

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE CITY OF LAMPASAS, TEXAS
CALVERT MUNICIPAL BUILDING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
302 E THIRD STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023
5:30 p.m. Workshop Session
6:00 p.m. Regular Session**

(regular session will begin immediately following workshop and may be called to order prior to 6:00 pm)

The City Council of the City of Lampasas met in Regular Session on the above date and time with Mayor Pearce presiding.

Council Members Present:

Zachary Morris
Chuck Williamson
Charlie Pratus
Eric Hernandez
Davis Keele
Cathy Kuehne

City Staff Present:

Finley deGraffenried, City Manager
Becky Sims, City Secretary
Ryan Ward, ACM
Yvonne Moreno, Finance Director
Jeff Smith, Fire Chief
Jody Cummings, Police Chief
Vicki Tower, Parks Secretary

Council Members Absent:

N/A

SPECIAL SESSION

5:30 p.m.

I. Call to order Public Hearing

Mayor Pearce opened the public hearing at 5:30.

- II. Public Hearing concerning the Proposed Tax Rate upon all property subject to taxation within the City of Lampasas, Texas for the 2023 tax year for the use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of Lampasas for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024; Apportioning said levy among the various funds and items for which revenue must be raised including providing a sinking fund for the retirement of the bonded debt of the City, and establishing an effective date.**

There were no citizen comments

Mayor Pearce advised per state requirements, the governing body will meet to vote on the proposed tax rate on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chamber located at 302 E Third Street.

III. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of additional services agreement with Relance Architecture for the revised construction documents and full construction phase services for the Hostess House.

Mr. deGraffenried advised the services agreement reflects a 15% reduction, the agreement does include Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR) accessibility permitting, and structural services. The remaining current contract balance, including the additional services agreement is \$69,407.50. The previous bid estimates from contractors were used to determine pricing for new project scope. With the new scope, the estimated project savings from previous bids is \$400,000 to \$500,000. With the understanding that the division prices presented on the original bids left some unknowns, as well as, current material and labor costs will be factors with the new bid process. At a previous Council Meeting, Mr. Naylor did provide a floor plan option for Council consideration, if the bids come in higher than anticipated.

Council member Pratus moved to direct staff to negotiate additional services agreement with Relance Architecture for the revised construction documents and full construction phase services for the Hostess House

in an amount not to exceed \$32,400.00, the motion was seconded by Council member Kuehne and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

IV. Discussion and possible action regarding funding for the Hill Country Transit District for FY 23/24 for services provided to Lampasas County Residents.

Mrs. Sims advised for 2022, a total of 187 Lampasas County residents rode the HOP bus. Those riders made a total of 6,452 trips. This equates to a little over 30 rides per person. Individuals who ride the HOP typically do not have access to a motor vehicle and use this mode of transportation to get to work, DR appts, grocery store and to run routine errands. Also, the HOP is available for children who live within 2 miles and are not eligible for school bus services. They provide rides to and from public school and for students attending the head start program.

Hill Country Transit District has reached out to all counties that they service to assist with the funding deficit. In September 2022 the HOP suspended all fees in hopes that the ridership would increase. The HOP will be extending the Fare Free initiative until the board decides to reinstate the fare as it was or increase rates. Currently for trips within City limits the fare is \$1.00, outside of City limits it is charged based on mileage.

For 2023, the rider numbers were not available. During the first three quarters the total number of trips was 7,005; which is already more than 2022. The largest population of riders that showed a significant increase was due to trips to public school, head start and the senior center. The number of educational trips has more than doubled, the same with the nutrition which is taking seniors to the Senior Center for meals. The Medical & Medicaid columns are for DR appointments and pharmacy trips, this number is pretty much the same. Lampasas has three vehicles that service Lampasas County. They are moving to a Micro Transit and Commuter Service; which they are hopeful will increase efficiencies and ridership.

Council member Pratus inquired about LISD funding. Mrs. Sims advised that they provide public school transportation and might not be able to support a secondary transportation option. Council member Hernandez inquired if the County has funded this program before. Mrs. Sims advised that this is the first year that Lampasas County has been asked to assist due to the deficit they are experiencing with lack of funding resources.

Council member Keele moved to approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$34,000.00 to support the Hill Country Transit District for FY 23/24 for services provided to Lampasas County Residents, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

V. Adjourn - Mayor Pro Tem Morris moved to adjourn at 5:54 p.m., the motion was seconded by Council member Keele and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Herb Pearce, Mayor

ATTEST

Becky Sims, City Secretary