

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**CITY OF SNYDER**

**AUGUST 15, 2016**

A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Snyder, Texas was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Tony Wofford with the following members present:

Councilmember Rodney Dupree  
Councilmember Vernon Clay  
Councilmember Steve Rich  
Councilmember Steve Highfield  
Councilmember Tom Strayhorn  
Councilmember Luann Burleson

And the following absent:

Attorney for the City, Bryan Guymon

**ITEM I. INVOCATION:**

The invocation was given by Tom Strayhorn.

**ITEM II. PUBLIC HEARING: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – 2014 TEXAS CAPITAL FUND CONTRACT #7214242**

1. Open. Time: 5:32 p.m.
2. Discussion: Mary Alice Smith with Grant Works provided the council with an update stating the project, which involved installing water lines to Solvay, was complete and came in \$200,000 under budget. She stated the company had retained 42 jobs, which was a requirement of the grant. The company had originally committed to retaining 55 jobs, but because the bid for the project was under budget, that number was reduced.
3. Close. Time: 5:47 p.m.

**ITEM III. PUBLIC HEARING: 2016-2017 BUDGET**

1. Open. Time: 5:47 p.m.
2. Discussion: Mayor Tony Wofford questioned how much the city had budgeted for attorney expenses and Councilmember Vernon Clay questioned how the budget reached its total of just over \$19 million. Patricia Warren Finance Director stated the City had \$85,000 budgeted for attorney expenses and explained how the city reached its total budget of \$19,023,775.
3. Close. Time: 5:55 p.m.

**ITEM IV. RECOGNIZE VISITORS:**

Mayor Tony Wofford recognized the following visitors:

Bill Crist, Snyder Daily News; Bill Lavers, Development Corporation of Snyder; Mary Alice Smith, Grant Works.

**ITEM V. VISITORS/CITIZENS FORUM:**

No Discussion.

**ITEM VI. MINUTES:**

1. Councilmember Steve Highfield made the motion to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting, August 8, 2016.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodney Dupree and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

**ITEM VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Councilmember Steve Highfield made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2038 regarding the 2016-2017 budget as captioned below:

**AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPORT TO THE CITY GOVERNMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017.**

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Rich and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

2. Councilmember Steve Highfield made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2039 regarding the 2016-2017 utility rates and repealing Ordinance No. 2028, with a \$2.50 increase in water rates and \$2.50 increase in sewer rates as captioned below:

**AN ORDINANCE REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 2028 ESTABLISHING WATER RATES, WASTEWATER RATES, SANITATION RATES, LANDFILL FEES, SEPTIC WASTE FEES, DEPOSITS, SERVICE CHARGES, FINES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CITY OF SNYDER, TEXAS: REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodney Dupree and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

3. Councilmember Rodney Dupree made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2040 regarding the 2016-2017 tax rate as captioned below:

**AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE TAX RATE AND LEVYING A TAX UPON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION WITHIN THE CITY OF SNYDER, TEXAS, FOR THE YEAR 2016, APPORTIONING**

**SAID LEVY AMONG THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND  
ITEMS FOR WHICH REVENUE MUST BE RAISED;  
AND ASSESSING PENALTY AND INTEREST FOR  
THE NON-PAYMENT OF SUCH TAXES WITHIN  
THE TIME SET THEREFORE.**

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tom Strayhorn and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

**ITEM VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Councilmember Luann Burleson made the motion to approve Resolution R160815 approving the amendments to the tax abatement guidelines and criteria as captioned below:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SNYDER CITY COUNCIL  
APPROVING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF  
SNYDER TAX ABATEMENT GUIDELINES AND  
CRITERIA.**

The amendments include reducing the minimum amounts of addition to the tax roll from \$500,000 to \$50,000, reducing the net economic benefit to the City from \$1,000,000 to \$100,000 and changing the definition of modernization to - "**Modernization**" means the replacement and upgrading of existing facilities which increases the productive input or output, updates the technology or substantially lowers the unit cost of the operation. Modernization may result from the construction, alteration or installation of buildings, structures, fixed machinery or equipment. It shall not be for the purpose of reconditioning, refurbishing, or repairing.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tom Strayhorn with the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Luann Burleson, Tom Strayhorn, and Vernon Clay.  
Noes: Councilmembers Steve Highfield, Rodney Dupree, and Steve Rich.

Motion was denied. Mayor Tony Wofford broke the tie and voted to change the definition of modernization to - "**Modernization**" Modernization may result from the construction, alteration, or installation of buildings, structures, fixed machinery or equipment.

Councilmember Steve Rich made the motion to approve changing the definition of modernization to - "**Modernization**" Modernization may result from the construction, alteration, or installation of buildings, structures, fixed machinery or equipment.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodney Dupree and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Rodney Dupree, Vernon Clay, Steve Rich, and Steve Highfield.  
Noes: Councilmembers Tom Strayhorn and Luann Burleson.

**ITEM IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Time – 6:38 p.m.**

Council may act in Open Session on the following item:

1. Economic development negotiations. (Section 551.087 Texas Government Code.) Power Sky Capital, LLC

**ITEM X. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:**

1. Councilmember Vernon Clay made the motion to allow City Manager Merle Taylor to continue negotiations with Power Sky Capital, LLC.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Highfield and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

**ITEM XI. INFORMATION:**

1. Regular Council Meeting, September 12, 5:30 p.m.; Building Standards Commission Meeting, September 12, 4:30 p.m.

**ITEM XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

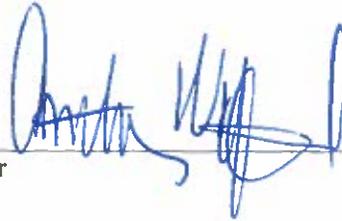
1. Councilmember Rodney Dupree made the motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Rich and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.  
Noes: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Mayor



ATTEST:

  
City Secretary

Approved: September 12, 2016.