

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Special Commission Meeting Session on September 3, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Moore proceeded to call the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Evalyn W. Moore, Mayor Terry Gaul, Commissioner P1 Barry Beard, Commissioner P2 Carl Drozd, Commissioner P3 Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4 Terri Vela, City Manager Gary Smith, City Attorney Laura Scarlato, City Secretary

Mayor Moore introduced agenda item A2, Public Comments.

Carlos Garcia, 2003 Briar Lane, Richmond, Tx
Mr. Garcia spoke regarding the budget and the proposed tax rate of .69 cents. The comparative rates of Rosenberg and Sugar Land were provided. Also, the tax exemptions for being over 65 for both of those cities were provided. He urged the Commission to review the possibility of exemptions and lowering the property tax rate.

With no one else signed up to speak, the agenda item was closed.

Mayor Moore introduced agenda item A3, Public Hearing to receive comments for or against the City's Proposed 2020 Tax Rate of .6999. There was no one present to speak so the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item A4, Budget Workshop on Proposed Expenditures, Fiscal Year 2019-20 was provided by the Finance Director Justin Alderete. Director Alderete stated there are two priorities this fiscal year, Public Safety and Infrastructure. Fire Station 2 will be completed this fiscal year and the Police Department Building is in need of renovations. There are streets that are in need of repair as well as aging utilities that need to be replaced along with the City experiencing expansion and growth. The Budget Philosophy is to continue to provide the same service as the prior year. Director Alderete reviewed the different components that make up the Budget with the different

requests from the various departments. The Utility Fund is funded by user fees not by property and sales tax. It is financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business. The Debt Service Fund Summary was provided with a combined debt service total for FY20 of \$3.66 million. There are \$7,781,979 in total Projects planned for the FY 20 with the largest piece going towards Municipal Projects. The 2nd Public Hearing for the Tax Rate will be held September 9, 2019 and a Public Hearing for the Budget. The adoption of both the Budget and the Tax Rate has been set for September 16, 2019. Following a brief question and answer period and no action required, the agenda item was closed.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Moore declared the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

Evalyn W. Moore, Mayor

Attest:

Laura Scarlato, City Secretary