

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF ANDERSON §
CITY OF PALESTINE §

The City Council of the City of Palestine, Texas convened in a Work Session on Friday, August 18, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, at City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present:

Steve Presley, Mayor
Doug Smith, Mayor Pro Tem
Will Brule, Councilmember
Mitchell Jordan, Councilmember
Vickey L. Chivers, Councilmember
Joe Baxter, Councilmember
Ann Connor, Councilmember

Mike Alexander, City Manager
Michael Hornes, Assistant City Manager
Teresa D. Herrera, City Secretary

Others present: Public Works Director Tim Perry, Communications Officers Nate Smith, Finance Director Steve Groom, Public Works Deputy Director Rob Thames, PEDC Asst. Director Greg Laudadio, PEDC Director Tom Manskey, and other interested citizens;

with the following members absent: none.

WORK SESSION

With a quorum present, Mayor Presley called the work session to order at 9:05 a.m.

Discussion of Proposed Budget and Strategic Goals for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

City Manager Alexander led the discussion. He proposed that Council set the proposed tax rate right underneath the rollback. This would allow Council to adopt any rate under the proposed tax rate. He informed Council that both he and Assistant City Manager will be taking a pay cut. Also, water sales are down and staff is proposing a 5% utility rate increase. Council's priorities include adding Code Enforcement Officers, City Marshal, and clerk for Municipal Court. Council directed staff to post special meeting notice, allowing them to set the proposed tax set and the two public hearings.

Mayor Presley recessed the work session at 11:37 a.m. The work session was resumed at 1:09 p.m.

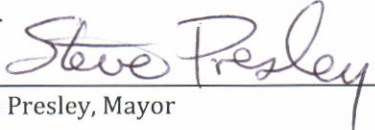
Councilmember Jordan did not return.

PEDC budget was discussed. PEDC Director Manskey informed that PEDC's priority is housing and they are reaching out to developers.

Adjourn

With no other business to come before the Council, the work session was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.



Steve Presley, Mayor


ATTEST:


Teresa Herrera, City Secretary