

**DALHART CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023**

The Dalhart City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, August 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Justin Moore called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Parker Noel led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited to the United States and Texas Flags. Members present were:

Justin Moore, Mayor

Absent:

Michele Griffin	Dwayne Smith
Brian DeMots	Ginger Cleavinger
Parker Noel	Ty Hancock
Gary Schniederjan	Franky Scott

Stacey Norris, City Manager
Wendy Kleynhans, City Secretary
Greg Oelke, City Attorney

Public Hearing

Parker Noel made a motion to open the public hearing on the fiscal year 2023-2024 Proposed Tax Rate. Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously. Mayor Moore stated that this tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. He also stated that the tax rate will effectively be raised by 1.95% and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$7.54. Fire Chief, Mario Garcia, was present for public comment on the property tax increase and wanted to show his support. Dwayne Smith made a motion to close the public hearing. Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Ginger Cleavinger made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes of the previous Regular Meeting on August 14, 2023. Dwayne Smith seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Gene Rhall was present for public comment. His comment was regarding sand in the highway and who allowed that to happen. He also expressed concern for the condition of the trails at the lake and all the weeds that have not been taken care of. He also wanted to make a comment about the parks and how bad they were regarding weeds.

City Manager, Stacey Norris informed Council that Gilbert Ramirez was unable to attend the meeting but wanted to recognize his 24 years of service.

Sam Reese, Xcel Community Relations and Economic Development Manager, provided an update on current projects for the City of Dalhart. Those projects reviewed were for

the Ashby Substation scheduled to be in service December 2023, supply chain constraints, and other upcoming work in conjunction with the new substation.

Beth Moore, City of Dalhart Municipal Judge, provided a Court report to Council.

Mayor Moore asked Assistant Police Chief, Rudy Corrales, to introduce the three new officers. Officer Corrales introduced Amyah Newman, a recruit by officer Todd from a recruitment trip to South Plains Academy in Levelland. The next officer was Flor Arroyo, a graduate from the Amarillo Police Academy. She is a Dalhart Native and past Ride Along program student. The last officer introduced was Reese Smith. He had been employed previously by the City of Dalhart Police Department and has returned from Hartley County Sheriffs office.

City Attorney, Greg Oelke, reviewed a draft lease agreement for utilization of the Archery Range. He stated that he came up with a legal description of the location of the range and that there should be insurance consideration along with access requirements and possible implementation of a fee to utilize this range. He stated that he got a copy of a draft lease from the City of Guymon and asked Council how they may want to handle this situation. Mayor Moore stated he was under the impression that there would be a discussion with 4-H representatives to come up with a lease agreement. Discussion was held on meetings with 4-H representatives. Greg stated that he has met with Debbie Powers and they will be coming up with a plan for a lease. Maintenance was also a concern. Dwayne Smith stated that it seemed that there needed to be an operation plan in place to address the discussion of the range being open to the public. After discussion Greg informed Council that he would send the City Secretary documents for further review at a later date.

Dwayne Smith made a motion to adopt **Ordinance 2023-11**, for proposed Property Tax Rate for 2023-2024 Tax year, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF DALHART, TEXAS FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR APPORTIONING EACH LEVY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES; AND, PROVIDING WHEN TAXES SHALL BECOME DUE AND WHEN SAME SHALL BECOME DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID.

Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion. Motion passed with Michele Griffin, Dwayne Smith, Parker Noel, Franky Scott, and Ginger Cleavinger for and Brian DeMots, Ty Hancock, and Gary Schniederjan opposing.

Ginger Cleavinger made a motion to close the reading of **Ordinance 2023-11**. Ty Hancock seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Ginger Cleavinger made a motion to open the second reading on Fiscal Year 2023-2024 City of Dalhart Annual Budget. Dwayne Smith seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously. Dwayne Smith made a motion to close the second reading of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 City of Dalhart Annual Budget. Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Ginger Cleavinger made a motion to open the second reading of Dalhart Economic Development Corporation 2023-2024 FY Budget. Ty Hancock seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously. Parker Noel made a motion to close the second reading of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Economic Development Corporation Annual Budget. Michele Griffin seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Dwayne Smith made a motion to adopt **Ordinance 2023-12**, captioned as follows:
AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF DALHART, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF DALHART FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR.

Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Dwayne Smith made a motion to accept the Bids for the sale of a Mack Pumper Fire Truck and a KME Ladder Truck in the amount of \$35,001.00 to the City of Stratford for both trucks. Ty Hancock seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on taking roll call and procedures for recording votes. Council member Ginger Cleavinger wanted to discuss the voting procedures and explained that a non-verbal vote is a yes vote and that an abstaining vote needed to be expressed with reason for abstaining. Dwayne Smtih made a motion for staff along with the Mayor to leave the process for recording votes the same. Ty Hancock seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously. Ginger opposing.

Dwayne Smith made a motion to approve the nominations and elections for the 2023-2024 Hartley and Dallam County Appraisal Districts Board of Directors. Ginger Cleavinger seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

For discussion of future agenda items, Gary Schniederjan requested to have an executive session. He will meet with City Manager, Stacey Norris to go over this request.

Fire Chief, Mario Garcia, stated that there are several trainings that will be available soon. He expressed interest in a stop the bleed class and will work with the Police Chief. They have also worked on the mentorship with new members of the department regarding responding to calls, pumping trucks. He sat down and spoke with the cheerleaders on the bonfire and have begun the planning for that event.

There being no further business, Michele Griffin made a motion to adjourn. Ty Hancock seconded the motion and the same carried unanimously.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Justin Moore, Mayor

Wendy Kleynhans, City Secretary