

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS COURT
FORT BEND COUNTY**

I, Laura Richard, duly elected County Clerk and Clerk of Court, Fort Bend County, Texas do hereby submit the Official Minutes of Commissioners Court held on the 27th day of July, 2023. (Special Meeting – Budget Workshop)



LAURA RICHARD, COUNTY CLERK

Now, therefore, be it resolved upon the motion of Commissioner Meyers seconded by Commissioner Morales, duly put and carried, it is ordered to accept as presented for record the attached minutes approved on this the 8th day of August, 2023.


County Judge KP George

KP GEORGE, COUNTY JUDGE

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 27TH DAY of JULY, 2023, Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, met at a special budget meeting with the following present:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| KP GEORGE | COUNTY JUDGE |
| VINCENT MORALES | COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1 |
| ANDY MEYERS | COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3 |
| DEXTER L. MCCOY | COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4 |
| LAURA RICHARD | COUNTY CLERK |

Commissioner Prestage absent.

When the following were heard and the following orders were passed:

1. **Call to Order.**
Call to Order by Judge KP George at 9:02 a.m.
2. **Conduct Budget Workshops, including Capital Improvement Projects.**

Pamela Gubbels Director of Finance and Investments reviewed the FY2024 Budget. The total recommended budget is \$650.8 million, which is a 30% increase over FY2023 Adopted Budget. The General Fund increased by 12% (\$43 million) over FY2023 Adopted Budget which includes \$14 million in new positions and a \$11.4 million placeholder for salary adjustments. The debt service increased by \$22 million. The Employee benefits are being budgeted in Revenues which shows an increase of \$80 million. This is a new way of budgeting the transfer for Employee Benefits.

The 2023 Certified Taxable Value is \$111.9 billion or a 14.32% increase over last year's values of \$97 billion. The dollar increase is \$14 billion and new improvements value is \$3.7 billion.

The 2023 Tax Summary - General Fund No New Revenue Rate (NNR) is \$0.407124, Voter Approval Rate (VAR) is \$0.438740 and the proposed rate is \$0.438500. These rates are under the VAR rate and no election will have to be held.

The 2024 Finance Summary shows the Interest and Sinking Fund increased from \$0.09 to \$0.104 per \$100 valuation. In order to meet the VAR, the General Fund tax rate was reduced by 1 cent, which leaves the ending balance at 28.6%. Our budget policy states we will keep the ending balance at 30%. In order to meet the 30%, the general fund budget will need to be reduced by \$5 million.

Included in the FY2024 recommended budget is:

145 recommended positions (\$14.5 million), with 51 new positions, 79 ARPA positions and 15 Grant positions

The new vehicles are in debt service and will be financed. There are 117 replacements and 35 additional vehicles.

The following departments requested further review:

Behavioral Health
Constable Precinct 2
Constable Precinct 3
Constable Precinct 4
Justice of the Peace 2 - 2

Recess: 10:28 a.m.
Reconvene: 10:40 a.m.

Tax Assessor
Sheriff Enforcement
District Attorney
County Attorney
Treasurer
Human Resources

Recess: 11:59 a.m.
Reconvene: 1:01 p.m.

Justice of the Peace 3
Medical Examiner
Engineering
458th District Court
240th District Court
Public Defender
Information Technology

Recess: 2:12 p.m.
Reconvene: 2:25 p.m.

EMS
Clinical Health
Animal Services
Community Development

Employee COLA - A 4% COLA is recommended for employees hired before July 1, 2023. The employees hired after July 1, 2023 will keep the salaries when hired. The rest of the employees would receive a 4% increase including part-time employees. The minimum for part-time employees is now \$15. There is \$11.4 million included in the proposed budget set aside for salary adjustments. This amount also includes a 2% salary structure adjustment for employees who were hired after July 1 at the minimum salary.

Several Capital Improvement Projects were discussed.

3. Adjournment.

The Special Meeting / Budget Workshop adjourned at 3:46 p.m. Thursday, July 27, 2023.

Moved by Commissioner Meyers,
to adjourn.

July 27, 2023



I attest to the accuracy of the foregoing minutes.

Laura Richard, County Clerk, Fort Bend County, Texas