

## 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