

**CITY OF SAGINAW
CITY COUNCIL MEETING,
PUBLIC HEARING, AND WORKSHOP
HELD AT THE SAGINAW CITY HALL
333 W. MCLEROY BLVD.
SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

Present at the meeting:

Mayor	Todd Flippo
Mayor Pro-Tem	David Flory
Councilmember	Patrick Farr
Councilmember	Valerie Tankersley
Councilmember	Charles Tucker
Councilmember	Cindy Bighorse
Councilmember	Mary Copeland
City Attorney	Bryn Meredith
City Engineer	Andrew Simonsen, P.E.
City Manager	Gabe Reaume
Asst. City Manager	Dolph Johnson
Finance Director	Kim Quin
City Secretary	Janice England
Police Chief	Lee Howell
Fire Chief	Doug Spears
Director of Comm. Services	Keith Rinehart
Director of Public Works	Rick Trice, P.E.
Director of Human Resources	Melanie McManus
Director of Economic Dev.	Alora Wachholz
Library Director	Ellen Ritchie
Police Captain	Russell Ragsdale
Police Captain	Karl Johnson
Police Sergeant	Jose Murillo
Police Officer	Brandon Papenthein

Absent from the meeting:

None

Visitors at the meeting:

Monica Dixon	Chris Carter
John Peet	Jan Young
Bennett Cepak	Linda Tijerina
Jason Valendy	Jennifer McCann
L. Williams	B. Stewart
Traci Schmedel	Karen Fuller
Randy Edwards	Bob Stevens

(1) Call to Order

Mayor Flippo called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with a quorum present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas

(2) Invocation

Reverend Valendy of the Saginaw United Methodist Church gave the invocation.

(3) Audience Participation

This item was covered on the video screen.

(4) Consent Agenda

a. CC-0918-01

Action regarding Minutes, August 18, 2018

b. CC-0918-02

Action regarding Minutes, August 21, 2018

c. CC-0918-03

Action regarding Resolution No. 2018-19, Approving a Negotiated Settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and Atmos Energy Corporation regarding the 2018 Rate Review Mechanisms Filing

Summary: Saginaw, along with 171 other Mid-Texas cities served by Atmos Energy Corporation, is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC). The ACSC's Executive Committee and attorneys have negotiated a reduced settlement with Atmos regarding Atmos' state filing for a rate increase. The new gas rates will be effective October 1, 2018.

d. CC-0918-04

Action regarding Resolution No. 2018-20, Adoption of Financial Management Policies

Summary: This item is for approval of the Financial Management Policies. The policies establish guidelines for the fiscal management of the City. These policies will be reviewed periodically.

Mayor Flippo stated that Item 4d will be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Flory with a second by Councilmember Tankersley to approve the Items 4a, 4b, and 4c of the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 7-0-0-0

For: Mayor Flippo, Mayor Pro-Tem Flory, Councilmembers Farr, Tankersley, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

City Manager Reaume stated that the review of the individual sections of the proposed Financial Management Policy began in May. He explained that the summary page in the Council packet notes the dates and sections discussed. He added that the proposed policy is broad but touches all financial aspects of the City. He stated that in the near future, as set forth in the proposed policy, a Finance Committee made up of three members of the City Council will be created. He added that the use of committees was included in the adoption of the Council Protocol Policy in March. An Economic Development Committee may be created in the near future to discuss the possibility of creating an Economic Development Corporation. He explained that committees are at the discretion of the City Council. He recommended that the number of members on any committee be set at three Councilmembers with support staff. Limiting the number to three will avoid the possibility of a quorum.

City Manager Reaume briefly explained the City of Plano's Financial Management Policies as well as their successful Economic Development Program. He added that the staff's recommendation is approval of the proposed Financial Management Policy.

Councilmember Farr stated that he has two topics with approximately twenty-one questions regarding the proposed Financial Management Policies. He explained that due to the volume of his concerns and questions it would most likely take more than one hour to address them. He recommended that this item be tabled. City Manager Reaume stated that this item could be moved to a workshop in a future meeting. Councilmember Farr stated that he will bring up his policy topics and his questions at that time.

John Peet (644 Fox Run Trail) addressed the Council. He expressed his surprise to find that the formation of a Finance Committee was mentioned tonight. He suggested that a citizen be appointed to it. He explained that the remainder of his comments were in regard to Item No. 9, the public hearing for the tax rate increase.

Motion was made by Councilmember Farr with a second by Councilmember Copeland to table Item 4d (Adoption of Financial Management Policies) to a future meeting to be determined. Motion carried. 5-2-0-0

For: Mayor Flippo, Mayor Pro-Tem Flory,
Councilmembers Farr, Tucker, and Copeland

Against: Councilmembers Tankersley and Bighorse

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- (5) CC-0918-05
Recognition of Government Finance Officers Association Award of Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Saginaw and Finance Director Kim Quin

City Manager Reaume announced that the City has received the Government Finance Officers Association Award of Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017. He commended Finance Director Quin. Mayor Flippo presented the award to Finance Director Quin.

- (6) CC-0918-06
Proclamation – Hunger Action Month

Councilmember Tucker read a proclamation declaring the month of September to be "Hunger Action Month" in the city of Saginaw. Mayor Flippo and Councilmember Tucker presented the proclamation to Bennett Cepak of the Tarrant Area Food Bank, and Karen Fuller and Bob Stevens of Community Link Mission of Saginaw.

- (7) CC-0918-07
Swearing in of Police Chief Howell

Police Chief Howell was given the oath of office by Mayor Flippo.

- (8) CC-0918-08
Update from Citizens Police Academy

Jan Young of the Citizens Police Academy addressed the Council. She gave a brief history of the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) and explained their activities. She explained they are a service organization to support citizens as well as the police. She added that they will be hosting “Coffee with Cops” at the Recreation Center on Saturday, September 8th, during the City’s Show & Tell Event. She stated that more information is available on the CPA’s website, and if needed, may be contacted through Police Corporal Tami McCluskey at the Saginaw Police Department.

- (9) CC-0918-09
Public Hearing – Proposed 2018 Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Mayor Flippo declared the public hearing opened at 6:29 p.m. City Manager Reaume explained that this is the first of two public hearings required by law on the proposed 2018 tax rate. He stated that the proposed 2018 tax rate is 0.471800. The proposed tax rate is above the effective tax rate of 0.454363 which by State Law requires specific Truth-in-Taxation procedures that must be followed including tonight’s public hearing.

Mayor Flippo announced that the second public hearing on the proposed tax rate increase will be held on September 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Saginaw City Hall and that the adoption of the proposed tax rate increase will be considered at the City Council Meeting on September 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Saginaw City Hall.

John Peet (644 Fox Run Trail) addressed the Council. He asked if the tax rate increasing instead of decreasing was a trend every year. Mayor Flippo explained that the tax rate is considered every year. Mr. Peet stated that the tax rate goes hand in hand with the debt policy and he wanted to call the Council’s attention to it. City Manager Reaume explained that the proposed tax rate is 2.3 cents lower than the current tax rate. He stated that the assessed property values are up which results in more revenue. Councilmember Farr stated that the tax rate is built around the annual budget and this year the proposed rate is as much as can be done. Mayor Pro-Tem Flory pointed out that the Tarrant Appraisal District is responsible for the property value assessments. He added that it’s very important residents understand that the annual property tax bills include many entities not just the City. He also pointed out that the City has no control over the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District taxes.

There was no additional public input, therefore Mayor Flippo declared the public hearing closed at 6:35 p.m.

- (10) CC-0918-10
Consideration and Action regarding Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees Election

City Manager Reaume explained that the City is a member of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool (TMLIRP) and as a member, can vote for members of the Board of Trustees. He stated that four members, places 11-14 are up for election this year. He added that the nominees and their backgrounds are included in the packet. There was discussion regarding the nominees.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Flory with a second by Councilmember Tankersley to cast the City’s vote as follows: Place 11 – Randy Criswell; Place 12 – Bert Lumberas; Place 13 – Byron Black; and Place 14 –David J. Harris. Motion carried unanimously. 7-0-0-0

For: Mayor Flippo, Mayor Pro-Tem Flory, Councilmembers Farr, Tankersley, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

(11) Recess into Workshop

Mayor Flippo declared the meeting recessed into Workshop at 6:39 p.m.

(12) WS-0918-01
a. Debt Service

City Manager Reaume explained debt service. He defined bonds and the difference between General Obligation Bonds and Certificate of Obligation Bonds. He also explained the role of the Bond Counsel, Financial Advisors, and the Attorney General in the issuance of bonds. He added that bonds are a fair and equitable way to finance large projects. There was a discussion regarding refunding bond issues, bond capacity, and debt service.

(13) Reconvene back into Regular Session

Mayor Flippo declared the meeting back in Regular Session at 7:13 p.m.

(14) Executive Session

1 § 551.071. Consultation with Attorney. The City Council may convene in executive session to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on any legally posted agenda item, when the City Council seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the provisions of Chapter 551, including the following items:

a. Any Posted Item

(8) Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilmember Tankersley with a second by Mayor Pro-Tem Flory to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. 7-0-0-0

For: Mayor Flippo, Mayor Pro-Tem Flory, Councilmembers Farr, Tankersley, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mayor Flippo declared the City Council Meeting of September 4, 2018 adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Secretary Janice England

Mayor Todd Flippo