

Minutes of Budget Workshop held August 24, 2015

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

Visitor: Derek Evans.

Mayor Bowen opened the budget workshop at 6:30 p.m.

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that because they have asked to use the tax rate of \$ 0.3650 in the 2015-2016 budget and this rate exceeds the effective tax rate, two public hearings will have to be held on the tax rate increase. She said these public hearings are scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup>. The City Secretary told Council that the public hearing on the budget would be held on September 14<sup>th</sup> and the earliest the tax rate can be adopted is September 17<sup>th</sup>. She told Council that since the 17<sup>th</sup> is a Thursday the vote on the tax increase will be taken at a special meeting on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

The City Secretary then reviewed the proposed general fund budget for the following departments: Revenues, Administration, Public Safety, Public Works and Culture & Recreation. She told Council she was able to work in all of the things the department heads had requested.

Workshop was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.