

The Public Hearing/Special Council Meeting of September 16, 2013 was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

**MAYOR**

Ron Reinhard

**OTHERS**

Shannan Kinsley  
Chief David Bejar  
Brenda Reinhard  
Don Reddout  
James Frazar

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Don Nettle  
Jennifer Nottingham  
Mitch Thornton  
Lynn Tiner  
Jeff Waldrop

A quorum was declared.

**PUBLIC HEARING** - The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

**1. PRESENT THE PROPOSED 2013/2014 FISCAL YEAR MUNICIPAL ANNUAL BUDGET. DISCUSS AND GIVE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES THE RIGHT TO APPEAR AND BE HEARD ON THE 2013/2014 FISCAL YEAR MUNICIPAL ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST**

Mayor Reinhard stated on August 23, 2013 he submitted the 2013/2014 proposed budget to the City Secretary. As required by Texas Local Government Code, the Budget Officer must submit the proposed budget to the City Secretary 30 days before the municipality adopts the tax levy. Additionally, a Public Hearing must be held and some sort of action taken on the budget at the conclusion of the hearing. This action can be adoption of the budget or to postpone adoption until a later date. Mayor Reinhard stated the budget is a tool to use throughout the year to project income and expenses for the upcoming year. As is past years, he's trying to work towards a balanced budget where the expenses don't exceed the income. Mayor Reinhard stated a Budget Workshop Meeting was held on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The proposed budget before Council today includes any changes made in that workshop. The only additional change made to the proposed budget that wasn't discussed in the workshop is employee health insurance. We attended a meeting at GFU recently and were informed of premium increases. The proposed budget has been updated to reflect these increases. All changes are in orange. Mayor Reinhard stated he would like to do a brief review of the budget and then open the meeting up to the public for questions, concerns, comments, and discussion. Mayor Reinhard stated with all the changes from the workshop, the expenses will exceed the income by \$7,265. Mayor Reinhard stated insurance premiums are going up 14.8% effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition, effective January 1, 2014, rates will increase approximately an additional 4% for taxes and fees related to the Healthcare Reform. There was discussion on the increase in insurance premiums and needing to look at a plan for the future as rates continue to increase. Mayor Reinhard stated he plans to meet with GFU to discuss a plan for the future. Councilmember Nottingham stated under Citizen Education & Activities (E-602), since the Fire Department will not be asking the City for \$200 for the Easter Egg Hunt, she would like to move that \$200 to New Line Item Public Works Training increasing it to \$700 and decreasing Citizen Education & Activities (E-602) to \$1,800. Council consented. There was discussion on the Public Safety Fire Contract Amount (E-700). There was discussion on the City paying twice as much as other citizens in the ESD, what equipment belongs to the Fire Department, co-mingling ESD funds, hesitation on supporting the department when uncertain where it will go, putting restrictions on funds, 24 hour person at the station for the City and accountability of the Fire Department. Mayor Reinhard stated the Fire Department contracts for a service and provides a great service. He suggests we keep the proposed contract amount of \$79,875 in the proposed budget and vote on it and see if it passes. Councilmember Thornton stated he would like to discuss the needs of Public Safety Police. He's still concerned about the problems they have with the Dodge Charger and the money that needs to be put into it. They still need two cameras and he still wants them to have a minimum of at least one AED. Council further discussed these needs. Councilmember Thornton proposed putting in the budget \$5,000 for two cameras (\$2,500 each), \$2,000 for one AED, \$2,500 for a radar, and \$7,800 to lease a new police vehicle. He stated you'd be able to reduce Vehicle Maintenance that was put in the budget to fix the Dodge Charger. In addition, they'd sell the Dodge Charger and two old Police Vehicles across the street that hasn't been used in years. He doesn't see why they couldn't get at least \$5,000 from the sale of those vehicles which could be applied to these purchases. Then the goal would be to purchase one radar per year until all vehicles are

equipped with a new one. Councilmember Thornton stated if you rearrange and move around the funds discussed, you're only looking at an additional \$7,200 increase. Councilmember Nottingham stated she wanted to make sure this would take care of police vehicles until at least the lease is paid off. Mayor Reinhard stated he would decrease Vehicle Maintenance (E-415) to \$2,500. Increase Police Equipment (E-420) to \$13,500. Add a Line Item Police Vehicle Lease for \$7,800. Council discussed increasing Training-Restricted (E-413) to \$1,500 to cover two Chief schools that Chief Bejar needs to attend this upcoming year. There was no further Council discussion. Mayor Reinhard opened up the Public Hearing to the public. Don Reddout stated insurance is going to continue to increase significantly. He stated the Fire Department's insurance is half the cost of what the City pays and they use the same company as the City. Don Reddout stated as a citizen, he hopes the Fire Department increase gets approved. He stated if they consider comparing the Fire Department to the Police Department, it would be easy to justify this needed increase. Brenda Reinhard stated she appreciates pushing for the AED's. She feels they are a necessary thing. Mayor Reinhard stated we would update the budget with the noted changes.

**2. CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE 2013/2014 FISCAL YEAR MUNICIPAL ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST**

Mayor Reinhard stated the governing body has to take action on the proposed budget. The action can be to adopt the budget with the noted changes or post-pone adoption for a later date. The motion to accept the 2013/2014 budget as modified in the Public Hearing was made by Councilmember Nottingham, seconded by Councilmember Thornton and passed unanimously.

Mayor Reinhard stated all changes to the budget made in the Public Hearing would be updated and sent to Council. He stated the Budget Cover Sheet will have to be amended to include the record vote of each member of the governing body. This will be placed on the September 24<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Mayor Reinhard asked if there was further discussion by Council or the public and there was none. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING**

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 8:42 p.m.

**1. DISCUSS AND ACT ON ANIMAL ORDINANCE REGULATING ANIMALS**

Mayor Reinhard stated the Animal Ordinance was sent to the City Attorney for a legal review. Since there were recommended changes, the ordinance needs to be readdressed as the motion made was to "accept the ordinance as amended provided the City Attorney makes no changes". Mayor Reinhard stated the changes are recommendations and seem minor and more questions of clarity. Council reviewed the recommended changes. Council determined they would remove (1)(vi) and (1)(vii) on page 4 and added "unsanitary or dangerous" to (1)(iv) to address the City Attorney's first two comments. The remainder of the City Attorney comments/recommendations were changed as recommended. The motion to approve the Animal Ordinance as amended in the Special Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Nottingham, seconded by Councilmember Nettle and passed unanimously.

Mayor Reinhard adjourned the Special Council Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Shawna Kinsley.

These minutes were approved as written/amended on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012.

Signed: Ronald G. Reinhard  
Ronald G. Reinhard, Mayor