

Minutes of Budget Workshop held August 19, 2013

Budget workshop with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Kevin Keith, Ward Sanders, Ruble Farmer; Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Library Director Cassandra Cortez.

Visitors: Olga and Richard Sharer, Bryan Mask, Amado Zamara, Barrett House, Tom Cate.

Mayor Bowen opened the budget workshop at 7:22 p.m.

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the budgets she has prepared for the General Fund and utility funds all balanced. She told Council that she has used a tax rate of \$.34 as she and the Mayor had discussed and gave a handout showing what the taxpayers would pay on different taxable values. She told Council that for every \$10,000.00 of taxable value there is a difference of \$2.75 in last year's taxes and this year's proposed taxes.

The City Secretary told Council that all the proposed budgets include raises for all employees with department heads being raised as per Council's plans. Ms. Campa told Council that as per previous discussion, the library part-time employees salaries were also increased.

The City Secretary told Council that the budgets all included monies to be used for office technology improvements as per plans and goals for the second year. She said after discussion with the Director of Public Works, she had also put money in the budgets for a new Public Works Shop, since it will be next to a new Police facility and the old shop looks so bad.

The Secretary then reviewed the proposed budgets for the sewer, gas, and water department with Council.

The workshop was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.