

Minutes of Public Hearing held September 8, 2020

Public hearing with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez, Erik Dahler, Ruben Gonzalez, Laura Reyna; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate.

Visitors: Clay Binford, Frank Carrillo, Wayne Herl, Jesse Camarillo, Simon Garcia, Victor Gonzalez, Colleen Beazer, Emilie Weiffler, Bobby Roberts, Lupe Castro.

Mayor Bowen opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. and told everyone the purpose for the hearing was to discuss the proposed tax rates for 2020.

City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed the tax rates that were calculated for 2020. She explained the comparison between last year's tax rate and this year's rate and told everyone that even though the voter-approved tax rate of \$ 0.4154 is lower than last year's rate of \$ 0.4475, the O & M rate is 3.5% higher than last year as allowed by the legislature. The City Secretary told Council and the audience that since a bond was paid off this past year the I & S rate was lower by \$ 0.0410, which is why this year's rate is lower. She said if the I & S rate would have stayed the same this year's tax rate could have been \$0.4564.

The City Secretary and Council answered questions from the public about the tax rates that were calculated.

Mayor Bowen closed the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.