

AGENDA
CITY OF LIVE OAK
BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR CITY COUNCIL
WILL BE HELD IN THE LIVE OAK COUNCIL CHAMBERS
8001 SHIN OAK DRIVE
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020 AT 7:30 P.M. OR
FOLLOWING THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
VIDEO AND TELECONFERENCE MEETING

In accordance with order of the Office of the Governor issued **March 16 2020**, and all update therewith the City of Live Oak, City Council will conduct a Regular Meeting as a telephonic and videoconference meeting in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The public may participate in this meeting by dialing in to the following toll-free number:
1-888-788-0099 US Toll-free or 1-877-853-5247 US Toll-free (Toll-free)

Click link for videoconference participation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82250178109>

Meeting ID: 822 5017 8109

The public will be permitted to offer public comments telephonically or via video stream as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting.

Written questions or comments may be submitted up to two hours before the meeting to Debby Goza, City Secretary at dgoza@liveoaktx.net

A recording of the telephonic and video meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request.

Citizens to be Heard Portal is available on the front page of City Website:

<https://www.liveoaktx.net/>

Portal will be open for Citizen to be Heard remarks from 8 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. the day of the posted Meeting(s)

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. BUDGET WORKSHOP
 - A. Citizen Comment (5 minutes)
 - B. Presentation, discussion and direction of the 2020/2021 Draft Budget - Mr. Wayman and Mr. Kowalik
 - C. City Council Comments
4. ADJOURNMENT

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board of the City Hall, 8001 Shin Oak Drive, City of Live Oak, Texas, on July 8, 2020 by 5:00 P.M.


Deborah L. Goza
City Secretary

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretative services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's Office, for concerns or requests, at (210) 653-9140, Ext. 2213 or FAX (210) 653-2766

The City Council for the City of Live Oak reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Governmental Code §§ 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberation about Security Devices), and 551.086 (Economic Development), and any other provision under Texas law that permits a governmental body to discuss a matter in a closed executive session.

REQUEST ALL PAGERS AND PHONES BE TURNED OFF, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF EMERGENCY ON-CALL PERSONNEL

It is possible that a quorum of the Live Oak Economic Development Corporation, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustment Commission could attend this meeting. The individual member's will not engage in any discussion or deliberation on any matters presented by the agenda.

MINUTES
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mary M. Dennis called the July 14, 2020 Budget Workshop to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All City Council Members were present and on the Video and Teleconference Meeting

Mayor Mary M. Dennis (Remote)
Councilman Mendell D. Morgan Jr. (On-site & remote)
Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem Bob Tullgren (Remote)
Councilman Ramon Norris Jr. (Remote)
Councilman Ed Cimics (Remote)
Councilman Aaron Dahl (Remote)

Staff – All staff members unless cited were present at City Hall

Scott Wayman, City Manager
Michael Hornes, Assistant City Manager
Leroy Kowalik, Finance Director
Chief Dan Pue, Police Department
Chief Linc Surber, Fire Department
Mark Wagster, Director of PW

Clarissa Rodriguez, City Attorney (Remote)
Deborah Goza, City Secretary

3. BUDGET WORKSHOP

A. Citizen Comment (5 minutes)

None

B. Presentation, discussion and direction of the 2020/2021 Draft Budget - Mr. Wayman and Mr. Kowalik

Mr. Wayman provided a brief overview of this item, to include information from the June 30th Goals/Budget Workshop. It was determined during that meeting that the Park playground equipment (Barney) would not be replaced, the Dispatch project and Fire Department project would continue, along with the apron (between football field and concession area). Items for clarification:

- 1.5% Cost of Living for employees

Mr. Wayman asked for clear direction from Council concerning item. The Agenda would not allow for a vote, but Council could provide a consensus. (Please see City Council Comments for this item.)

- Bond election for streets

- It was determined that a Bond Election would not be approved. Street repair would be reviewed mid-year.

- Employee Health & Benefits

Mr. Kowalik, Finance Director provided an overview of this item. IPS/HUB had their first meeting with staff in April, and the initial renewal came in at 28%. During the last week of June, one large claim came in and this initially means a higher rate, and it has currently bumped to 38% for renewal. Staff is hoping that IPS/HUB will be able to negotiate with our current Provider. This ultimately, means that the city will need to review our currently plan and make minor “tweaks”.

C. City Council Comments

Councilman Morgan read a statement, as seen below: “I have gone over the budget and believe I have a grasp an understanding of what is proposed it is a budget which meets the Mayor's request for approximately the same as we have for the present year. I am pleased with the measures undertaken to reduce costs while keeping the city in a good operating position. The one expense I do object to is the proposed 1.5% COLA for City employees. Please do not misunderstand me: I appreciate and support our employees and I enthusiastically embraced the recent study of our jobs and compensation. I am glad we did it and certainly supported the raises it occasioned. However, this year, because it is unlike any we have ever experienced, I feel we should delay implementation of the COLA for at least six months. Surely in that time frame we will have a clearer notion of the economic future of our area. It may not represent a great deal of money in the whole scheme of things but I think it sends the wrong message to our residents – those who pay the bills through their real estate and sales taxes – to ask for City employee raises when the resident may have lost their job or be on furlough from their positions or facing other

economic difficulties. Many in our community are facing great uncertainty and difficulty in the face of the unknown. Because we offer a substantial benefit package – which again I heartily endorse – we are going to be increasing the money spent for the health insurance plan without a doubt. I know Leroy is working at this time to minimize what that figure will be, but I do not believe anyone thinks it will not be an increase. When the City employees see their total compensation including City expenses for all their benefits paid it may be a real eye-opener. I think they should be given an individual printout of what their total compensation package of salary plus benefits actually is. The typical employee anywhere may have not a clear idea of what the employer is actually paying to meet payroll with the benefits package offered. The Live Oak City employees will be getting this “raise” automatically in terms of insurance premiums. Therefore, I think in sensitivity to those that pay the taxes which fund our city, we need to defer an automatic COLA as though this were any other ordinary year. This is not an ordinary year and it is far from over. I think deferring this is better than having to later eliminate positions, leave jobs unfilled, furlough and take other steps should the economy not recover as we would all hope it would – just think of what has happened in our world since we had these deliberations one year ago! Who could have imagined the situation the world is in now. Therefore, I do support the overall budget but respectfully ask that we defer implementation of the COLA for at least six months. (Councilman Cimics also reminded us in his comments that all eligible employees will be receiving a step increase as well as longevity pay in addition to the COLA so raises will be given many employees regardless).”

Councilman Tullgren stated that he had gone through budget and he supported the 1.5% COLO, and would not have to “tap” into reserves.

Councilman Norris stated that this was his first budget process, and he had not control over the employee health benefits, but he did support Councilman Morgan’s suggestion.

Councilman Cimics states all eligible employees will be receiving a step increase as well as longevity pay in addition to the COLA so raises will be given many employees regardless; a lower 1% COLO would be considered.

Councilman Dahl supported the compensation survey when it was completed and supported the 1.5% COLO.

Mayor Dennis supported the proposed budget and supported the 1.5% COLO.

Mr. Wayman asked if Council could provide direction regarding this item and this would allow Mr. Kowalik to move forward with the budget process.

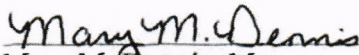
There was a consensus of City Council to leave proposed budget, to include the 1.5% COLO

Consensus: Councilmember Morgan, Norris, Cimics, Tullgren and Dahl – 5/0

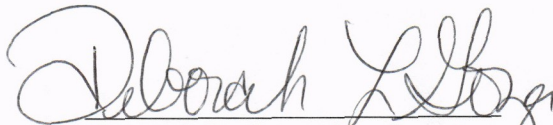
4. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Councilman Cimics made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Dahl at 8:01 p.m.

APPROVED:


Mary M. Dennis, Mayor

ATTEST:


Deborah L. Goza, City Secretary