



Amarillo City Council Special Meeting

September 17, 2024

3:00 PM

City Hall - Council Chamber

601 S. Buchanan Street, 3rd Floor

Amarillo, Texas 79101

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

On September 17, 2024 the Amarillo City Council met at 3:00 PM for a Special Meeting held in Council Chamber, located on the third floor of City Hall at 601 South Buchanan Street, with the following members present:

Mayor Cole Stanley

Councilmember, Place 1 Josh Craft

Councilmember, Place 2 Don Tipps

Councilmember, Place 3 Tom Scherlen

Absent was Councilmember, Place 4 Les Simpson.

Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

Grayson Path, City Manager

Andrew Freeman, Deputy City Manager

Rich Gagnon, Assistant City Manager and CIO

Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO

Floyd Hartman, Assistant City Manager

Bryan McWilliams, City Attorney

Stephanie Coggins, City Secretary

Mayor Stanley established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

2. **Public Comment** The public will be permitted to offer public comment on agenda items and items related to City business. Citizens interested in commenting may sign up online at <https://www.amarillo.gov/departments/city-manager/city-secretary/public-address-registration-form>, by calling the City Secretary's office at (806) 378-3014, or in person in Room 303 of City Hall, 601 S. Buchanan. Citizens should sign up at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled meeting start time.

Mayor Stanley opened public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Allen Finegold, of Amarillo Citizen

James Allen, of Amarillo Citizen

Mayor Stanley closed public comment.

3. Agenda Items

3.A. PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 BUDGET:

This Budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by \$3,654,631 which is a 5.43% increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$1,279,505.

(Contact: Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Ms. Storrs presented the item. Mayor Stanley opened a public hearing. James Schenck, of Amarillo, spoke in favor of the item. Mayor Stanley closed the public hearing.

**3.B. PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE:
THE CITY OF AMARILLO IS CONSIDERING A TAX RATE OF \$0.38723,
WHICH IS GREATER THAN THE CURRENT RATE.**

**THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX
RATE. THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 5.63
PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE
AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY
APPROXIMATELY \$4.23.**

(Contact: Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Ms. Storrs presented the item. Mayor Stanley opened a public hearing. No one presented to speak. Mayor Stanley closed the public hearing.

**3.C. CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 8152 ADOPTING THE CITY OF
AMARILLO BUDGET FOR THE 2024/2025 FISCAL YEAR**

This is the second reading of an ordinance adopting the City of Amarillo budget for the 2024/2025 fiscal year. This budget allows for the City to continue providing effective public services, programs and assistance to Amarillo residents in the upcoming year.

(Contact: Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Ms. Storrs presented the item.

ACTION: Motion for adoption of Ordinance Number 8152 Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025 for the City of Amarillo by Josh Craft, second by Don Tipps;
Motion passed with a 4:0 vote.

AYES: Cole Stanley, Josh Craft, Don Tipps, Tom Scherlen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Les Simpson

3.D. CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 8153 APPROVING THE CITY OF AMARILLO TAX ROLL, SETTING AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX RATE AND LEVYING A TAX ON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION WITHIN THE CITY FOR THE 2024 TAX YEAR:

This is the second reading of an ordinance approving the City of Amarillo tax roll, setting an ad valorem property tax rate and levying a tax on all property subject to taxation within the City for the 2024 tax year. This ordinance establishes an ad valorem tax rate of \$0.31867 per \$100.00 property valuation for City maintenance and operations expenses and \$0.06856 per \$100.00 property valuation for existing debt expenses resulting in a total ad valorem rate of \$0.38723 per \$100.00 property valuation.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE. THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 5.63 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$4.23.

(Contact: Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Ms. Storrs presented the item. A roll call vote was taken for this item.

ACTION: Motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.38723, which is effectively a 5.63 percent increase in the tax rate by Josh Craft, second by Don Tipps;

Motion passed with a 4:0 vote.
AYES: Cole Stanley, Josh Craft, Don Tipps, Tom Scherlen
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Les Simpson

3.E. RATIFICATION – CITY OF AMARILLO TAX RATE AND BUDGET:

Pursuant to the terms of Tex. Loc. Gov. Code, Sec. 102.007(c), the City Council is required to take a separate ratification vote on the tax rate when the adopted budget requires more property tax revenue than did the previous year's budget.

(Contact: Laura Storrs, Assistant City Manager and CFO)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Ms. Storrs presented the item.

ACTION: Motion to ratify the Budget and Tax Rate, as adopted for Fiscal Year 2024-25, recognizing such budget will require more revenue from property taxes than did the budget adopted last year by Josh Craft, second by Don Tipps;
Motion passed with a 4:0 vote.

AYES: Cole Stanley, Josh Craft, Don Tipps, Tom Scherlen
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Les Simpson

3.F. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-24-1

This item considers a resolution ratifying the Meet and Confer Agreement with the Amarillo Police Officers Association; providing for an effective date. (Contact: Andrew Freeman, Deputy City Manager and Public Safety Director)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Mr. Freeman presented the item, and Sergeant Toby Hudson, APOA President, shared remarks.

ACTION: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 09-17-24-1 by Josh Craft, second by Don Tipps;
Motion passed with a 4:0 vote.

AYES: Cole Stanley, Josh Craft, Don Tipps, Tom Scherlen
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
absent: Les Simpson

3.G. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-17-24-2

This item considers a resolution ratifying the Meet and Confer Agreement with the Amarillo Professional Fire Fighters Association and providing for an effective date. (Contact: Andrew Freeman, Deputy City Manager and Public Safety Director)

Mayor Stanley introduced the item. Mr. Freeman presented the item, and Todd Peden, Association President, made remarks.

ACTION: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 09-17-24-2 by Josh Craft, second by Don Tipps;

Motion passed with a 4:0 vote.

AYES: Cole Stanley, Josh Craft, Don Tipps, Tom Scherlen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Les Simpson

4. Adjourn

Mayor Stanley adjourned the Regular Meeting at 3:54 PM.

ATTEST:

/s/ Stephanie Coggins
Stephanie Coggins, City Secretary

/s/ Cole Stanley
Cole Stanley, Mayor