



CITY OF BELLAIRE TEXAS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

OCTOBER 12, 2015

Council Chamber

Public Hearing

6:00 PM

7008 S. RICE AVENUE
BELLAIRE, TX 77401

SPECIAL SESSION (PUBLIC HEARING) - 6:00 P.M.

A. Call to Order and Announcement of a Quorum - Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor.

Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor, called the Special Session (Public Hearing) before the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, to order at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2015. He announced that a quorum of the members of City Council were present as set forth in the table below.

Full Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dr. Philip L. Nauert	Mayor	Present	
Mayor Pro Tem	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Councilman	Councilman	Present	
Councilman	Councilman	Present	
Councilman	Councilman	Present	
Councilman	Councilman	Present	
Councilman	Councilman	Absent	
City Manager	City Manager	Present	
City Clerk	City Clerk	Present	
Chief Financial Officer	Chief Financial Officer	Present	

B. Reading of Notice of Public Hearing - Tracy L. Dutton, City Clerk.

Tracy L. Dutton, City Clerk, read the "Notice of Public Hearing" into the record.

C. Summary of Public Hearing Procedures - Paul A. Hofmann, City Manager.

Paul A. Hofmann, City Manager, summarized the public hearing procedures for the evening.

D. Presentation:

Presentation regarding a proposal to increase total tax revenues for the 2015 tax year from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 5.69% by proposing a tax rate of \$0.3805 per \$100 valuation - Submitted and presented by Linda Symank, Chief Financial Officer.

Linda Symank, Chief Financial Officer, addressed City Council and advised that the proposed tax rate for the City of Bellaire for fiscal year 2016 was \$0.3805 per \$100 valuation. Although the proposed tax rate was actually a decrease from the City's current tax rate of \$0.3936, the proposed tax rate would give the City an additional \$1,256,000 in revenue. The increase in revenue resulted from the City's proposal of a tax rate above its effective tax rate of \$0.3600, as well as new revenue from new property added to the tax roll and

higher appraised values.

The City of Bellaire was required to hold two public hearings prior to the adoption of a tax rate. The first public hearing was held on October 5, 2015, and the one this evening was the second public hearing. The public hearings gave residents the opportunity to speak prior to the adoption of the tax rate. The City had scheduled the adoption of its tax rate on October 19, 2015.

In closing, Chief Financial Officer Symank advised that following the public hearing this evening, the City was in complete compliance with truth-in-taxation regulations.

E. Recognition of Citizens and/or Other Interested Parties - Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor.

Lynn McBee:

Ms. McBee addressed City Council and stated that she rose in protest of the proposed revenue increase of \$1.25 million. If indeed one cent was equivalent to \$400,000 in revenues, then the City's proposed rate would represent an increase of the equivalent of three cents.

Ms. McBee found that the increase was not necessary. The City had exceeded its needs by far and proposed a rate that produced over \$1 million in her opinion. She encouraged City Council to think about the harm they reaped and the greed they represented by imposing the proposed tax rate.

Further, Ms. McBee advised that the federal government had announced that social security benefits would not be increased this year. The federal government was tightening their belt and the City continued to splurge, in her opinion.

James Ingham:

Mr. Ingham addressed City Council and advised that the City needed to live within its needs. Taxes kept increasing and the citizens paid enough already in his opinion. He further advised that no more taxes were necessary.

F. Questions from the Mayor and City Council - Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor.

Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor, opened the floor for questions or comments from the City Council. There were no questions or comments.

G. Close of Public Hearing - Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor.

Dr. Philip L. Nauert, Mayor, closed the Special Session (Public Hearing) before the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, at 6:12 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2015.

Rules regarding oral comments were provided on the agenda document as follows:

Under the *Rules of Procedure* of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, as of July 13, 2015, *Article 9, Rules Governing Public Hearings, Section I, Written Comments*, **oral comments** regarding the proposed increase in tax revenues for tax year 2015 **will not be received after the close of this public hearing**. Written comments may be submitted to the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas ("City Council"), prior to final deliberation on the matter. It is anticipated that final deliberation will occur on Monday,

October 19, 2015. Written comments should, therefore, be submitted to the City Council in care of the City Clerk by noon on Thursday, October 15, 2015, in order to be considered for the public record.

H. Adjourn.

Motion:

To adjourn the Special Session (Public Hearing) of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, at 6:12 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2015.

RESULT:	UNANIMOUS [6 TO 0]
MOVER:	Amanda B. Nathan, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Pat B. McLaughlan, Councilman
AYES:	Nauert, Nathan, Reed, Avioli Sr., Pappas, McLaughlan
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Friedberg