

# CITY OF HORSESHOE BAY

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

August 19, 2008

The Council of the City of Horseshoe Bay held a Public Meeting to conduct a Budget Workshop at City Hall, located at #1 Community Drive, Horseshoe Bay, Llano County, Texas, August 19, 2008, in accordance with duly posted notice of said meeting. Mayor Bob Lambert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum of Council Members present as follows:

Robert W. Lambert, Mayor  
James E. Babcock, Mayor Pro Tem  
John Bird, Alderman  
Claudia Haydon, Alderwoman  
Richard Rantzow, Alderman  
Jeff Robinson, Alderman

The posted agenda for this meeting is made a part of these minutes by attachment and the minutes are herewith recorded in the order the agenda items were considered with the agenda subject and item number shown preceding the applicable paragraph.

1. Call to Order and Establish a Quorum: Mayor Bob Lambert called the budget workshop to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present.
2. Convene Budget Workshop: Mayor Lambert opened the workshop with a brief review of the July 7, 2008 workshop. He discussed the utility rate study and said the engineer will be at the September 4, 2008 Budget workshop and have the required information for the Council to use in setting the FY 2008-2009 rates. Mayor Lambert said the third budget workshop will be held September 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. and a streets workshop will be that same day at 2:00 p.m.

Alderwoman Haydon asked about the possibility of citizens being able to bring their recyclable items to the maintenance yard across Hwy 2147 from the 7-11 one day a week.

Alderman Babcock asked about the rates of Development Services permits and how they compare to other cities. Development Services Manager Eric Winter presented a spreadsheet with suggested cost increases for permits in order to become more comparable with areas cities.

Alderman Babcock also asked Police Chief Bill Lane if he is comfortable with the number of officers he has for the upcoming year. Chief Lane said if another position were to be funded he would probably use it in investigations. Alderman Babcock stated he would like to be proactive and put this in the budget possibly for later in the fiscal year if needed. Alderman Robinson agreed about being proactive. He questioned the need for additional facilities for the Police Department. City Manager, Stan Farmer, said he feels that 2009 is time to begin planning for expansion and building a new Police Department facility. There was some discussion regarding possibility of acquiring property for this facility. Alderman Rantzow suggested increasing the contingency fund instead of the budget. Alderwoman Haydon

thought this was an excellent idea. Mayor Lambert suggested the contingency fund be increased by \$50,000.

Alderman Robinson discussed possible additional income from franchise fees; however Northland Cable and Verizon both pass these fees directly through to the customer and the Council was not in favor of that.

Alderman Bird questioned the fact there is nothing in the budget for streets. Mayor Lambert said that City Attorney, Monte Akers and the City Auditor, Keith Neffendorf both agreed it is possible to add this to the budget at a later date by amendment if needed.

The Council discussed the LCRA contract for raw water and what the status is concerning the City exceeding their contracted amount and what the consequences are when this happens.

Council would like to form an Energy Committee with City Manager, Stan Farmer as Chairman to research ways to conserve energy in the existing facilities.

The meeting was recessed at 10:19 a.m. for a short break and reconvened at 10:26 a.m. with Stan Farmer discussing the capital outlay for vehicles. Alderman Babcock suggested exploring the used truck market for any truck purchases.

Development Services Manager, Eric Winter gave a brief presentation on the increased services provided by his department and the additional workload.

Fire Chief, Jim Fiero gave a presentation on the possibility of filling the approved position for an Assistant Fire Chief due to his added responsibilities and the need to delegate some of these. Aldermen Babcock and Bird discussed what would be required to lower the City's ISO rating below the 4 it is currently.

The meeting was recessed at 11:47 a.m. for a short break and reconvened at 11:53 a.m. Administration Manager Toni Vanderburg reported the proposed budget allows for a 10% increase in health insurance premiums; however the City's agent has stated there will not be an increase in either the Blue Cross Blue Shield or Mutual of Omaha premiums this year.

Mayor Lambert stated Lake LBJ MUD started the process of a semi-annual salary survey in order to stay competitive with comparable businesses in the area and the City has continued this practice. The Mayor and Alderman Bird worked with the consultant to review the benchmark cities. After few changes were made, Mayor Lambert said they are comfortable with this group of cities. Alderwoman Haydon would like to investigate the possibility of some type of additional compensation to employees in order to help with the increased cost of fuel for commuting. Alderman Babcock proposed adding \$75,000 to the proposed budget for salaries in order to concentrate on bringing more employees to mid-point. This would be evaluated and discussed at the next workshop.

The City Council discussed the relationship of the proposed compensation levels for the City Manager, Utilities Director, Police Chief and Fire Chief with the comparable positions in Marble Falls.

3. Adjournment: There being no further discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008.

**CITY OF HORSESHOE BAY, TEXAS**

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/S/  
Robert W. Lambert, Mayor

ATTEST:

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/S/  
Teresa L. Moore, City Secretary