

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Kyle, Texas met in Special Session on July 31, 2021, and due to COVID-19, some members attended virtually (v) at <https://kyletx.new.swagit.com/videos/129983>; Spectrum 10 with the following persons present:

Mayor Travis Mitchell
Mayor Pro Tem Rick Koch
Council Member Dex Ellison
Council Member Yvonne Flores-Cale
Council Member Robert Rizo (v)
Council Member Ashlee Bradshaw
Council Member Michael Tobias
Scott Sellers, City Manager
James Earp, Assistant City Manager
Jerry Hendrix, Chief of Staff
Samantha Armbruster, Communications Dir.
Jennifer Holm, City Secretary
Leon Barba, City Engineer
Diana Torres, Economic Dev Director
Perwez Moheet, Finance Director
Andy Alejandro, Accounting Manager
Connie Campa, Staff Accountant
Sandra Duran, HR Director (v)
Matt Dawson, IT Director
Paul Phelan, Library Director
Mariana Espinoza, PARD Director
Howard Koontz, Community Dev Director
Gary Stubbins, Building Official
Tim Cropley, Facilities Division Manager
Chance Padier, Environmental Svc. & Trades Div. Mgr.
Jeff Barnett, Chief of Police
Briana Brecher, Animal Control Officer
Hannah-Bea Bickford, NIBRS Compliance Coordinator
Harper Wilder, Director of Public Works
Julie Crookston, Assistant Director of Public Works

I. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. Mayor Mitchell asked the city secretary to call roll.

Present were: Mayor Mitchell, Mayor Pro Tem Koch, Council Member Ellison, Council Member Flores-Cale, Council Member Rizo, Council Member Bradshaw, and Council Member Tobias. A quorum was present.

II. Citizen Comment Period with City Council

Mayor Mitchell opened citizen comments at 8:08 a.m. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Mitchell closed citizen comments at 8:08 a.m.

III. Consider and Possible Action

1. Presentation and discussion on the City Manager's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 totaling approximately \$172.1 million for all City Funds including proposed ad valorem tax rate, a 6.0% increase in water service rates, no increase in wastewater services rates, no increase in storm drainage fees, a 2.51% increase in solid waste service (trash collection) charges per contract terms with Texas Disposal Systems (TDS), no increases in other fees and charges, and the addition of 19.0 new positions for a total of 300.0 full-time equivalent positions. ~ *J. Scott Sellers, City Manager*

Mayor Mitchell brought forward Item No. 1 for discussion. Mr. Sellers presented changes made to the proposed budget since the last budget worksession on June 26, 2021. Following, City Council was provided an opportunity to discuss their priorities for budget development. Mayor Pro Tem Koch brought forward a second assistant city manager. Council Member Ellison brought forward the Senior Center. Discussion took place about new parks and trails leads positions. Ms. Torres presented regarding Catalyst Commercial. Council Member Ellison spoke about Proposition F, the Oversight Committee for the Police Department. Council Member Tobias brought forward discussion about new positions for the Police Department. Chief Barnett discussed the hiring of new officers and current sworn employed. Mayor Mitchell spoke about the City's balanced budget and the paths to prioritizing funding. Discussion took place about the proposed lobbyist. Mayor Pro Tem Koch brought forward adding funding to the Citizens on Patrol program. Mr. Sellers asked about Council consensus and Mayor Mitchell stated that Council action would need to be taken in order to affirm the Council's direction. Council Member Ellison brought forward whether Council wants to add a deputy or assistant city manager position. Council Member Flores-Cale asked about the difference in salaries between these two positions. Mr. Sellers stated he will bring back salary information at Budget Worksession #4.

Mayor Mitchell moved to direct the city manager to amend the proposed budget as outlined on the screen above by a total of \$438,386 in new additions as follows: addition of a Deputy City Manager or an Assistant City Manager position in the Office of the City Manager (\$250,348); addition of two (2) Police Patrol Officer positions in the Police Department (\$171,190); and addition of one (1) leased police pursuit vehicle in the Police Department (\$16,848). Council Member Ellison seconded the motion. All votes aye; motion carried 7-0.

Council Member Ellison moved to amend the proposed budget to increase the City's cash contribution proposed for the Senior Activity Center from \$100,000 to \$200,000 in the CIP budget. Council Member Tobias seconded the motion.

There was discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Koch requested confirmation that in the previous motion, Mayor Mitchell added the two police officers that are coming from within that revenue. Mayor Mitchell affirmed. Mayor Pro Tem Koch stated he would like to amend this motion to add a line item for funding for the Citizens on Patrol program. Mayor Mitchell stated that there isn't a dollar amount for that yet. Council proceeded with a vote on this item.

All votes aye; motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Koch moved to amend the proposed budget to create a separate line item in the Police department to provide \$15,000 in funding for the Citizens on Patrol program. Council Member Rizo seconded the motion.

There was discussion on the motion. Mayor Mitchell stated that he is assuming that dollar amount came from the Chief. Mayor Pro Tem Koch affirmed. Council Member Ellison asked whether this funding would come from additional City revenues within the department, cost savings within the department. Chief Barnett affirmed. Council Member Ellison stated he does not know where we're finding this. Council Member Flores-Cale stated she would like to see a break down on that. Chief Barnett stated that if they are reallocating existing funds from an existing line item to an identified line item that will be tough. He stated that early he was suggesting a no cost or low-cost program with them sharing a vehicle, but he feels like there is a commitment from Council to do more than what he was saying earlier to get them a rental vehicle and more equipment for their use. He was going to do a minimal program with the best that he has, but he is hearing that Council wants to do bigger and better than that. Mayor Pro Tem Koch stated that he would like Chief's best estimate and he will amend the motion to that amount to achieve Gold Standard. Council Member Ellison interjected that he is supportive of this program but is interested in seeing proposals on what the Chief would do to see it tangibly. Chief Barnett provided a breakdown of funding for six-to-eight-member program with uniforms, and training to attend an annual conference, and said they can do that with \$4,000.00. He continued that the large expense comes from adding a leased vehicle, which is \$11,000. He said the current vehicle was retired from another department and is past its lifespan. Discussion took place about the vehicle lease truck options or a four-door sedan car, whichever is most cost effective. Mayor Mitchell stated that \$15,000 is not that much and he feels like those funds can be found if the Council wants to see the COP program expand. Council Member Ellison stated that he wanted to clarify between the one way that can be found and the other way that cannot. Mayor Mitchell stated that Council will make a way. Council Member Flores-Cale suggested the lobbyist.

All votes aye; motion carried 7-0.

2. Consider a Resolution to record City Council's vote to place a proposal on the agenda of a future City Council meeting as an action item to adopt an ad valorem tax rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for the City of Kyle; making findings of fact; and providing for related matters.
~ *J. Scott Sellers, City Manager*

Mayor Mitchell brought forward Item No. 2 for discussion. Mr. Moheet presented this item and provided tax rate estimations.

Mayor Mitchell moved to approve consideration of a tax rate that exceeds the new revenue tax rate but that does not exceed the rollback tax rate. Council Member Flores-Cale seconded the motion.

Mayor Mitchell requested a roll call vote. Mayor Pro Tem Koch voted aye; Council Member Ellison voted aye; Council Member Bradshaw voted aye; Mayor Mitchell voted aye; Council Member Flores-Cale voted aye; Council Member Rizo voted aye; and Council Member Tobias voted aye. All votes aye; motion carried 7-0.

IV. Executive Session

3. Pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the City Council reserves the right to convene into Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting. The City Council may convene into Executive Session pursuant to any lawful exception contained in Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code including any or all of the following topics.
 1. Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071.
 2. Possible purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate pursuant to Section 551.072.
 3. Personnel matters pursuant to Section 551.074.
 4. Convene into executive session pursuant to Section 551.087, Texas Government Code, to deliberate regarding the offer of economic incentives to one or more business prospects that the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City.

There was no executive session.


4. Take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

V. Adjourn

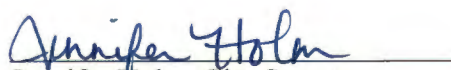
Before adjournment, Council Member Ellison asked about lobbyist expenses and Christmas funding status. Discussion took place amongst Council Member Ellison, Mr. Moheet, Ms. Espinoza, Mr. Hendrix, and Mayor Mitchell regarding rollover and how funding works across the fiscal year calendar. Council Member Flores-Cale asked that whatever is sent to one council member be sent to all, and she would like printouts for the next council meeting.

Mayor Mitchell moved to adjourn. Council Member Flores-Cale seconded the motion. No vote was held.

With no further business to discuss, the City Council adjourned at 10:51 a.m.


Travis Mitchell, Mayor

Attest:


Jennifer Holm, City Secretary