

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 Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., in the Motel 6 Conference Room, at 1101 East Palestine Avenue, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present:

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

Michael Hornes, City Manager
Teresa D. Herrera, City Secretary

Others present: PEDC Director Gayle Cooper, Fire Chief Shannon Davis, Public Works Director Tim Perry, Finance Director Steve Groom, and Communications Officer Nate Smith.

with the following member absent: Councilmember Will Brule.

WORK SESSION

With a quorum present, Mayor Presley called the work session to order at 9:02 a.m.

Discussion of Proposed Budget and Strategic Goals for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

PEDC Director Gayle Cooper led the discussion. She thanked Council for giving her the opportunity to work in Palestine. She stated that the goal is to bring up the level of the community in large; make Palestine a great city. The city faces housing and infrastructure problems not unemployment. She added that we should bring back overall charm to the city. She thinks that downtown needs to be revitalized by taking a block at a time. In order to have a vibrant city, buy-in from downtown owners is desperately needed. The City needs high tech manufacturers and retail. PEDC is operated with sales tax and no property tax. She expressed that the infrastructure problems need to be addressed first and then the restoration of the buildings and by doing so we will create an active downtown. PEDC is willing to help with the infrastructure downtown, help with education for students, quality of life including parks and lakes, and housing.

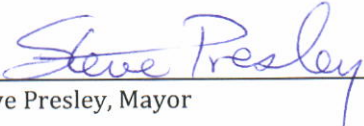
Council took at 10 minute recess at 10:13 a.m.

Fire Chief Shannon Davis provided a summary of the operations of the department. He stated the department is headed in the right direction. The department needs to replace the bumper gear and purchase a washing machine. The tower truck needs to be refurbished and the cost will be about \$500,000. Council asked that a study of the fire stations locations be done.

Council had a brief discussion of the retreat.

With no other business to come before the Council, the work session was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25TH DAY OF JUNE, 2018.



Steve Presley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Herrera, City Secretary

