

## SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Kyle, Texas met in Special Session on June 25, 2022 at Kyle City Hall with the following persons present:

Mayor Travis Mitchell	Karis Crain
Mayor Pro Tem Robert Rizo	Lila Knight
Council Member Dex Ellison	Susan Reyna
Council Member Yvonne Flores-Cale	Kay Rush
Council Member Bradshaw*	
Council Member Daniela Parsley	
Council Member Michael Tobias	
Jerry Hendrix, Acting City Manager	
James Earp, Assistant City Manager	
Amber Lewis, Assistant City Manager	
Paige Saenz, City Attorney	
Emily Hughes, Assistant City Secretary	
Rachel Sonnier, Interim Communications Dir.	
Perwez Moheet, Finance Director	
Marco Forti, Systems Administrator	

### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Mitchell asked the city secretary to call roll.

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

### **II. Citizen Comment Period with City Council**

Mayor Mitchell opened citizen comments at 8:02 a.m.

Lila Knight was called to speak as registered regarding the homestead exemption. She thanked Council for considering the exemption and expressed her confidence that one would be passed and encouraged Council to think big in their deliberations on how large it should be.

Susan Reyna was called to speak as registered regarding the homestead exemption. She stated she is confident it will be passed and thinks now is the best time to pass such a measure because of increased valuations. She also stated companies are incentivized to come to Kyle for the benefit of the community, and she thinks residents should also be incentivized to become long-term residents and to stay and contribute to the community as well.

Kay Rush was called to speak as registered regarding the homestead exemption. She expressed her desire for Council to consider increasing the amount of the exemption for people 65 years of age and older and for the disabled. She asked Council to also consider an exemption for the general citizenry of the City. She stated property owners are the people who pay the burden for the services the City can offer. She also stated that land values have increased over the last 2 years, but the

\*One or more members of the governing body may participate in the meeting by videoconference pursuant to Section 551.127, Texas Government Code, provided that a quorum of the governing body will be present at Kyle City Hall.

current homestead exemption of \$30,000 for seniors and the disabled was the same 16 years ago. Seniors should not have to sell their homes because they can't pay for the upkeep or their taxes.

Karis Crain was called to speak as registered regarding the homestead exemption. She stated she currently receives a disabled exemption from the County and wanted to know if the City also had an exemption. She stated she would like there to be an increase in the exemption for the elderly and to include the disabled, as well as giving a general homestead exemption for existing homeowners.

With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Mitchell closed citizen comments at 8:07 a.m.

### **III. Consider and Possible Action**

1. *(First Reading)* An ordinance of the City of Kyle, Texas Adopting a Residential Homestead Exemption from ad valorem Taxes; Providing for Severability; Providing for Open Meetings and Effective Date Clauses; and Providing for Related Matters. ~ *J. Scott Sellers, City Manager*

Mr. Hendrix and Mr. Moheet presented the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Rizo made a motion to add a general residential homestead exemption in the amount of \$15,000, with a \$30,000 exemption for the disabled and work off the 75% chart. Mayor Mitchell seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Rizo withdrew his motion.

Council Member Parsley moved to approve a general homestead exemption in the amount of \$40,000 and increase the 65 and over homestead exemption from \$30,000 to \$50,000 and include disabled and veterans. Member Flores-Cale seconded the motion. Council Member Parsley withdrew her motion. Council Member Flores-Cale withdrew her second.

Council Member Flores-Cale moved to approve a homestead exemption of \$40,000. Council Member Parsley seconded the motion.

Council Member Flores-Cale moved to amend her motion to include an additional \$10,000 exemption for disabled and veterans.

Mayor Mitchell requested a roll call vote on the motion to amend.

Council Member Flores-Cale voted aye; Mayor Mitchell voted aye; Mayor Pro Tem Rizo voted aye; Council Member Ellison voted aye; Council Member Tobias voted aye; Council Member Parsley voted aye. Motion carried 6-0. Council Member Bradshaw was absent for the vote. The time at which she left the meeting is unknown.

Council Member Tobias moved to amend the motion by Council Member Flores-Cale to add direction to staff to bring this back annually with the budget season. Council Member Flores-Cale seconded the motion.

Council Member Tobias moved to include a current analysis of the homestead taxes during the first budget workshop annually. Council Member Parsley seconded the motion.

Mayor Mitchell suggested Council withdraw all active motions. All of Council was in agreement.

Mayor Mitchell called a five-minute recess at 9:32 a.m.



The meeting reconvened at 9:37 a.m. Council Member Bradshaw returned virtually.

Mayor Mitchell moved to approve a general residential homestead exemption in the amount of \$40,000, and to restate the 65 and over homestead exemption to \$10,000 and add disabled and veterans to that category and make it so that no homestead can receive more than 20% of (the assessed value) their exemption on any tax bill. Mayor Pro Tem Rizo seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Mitchell asked if there were any objections to the Ordinance being finally passed. There were none.

2. Consider setting a date for a special meeting for second reading of Residential Homestead Exemption Ordinance. ~ *J. Scott Sellers, City Manager*

No action was taken.

#### **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.

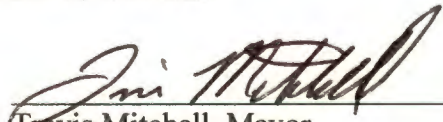
There was no executive session.

4. Take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

#### **V. Adjourn**

Mayor Mitchell moved to adjourn. Council Member Tobias seconded the motion. No vote was held.

With no further business to discuss, the City Council adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

  
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Travis Mitchell, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Jennifer Holm, City Secretary