canceled due to COVID-19, Mayor confirmed that would be correct.

20. Adjournment: 7:28 p.m.

ATTEST BY:


Pam Winkler, City Secretary


Angela LeBlanc, Mayor