

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 25TH DAY of JULY, 2019, Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, met at a special meeting with the following present:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| KP GEORGE | COUNTY JUDGE |
| VINCENT MORALES | COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1 |
| ANDY MEYERS | COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3 |
| LAURA RICHARD | COUNTY CLERK |

Commissioner Prestage and Commissioner DeMerchant were absent.
When the following were heard and the following orders were passed:

1. Call to Order.

Call to Order by Judge KP George at 9:00 a.m.

2. Conduct Budget Workshops, including Capital Improvement Projects.

Pamela Gubbels, Director of Finance and Investments, reviewed the FY 2020 Budget. The total budget request was \$423,001,388 and the total recommended budget is \$389,894,592, which is a 4.38% increase over the FY2019 Budget. This amount with a COLA placeholder of \$6,000,000 is approximately a 6% budget increase from the previous year and brings the total recommended budget to \$395,922,018. This year there is \$7,000,000 for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). This amount was not budgeted in the past. Last year the cost for OPEB was \$1,500,000. Ms. Gubbels indicated the tax rate has been reduced to \$.46. The General fund balance is approximately 19.7% and goes along with the Auditor's recommendation of increasing the fund balance policy up to 20% - 30%. Currently, the budget does not include debt service for any new bonds or new debt. There were 140 requested positions and 47 are recommended for a total of \$4,094,896, which is included in this budget. There is \$3,537,266 included in the recommended budget for CIP. If projects are financed instead, this amount could come out of the budget.

Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor stated in order to raise the bond rating, a favorable target for the Fund Balance is between \$100,000,000 and \$120,000,000. Currently, the Fund Balance total is \$56,000,000. Mr. Sturdivant indicated he is working towards fully funding the OPEB liability.

Item 2 continued - Conduct Budget Workshops:

The following departments discussed their budgets:

- Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2
- 268th District Court/240th District Court
- CCL 4 (Magistration)
- District Clerk
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Behavioral Health
- EMS
- Clinical Health Services/Immunization
- Social Services
- Medical Examiner
- Information Technology
- Constable, Precinct 1
- Constable, Precinct 4
- Engineering
- Non-Departmental

Recess:

11:46 AM

Reconvene:

1:01 PM

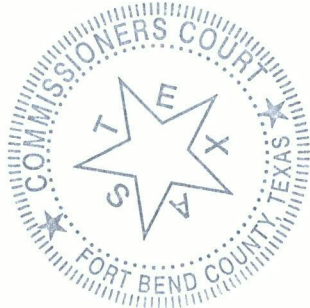
Ms. Gubbels stated the certified values came in and are at a 6 1/2% increase over last year's values. The General fund balance will increase to 21%. The Drainage tax rate of \$.019 will be reduced to \$.0135 and will continue to reduce over five years.

The CIP Projects were reviewed to determine if these projects are to remain on the Referendum.

Ms. Gubbels indicated a placeholder of \$6,000,000 was put in the budget for a cost of living increase. This is a 1% salary structure increase, plus a 1 step increase, which is a 3.35% salary increase.

3. Adjournment.

The Special Meeting/Budget Workshop adjourned at 2:41 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, 2019.



I attest to the accuracy of the foregoing minutes.

Laura Richard

Laura Richard, County Clerk, Fort Bend County, Texas