



City of Rowlett Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, September 2, 2008

3:30 PM

Municipal Building - 4000 Main Street

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harper called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Harper, Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Rushing, Councilmember Jackson and Councilmember Kilgore

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convened into Executive Session at 3:30 p.m.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 2A The City Council shall convene into executive session pursuant to the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, §551.074(a)(1), Personnel, to deliberate the appointment of the City Manager and to consider City Manager search options. (2 hours)

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

Convened into Worksession at 5:45 p.m.

3. WORK SESSION ITEMS (5:45 P.M.)

- 3A Update from the Mayor. (15 minutes)

Mayor Harper brought forth a brief update regarding Elgin B. Robertson Park; will meet with the Director of Special Projects for the City of Dallas on Thursday, September 4, 2008; on August 21, 2008, the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) held a special meeting at the Garland Special Events Center; on October 6, 2008, the DART Board will accept the design builder, budget and schedule for the extension project; and the Eastern Extension Groundbreaking for the President George Bush Tollway (PGBT) was also on August 21st.

Mayor Pro Tem Gottel spoke regarding the Bond Committee. Stated the group follow-up meeting will be held on September 3rd; the sub-committee chairs have all met and progress is being made.

Staff updated the City Council on the performance of IESI. Stated IESI is maintaining and responding well with the City; all issues are being inputted into the Citizen Action Center; there are no delays with the bulky item pickup.

Mayor Harper stated that he spent a week of vacation in New York and appeared on Good Morning America with a City of Rowlett sign.

3B Update on the status of the All-America City Award application process. (5 minutes)

Staff updated Council regarding the All-America City Award application. Stated the Mayor will appoint an Ad Hoc Citizens Committee to be in charge of choosing the projects that are submitted under the application and writing the application; stated the deadline for submission is March 16, 2009; would like to have the committee formed by the end of September.

3C Discuss debt analysis in support of the 2009 Bond Program. (15 minutes)

The Bond Committee posed a question regarding the City's capacity to borrow money without increasing taxes; and what is the City's capacity to borrow money and increase taxes.

Staff stated in doing the analysis they were able to make some conservative projections for the future for property taxes. Stated the City could issue roughly \$25.1M without increasing the tax rate. Stated the City could issue roughly \$20.5M in Water and Sewer Bonds without increasing the tax rate.

Council asked for staff to explain the two parts to the tax rate.

Staff explained the difference between the O&M rate (operations and maintenance) and the I&S rate (interest and sinking). Stated the tax rate is set for I&S first and then the remainder is assigned as the O&M. The I&S rate is based on a formula that is set by State Statute and is not subject to the rollback rate or the effective tax rate.

Staff spoke concerning the Water and Sewer Fund being an enterprise of the City and as a result typically Revenue Bonds are issued for the bond projects in that fund. Stated the City is required to set aside a reserve which is based on the average debt service schedule.

Council stated without increasing the tax rate, there will be approximately \$45M worth of borrowing power.

Staff stated if the bond election happens in November 2009, the first of the bonds would mostly likely be issued in 2010 but the first payment would come due in February 2011. The tax rate itself would not be affected until fiscal year 2010 - 2011.

3D

Discuss proposed changes to the City Manager's Operating Budget. (45 minutes)

The goal for this item is to agree to the modifications, if any, that are made to Proposed Budget so that the final vote will occur on September 16th.

Mayor Harper asked that each Councilmember give opening remarks concerning the Proposed Budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Gottel spoke in favor of the tenure pay plan for the Police and Fire departments.

Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto spoke concerning cash Capital Improvement Project (CIP); transfers from the Utility and Drainage Fund to the General Fund. Stated by transferring the funds we are reducing the above ground work by \$573,000.

Councilmember Rushing stated she spoke with the Director of Financial Services regarding the transfer of funds; asked staff to expound on the phone conversation. Stated she was satisfied with the outcome from the August 18th meeting.

Councilmember Jackson stated he was satisfied with the outcome from the August 18th meeting.

Councilmember Phillips stated he was satisfied with the outcome from the August 18th meeting; felt it was necessary to fund the tenure pay plan.

Councilmember Kilgore stated he was satisfied with the outcome from the August 18th meeting but suggested the tenure pay plan be funded immediately.

Mayor Harper expressed reservations. Stated during the Council retreat, everyone committed to making sure that all decisions were centered on the citizens. The tenure pay plan was not included in the Proposed Budget from the City Manager; it was not a top priority. Stated the economy for next year may be worse. Stated he would not support the tenure pay plan.

Council spoke concerning the proposed items that they were in agreement:

- *Increase monthly drainage fees by \$1.50*
- *Utilities rate changes*
- *Increase fees at the Wet Zone by \$1 each*
- *Public Safety Tenure Pay Plan*
- *Replacement of 4 Police Patrol vehicles*
- *One new MICU and one MICU with a remount*
- *Combine the July 4th, the Holiday, and the Public Safety Events for a total of \$50,000*
- *PC Replacements for a total of \$20,000*
- *R.O.C.K. funding*
- *Reduce the Arts and Humanities Commission by \$2,000*
- *Reduce the Organizational Development by \$20,000*
- *Reduce the Intersection Safety Study by \$50,000*
- *Eliminate proposed Battalion Chiefs, add back 2nd Assistant Chief and no reduction in firefighters - on hold until new City Manager is in place*
- *Reduce the Business Retention Incentive by \$25,000*
- *Pond Maintenance of \$10,000 will be funded out of the Fund balance*
- *Meter Maintenance Specialist I is revenue neutral and will be taken out of the Utility Fund*

- Approve two Sergeants
- Freeze and unfund three Police officer positions

Two items require additional discussion:

(1) Deputy Marshal

Council stated it was said that staff would not need a new car for this position.

Staff stated that the Marshal's office does a lot of driving; a reliable vehicle is needed; suggested leaving the vehicle amount in the proposal as is.

Council stated routine maintenance of the vehicle is not repairs; stated the data received by staff shows the vehicles are not failing for serious mechanical reasons.

Staff stated the vehicle will have extended wear and tear on rough streets and emergency operations.

Council asked if the vehicles that are of no use for frontline Police use are still operable for other uses.

Staff answered in the affirmative.

Council asked if the Deputy Marshal would be involved in frontline Police work.

Staff answered normally not but it could occur.

(2) Cash CIP is at \$3.3M

At this time, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto made a presentation entitled "Budget Summary - August 31, 2008".

Executive Summary: The objective of the following proposals is to address the integrity of individual funds, reinforce our long term objectives to the 2010 Bond Program and to review the feasibility or options related to the public safety tenure plan.

Here are some principles that we've talked about throughout the process:

1. *Maintain the integrity of your Fund functions. Refuse, Utility and Drainage fees are essentially earmarked monies and more importantly, our citizens perceive them that way. Utilizing those monies for General Fund obligations is or would be compromising what the customer thinks is being done with those monies.*

- *Refuse is related to trash collection, alley improvements, bulky waste and Spring-time clean-ups.*
- *Utility is related to water and sewer improvements.*
- *Drainage is related to erosion control, flood control and storm water management.*

The General Fund should be balanced within the General Fund.

2. *The 2010 Bond Program depends on a combination of growth and new tax dollars to finance. What we call the "cash CIP" will be the near term and primary means to fund issuances of CIP debt at a rate of, for every \$1.00 you have in "cash-CIP", you can finance \$10.00 of CIP projects. Each penny you raise the tax rate by, will only finance \$3.36M.*

As a hypothetical, IF you were to agree to a 50/50 split between growth dollars and new taxes to fund the Bond program and assuming you have a "cash-CIP" amount of \$3.2M, then you could finance \$64M of CIP projects which would require you to raise the tax rate by \$0.10.

Our priority is to grow the cash-CIP amount.

3. The Public Safety Tenure Plan is a priority. Enough has been said about this for all of the right reasons.

Here is an excerpt from last year's budget message:

"Your Mayor and Council listened. We have established a plan that will result in less spending on operations and more spending on capital improvements. That plan is a result of months of analysis by city staff, Council, and concerned citizens...all who engaged in debate and deliberation. The plan is very straightforward...reallocate up to 5% of the operating budget to the capital budget next year. Spend more tax dollars on the roads and alleys."

Proposal A:

Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$300K (Utility Fund).
Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$335K (Drainage Fund).
The above two actions result in a General Fund Balance of -\$573,816.

Reduce Police car Budget to \$160K: savings \$72,993
No Deputy Marshal Car: savings \$38,055
Hold off another year on the Drainage engineer: savings \$0
Institute pay raises (\$857,244) on 1 Jan 2009: savings \$214,311
Institute the PS Tenure Plan in 1 Apr 2009: savings \$171,868

The above four actions result in a General Fund Balance of -\$76,589

Proposal B:

Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$300K (Utility Fund).
Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$335K (Drainage Fund).
The above two actions result in a General Fund Balance of -\$573,816.

Reduce Police car Budget to \$160K: savings \$72,993
No Deputy Marshal Car: savings \$38,055
Hold off another year on the Drainage engineer: savings \$93,448
Institute pay raises (\$857,244) on 1 Jan 2009: savings \$214,311
No PS Tenure Plan: savings \$343,727

The above four actions result in a General Fund Balance of \$188,718

Proposal C:

Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$300K (Utility Fund).
Retract the transfer to the General Fund of the \$335K (Drainage Fund).
The above two actions result in a General Fund Balance of -\$573,816.

Reduce Police car Budget to \$160K: savings \$72,993
No Deputy Marshal Car: savings \$38,055
Hold off another year on the Drainage engineer: savings \$93,448

Institute pay raises (\$857,244) on 1 Jan 2009: savings \$214,311

Institute 1/3 of the PS Tenure Plan thru the following: savings \$329,151

- *Reduce Police car Budget to \$60K and reallocate \$100K.*
- *Funding beyond 1/3 would have to be absorbed by the PS budget.*

The above four actions result in a General Fund Balance of \$174,142

A member of Council stated coming up to the next fiscal year, it would be better to be in the position to move forward rather than backwards; stated it would be better to add capacity rather than to take it away.

Another member of Council stated the spending of \$350K to institute the tenure pay plan is not a larger issue further down the road; stated once the regular pay plan is initiated, all of the public safety officers would be on the tenure plan but perhaps not at the right step. Stated it is important that the pay raises be corrected from past action by past Councils.

Council stated that strategic financial management says to go slow on this or we will look foolish.

The majority of the Council accepted Proposal A.

4. DISCUSS REGULAR SESSION ITEMS

Items 9B, 9D, and 9J were removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered individually.

Work Session adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

CONVENE INTO THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS (7:30 P.M.)

Convened in the Council Chambers at 7:45 p.m.

5. INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Pastor Craig Schill, Lake Cities Community Church.

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Harper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

7. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

7A Update from the Mayor.

Mayor Harper made brief announcements regarding the search for a new City Manager; progress on Elgin B. Robertson Park, will meet with the Director of Special Projects for the City of Dallas on Thursday, September 4, 2008; congratulated the Rowlett Police department in several arrests; the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) Eastern Extension Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on August 21st; attended a special DART meeting at the Garland Special Events Center on August 21st; the DART Board will accept the design builder, budget and schedule for the extension project on October 6th; and the Bond Committee sub-committee meetings are on schedule.

George Harris, Interim City Manager, gave a brief update regarding the Kenwood Heights subdivision; the Point Royal Estates subdivision; the reconstruction of Rowlett Road and Miller Road; Carla Drive has been restored to a two-way road; the Rowlett Road Phase II has been put off until 2011 to take advantage of federal grants; the Rowlett Road Phase III project is scheduled for completion in May 2009; and various asphalt road projects are complete.

8. CITIZENS' INPUT

No one spoke during Citizens' Input.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Harper explained the procedure regarding the Consent Agenda and the rights of each Councilmember and each citizen to have any consent agenda item removed to be considered individually.

Items 9B, 9D, and 9J have been removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered individually.

City Secretary read items into the record.

- 9A Consider approving minutes from the August 18, 2008 Budget Worksession and the August 19, 2008 Regular Council Meeting.

This Matter was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 9B Consider a resolution approving a new Boards and Commissions Handbook.

Mayor Harper read the item into the record.

Mayor Harper stated "Ms. Rushing, I think you had a question about that."

Councilmember Rushing replied "Yes, Mayor, I asked this to be pulled just for one item of clarification. I have talked with the City Secretary and we have clarified a little clearer but I thought possibly since I didn't understand it we may just want to remove that sentence all together. On page 35, Item 2.6, Annual Appreciation Dinner, the second paragraph 'other city volunteer groups and individuals may be recognized by the city staff at a separate event'. I thought this may lead people to believe that the City was having two (2) separate events but I would make a motion that we strike the second paragraph. We have one (1) appreciation dinner, these other groups have another dinner themselves that they provide and hold for and just invite City staff to which I don't think that statement needs to be in the handbook."

Mayor Harper stated "Ms. Quinn, are you okay with that strike?"

Susie Quinn, City Secretary, replied "Yes, sir."

Mayor Harper stated "Council, anyone wish to comment? All right. Comments and questions are over; do we have a motion to approve?"

A motion was made by Councilmember Rushing, seconded by Councilmember Jackson, that this matter be adopted as amended as RES-098-08. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Mayor Harper, Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Rushing, Councilmember Jackson and Councilmember Kilgore

9C Consider a resolution to enter into a joint election contract with Rockwall County.

This Matter was adopted as RES-092-08 on the Consent Agenda.

9D Consider an ordinance approving the negotiated agreement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division regarding the rate review mechanism filing; declaring existing rates to be unreasonable; adopting tariffs that reflect rate adjustments consistent with the negotiated settlement and finding the rates to be set by the attached tariffs to be reasonable; approving Atmos proof of revenues; adopting a savings clause; determining that this ordinance was passed in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act; declaring an effective date; and requiring delivery of this ordinance to the Atmos and legal counsel.

Mayor Harper read the item into the record.

Mayor Harper stated "Mr. Kilgore, what's your question, sir?"

Councilmember Kilgore replied "Yes, Mayor. I pulled this so that we could get an explanation of exactly how this works because what we're going to do when we approve this, although the committee working on our behalf negotiated a substantial reduction in the requested rate increase, the bottom line at the end of the day is that we are signing off on an eighty-one cent (\$0.81) average increase in the cost of gas to our customers. This was negotiated back in April. As we all know, gas peaked on July 2, 2008 and it has fallen steadily and rapidly ever since. Not only has it fallen dramatically, by thirty-six percent (36%) as of last Wednesday; they keep these records from Wednesday to Wednesday; this fall is considered to be more or less long-term because the primary producer of it is the introduction of gas from the Barnett Shale. The Energy Information Administration, a Federal government agency, said its down to stay down so in light of what's happening a thirty-six percent (36%) reduction in the price of natural gas, there's a little bit of a disconnect with signing off on something or voting for something that will result in an increase in your gas rate. Now there are some reasons for it and we have a safety valve because this will still be contested but I thought someone would need to explain this because this seems to fly in the face of what's happening in the market."

Mayor Harper stated "Welcome, Ann. Are you going to provide an explanation?"

Ann Honza, Assistant Director of Financial Services, replied "I'll try to sir. Well, this rate increase is for everything relating to the cost of natural gas delivery except the cost of natural gas. The actual savings that will be gained from a reduction in the natural gas market will be passed through to the customers and they'll see a reduction as a result of that. This actually is a cost...the cost of natural gas flows through to the customer and

Atmos is not expected to make a profit on natural gas or they're not allowed to under the law. And this tariff actually covers system maintenance, infrastructure costs, and the cost of transporting a very volatile product in as safe a manner as possible. And that is the primary crutch of this. I'll be glad to talk about it further but that's what it pertains to, not the actual cost of natural gas."

Mayor Harper stated "Does that answer your question, Mr. Kilgore? Any other questions or comments? Thank you, Ann. We've had the item read for the record and we've had clarification, is there a motion?"

A motion was made by Councilmember Kilgore, seconded by Councilmember Rushing, that this matter be adopted as ORD-025-08. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Mayor Harper, Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Rushing, Councilmember Jackson and Councilmember Kilgore

9E Consider a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to file proceedings in eminent domain to acquire property for right-of-way for the property located at 4020 Lakeview Parkway at the southeast corner of Martin Drive and Lakeview Parkway for the reconstruction of Martin Drive and the extension of Freedom Drive.

This Matter was adopted as RES-093-08 on the Consent Agenda.

9F Consider an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 82 of the Code to adopt comprehensive flood prevention and protection regulations.

This Matter was approved as ORD-023-08 on the Consent Agenda.

9G Consider a resolution approving Supplement #2 to Task Order Number 3-TNP to the approved professional services agreement with Teague Nall and Perkins, Incorporated to provide a hydraulic report for Long Branch for the design of Rowlett Road, Phase 2 in the amount of eight thousand five hundred dollars and no cents (\$8,500).

This Matter was adopted as RES-094-08 on the Consent Agenda.

9H Consider a resolution authorizing the payment to PJC Utility Contractors, Inc. for replacement of the failed sanitary sewer aerial crossing in Stream 2E2, north of Big A Cemetery in the amount of sixty-three thousand four hundred sixty-two dollars and eighty-six cents (\$63,462.86).

This Matter was adopted as RES-095-08 on the Consent Agenda.

- 9I Consider an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Article III (Weeds, wild growth and other unwholesome, unsightly or other dangerous conditions) of Chapter 22 (Environment).

This Matter was approved as ORD-024-08 on the Consent Agenda.

- 9J Consider a resolution awarding the bid for the purchase and installation of the Musco Control Link system to be installed at various locations in Herfurth Park and Community Park in the amount of fifty-seven thousand six hundred forty-five dollars and no cents (\$57,645) to Musco Lighting Company.

Mayor Harper read the item into the record.

Mayor Harper stated "Who asked this question and specifically what was your concern?"

Councilmember Kilgore replied "My concern, as we recall from just a short time ago in talking about budget issues we're looking for every dollar, every penny, and every dime we can find in the budget. I understand this system to be efficient, it's operated from a central spot at a central location by computer and my question is for fifty-seven thousand dollars (\$57,000), could we just do better with timers and charge a flat fee, all be it not a perfect fee or not necessarily the most fee? This is the old fashion way and save ourselves fifty-seven thousand dollars (\$57,000)."

Mayor Harper stated "Ms. Corder, let me ask Mr. Maggiotto a question first. Councilman, as I recall, this was something discussed when you were reviewing sports user fees?"

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto replied "Yes, Mayor. Both Ms. Corder and I are intricately familiar with the issue. The series of meetings that she conducted with individual associations, the reply to our one hundred thousand dollar (\$100,000) electric bill that we saw all last year was that these associations felt it to be unfair to be charged electricity without knowing how much they're using, when they're using it, and by whom. And so these monies, if you will, come out of our Park Pro Rata funds which are special funds that really don't contribute to the General Fund; they're exclusive, they're isolated, if you will. But the overall reply from all the associations was they were not prepared to pay a generic fee. I mean, pretty much at that time, there was a give and take issue between staff and these associations. There was a trust issue. There was a lot of miscommunication and this was part and partial to a consensus between staff, these associations and the Park Board."

Mayor Harper asked "Do I also recall correctly that you thought once this was installed and there was some experience with it that would be the basis for adjusting the rates charged to the sports user groups?"

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto replied "Correct and Ms. Corder can speak to that precisely."

Mayor Harper stated "Okay, good. Thank you, Mr. Maggiotto. Ms. Corder, what would you like to add?"

Katie Corder, Assistant City Manager replied "Just to add to your comment, yes we hope if this system is installed after at least a six (6) month period of being able to gather historical data, having the associations use the new system and begin to schedule their games and tournaments, hopefully when we can use less electrical usage, that will be the time to determine the subsidy for electrical usage to the sports associations."

Mayor Harper stated "Mr. Kilgore, does that help your understanding?"

Councilmember Kilgore replied "Yes, sir."

Mayor Harper stated "Is there anything else? Yes, Ms. Rushing."

Councilmember Rushing stated "I would ask that in the cost analysis of the electricity to light these fields, could this cost not be incorporated in that when we're dividing it among the groups that use it?"

Ms. Corder replied "The cost for the system or the cost for the electrical usage?"

Councilmember Rushing stated "The cost for the system. I mean this is what Mr. Kilgore was making a point of was we're spending additional monies to probably not collect more than this amount of money...to collect less than this amount of money. So my question was when we're dividing out the cost of that electricity, could the cost of this system be incorporated into that cost?"

Ms. Corder replied "That's not something that we have previously discussed but just to add to that we hope over time that this will even decrease the electrical cost that we're spending and that the sports associations may expend in the future. It also will increase staff efficiency because the system will be able to be monitored by entering a password into a computer rather than manual monitoring that we're doing now."

Councilmember Rushing stated "Okay, thank you."

Mayor Harper stated "Other questions or comments? We have the item read into the record, is there a motion?"

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, that this matter be adopted as RES-099-08. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - Mayor Harper, Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Rushing and Councilmember Jackson

Noes: 1 - Councilmember Kilgore

9K

Consider a resolution awarding the proposals for wrecker services to the following companies: Dallas Towboys Inc., Lindy Lott Wrecker Service, Inc., and Marion's Wrecker Service, Inc. and authorize the City Manager to execute agreements.

This Matter was adopted as RES-096-08 on the Consent Agenda.

- 9L Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a an agreement with North Texas Tollway Authority for the reimbursement of approximately thirty-one thousand eight hundred thirty dollars and no cents (\$31,830) for the relocation of fiber optic cables to avoid conflict with North Texas Tollway Authority expansion plans through the City of Rowlett on Main Street and Merritt Road.

This Matter was adopted as RES-097-08 on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Rushing, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Mayor Harper, Mayor Pro Tem Gottel, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Maggiotto, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Rushing, Councilmember Jackson and Councilmember Kilgore

10. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- 10A Conduct a second public hearing on the ad valorem tax rate for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Mayor Harper read the item into the record.

Mayor Harper stated "This evening we're going to conduct a second public hearing on the ad valorem tax rate for Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009 and what I would like to do is to open the public hearing at this time (8:13 p.m.) and invite anyone in the audience who wishes to speak for or against the ad valorem tax rate that has been published for next fiscal year. Please come forward. Is there anyone who wishes to speak for or against? Seeing no one, I'll close the public hearing (8:13 p.m.) and we do not have to act upon that this evening, just conduct a hearing. The vote on the tax rate will take place on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at Rowlett City Hall, City Council Chambers, 4000 Main Street in Rowlett.

- 10B Conduct a second public hearing on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Mayor Harper read the item into the record.

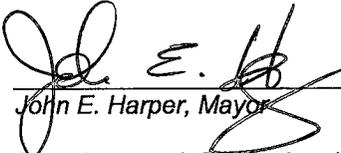
Mayor Harper stated "The Proposed Budget that we are conducting the public hearing on is the budget that was proposed by the City Manager and his Executive Team. So I will open the public hearing (8:14 p.m.) and offer the same opportunity. Is there anyone who wishes to speak for or against the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009? Seeing no one to come forward, we'll close the public hearing (8:14 p.m.)."

TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

No actions were taken during Executive Session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Harper adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.



John E. Harper, Mayor
Date Approved: September 16, 2008



Susie Quinn, City Secretary