



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF GRAYSON §

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with order of the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City of Bells will conduct a Regular Meeting scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, located at Bells City Hall, 203 S. Broadway, Bells, Texas by telephone or video conference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

This Notice and Meeting Agenda will be posted online at www.cityofbells.org.

Videoconferencing capabilities will be utilized to allow individuals to address the Council. The public will be permitted to offer public comments electronically, via chat, as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. The meeting is hosted through Zoom. Citizens may join the Zoom meeting by visiting the city’s website at www.cityofbells.org to retrieve the URL by the date and time of the meeting.

The meeting will be recorded and uploaded to the City website following the conclusion of the meeting within 24 hours.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

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	<i>decrease of</i> -\$0.037261 OR -6.38%
Average homestead taxable value	\$134,461	\$140,934	<i>increase of</i> 4.81%
Tax on average homestead	\$785	\$770	<i>decrease of</i> -\$15 OR -1.87%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$384,015	\$400,114	<i>increase of</i> \$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).*
5. **Reports from Department Heads.**
 - a. Fire Department
 - b. Police Department
 - c. Public Works
- 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 regular session minutes on August 11, 2020 and special sessions August 18, and August 25, 2020.
7. Consider and approve Ordinance 09082020 Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.
8. Consider and approve Ordinance 090820209A ratifying the property tax revenue increase for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 Budget.
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.
10. Consider and act upon the status of Cemetery Financials for expenditures.
11. Consider and approve additional Interest and Sinking Fund payment of \$8,500.00 to the 2017 Bond Sewer/Street Improvement Loan.
12. Consider and approve Fire Protection Agreement between Grayson County and City of Bells for 2020-2021 fiscal year.
13. Consider and nominate Marty Dicken for the Planning and Zoning Commission Place 1 with expiring term June 30,2021.
14. Consider and act bids for the purchase of a 14ft Dump Trailer.
15. Consider and act on request for building permit and water service for Plat 2 at 813 W. Bells Blvd.
16. Consider and act on request from Steven Gardner for right of choice to switch water supply service to Pink Hill Water Supply.
17. Consider and act on Recreational Vehicles parked on Commercial zoned sites within the City of Bells.
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.
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
 - b. Council's Report
20. Adjournment

The City Council of the City of Bells reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during this meeting to discuss any matters that are eligible to be discussed in executive session, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), and 551.074 (Personnel Matters).

THIS MEETING IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE DISABLED. IF YOU NEED AN INTERPRETER OR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE, CALL 903.965.7744 AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING.

I, Pam Winkler, hereby certify that the above agenda is publicly posted on/or before 4:00 p.m. on this 4th, day of September 2020.

Date

Time

Pam Winkler, City Secretary

