

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF SOUR LAKE**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sour Lake, Hardin County, Texas, noticed for September 19, 2023, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. at Sour Lake City Hall Annex 615 Hwy 105 W., Sour Lake, Hardin County, Texas was called to order at 6:00 o'clock P.M. being called by Mayor Bruce Robinson, pursuant to notice duly posted according to law. Almost immediately thereafter, at approximately 6:01 P.M. pursuant to notice duly posted according to law, a Public Hearing concerning the proposed Tax Rate for \$0.401584 per \$100.00 valuation for FY 2023 and the proposed FY2024 Budget was called by Mayor Bruce Robinson with the following members of the city Council present or absent as so indicated:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
BRUCE ROBINSON	- MAYOR	X	
G. SHANNON MCDONALD	- ALDERMAN		X
CONNIE MURPHY	- MAYOR PRO-TEM	X	
REBECCA GARDINER	- ALDERWOMAN	X	
KEVIN CUDD	-ALDERMAN	X	
MICHAEL HENDRIX	-ALDERMAN	X	

Also present or absent were the following officers and individuals of the City of Sour Lake:

The City Manager, Jack Provost	-	Present
The City Secretary, Debra Morgan	-	Present
The Police Chief Aaron Burleson	-	Absent
City Attorney, Alex Stelly	-	Present
for Sour Lake		
Public Works Department (Joey Keel)		Absent
Jeff Leavens with LEAD Eng.	-	Present
MaryAnn Boyd, Library Director	-	Present

Suzanne Kibodeaux of the Chamber of Commerce and approximately 9 guests were also present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation the Mayor then directed the City Council's attention to Agenda Item No. 1 for approval of Regular Minutes of August 15, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023. Following a review of the Meeting Minutes of August 15 and August 22, 2023, a motion was made by

Alderman Gardiner to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Alderman Cudd and approved by the following vote of Council:

FOR	-	4
AGAINST	-	0

The Mayor then directed the City Council's attention to Agenda Item No. 2 for Discussion and Action to approve the Accounts Payable for the month of September 2023. Following a review of Accounts Payable for the month of September 2023, a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy to approve the payment of Accounts Payable as presented for the month of September 2023. The motion was seconded by Alderman Cudd and approved by the following majority vote of Council:

FOR	-	4
AGAINST	-	0

The Council thereafter considered Agenda Item No. 3 for "Citizen Comments. Any citizen comments to the Council could not be discussed or acted upon; however, such comments by any citizen or individual are considered for information purposes only. Janis Holt informed the Council and public she was a candidate for Texas State Representative District 18. Mr. Theriot and Mr. Collins spoke on salary raises, and other issues, within the City.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 4 requesting the City Manager to provide the Financial Report of the City of Sour Lake for the Month of September 2023 to Council. Following the presentation to and discussion by Council, no action was requested of Council, and none taken. The Agenda Item No. 4 was provided to the Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 5 for the City Manager's Report, the City Manager informed the Mayor and Council that he had spoken with Dr. Wesolow's Brother's Attorney and informed City Manager that the Judge would sign off on the Estate soon and there were two buyers interested in property. Brother and buyer know that the property must be torn down due to the it's condition. Getting prices on Fire Alarms, Working on Public Hearings for dilapidated property. He will keep the city informed of any changes. This was for information purposes only.

The Mayor next directed the Council's attention to Agenda Item No. 6 concerning the Police Department report with Sergeant Tiner reporting to council on monthly activity. No action was requested nor taken by the council with the report being provided to Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 7 concerning the Public Works Department with Mr. Joseph Keel. Mr. Keel was not present at this meeting but presented a written report (attached) to all members on activity for the month of September. This was for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 8, Engineering Projects. Mr. Jeff Levins with LEAD Engineering informed the City Council that September 25 Test Well will begin, Sewer Project completed waiting on final punch list, Road Rehab plans completed will be going out for bids soon and possible drainage improvements. The report was provided to Council for information purposes only.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 9 for the Library Report. Librarian Mary Ann Boyd reported Story Time beginning and new patrons. The report was provided to Council for information purposes only. No action required.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 10 Chamber of Commerce Report. President Kibodeaux informed the Mayor and Council about upcoming events in the city, October 21, Trunk or Treat and December 19 Christmas in the Park.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 11, Discussion and Action to adopt an Ordinance for the FY2023 Tax Rate. After discussion a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy to adopt the Ordinance for the FY2023 Tax Rate. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hendrix approved by the following vote of the Council after a roll call:

Bruce Robinson Mayor	FOR
Connie Murphy, Mayor Pro-Tem	FOR
Kevin Cudd, Alderman	FOR
Michael Hendrix, Alderman	FOR
Rebecca Gardiner, Alderwoman	FOR

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 12, Discussion and Action to adopt the FY2024 Budget. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Hendrix to Adopt the FY2024 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of the Council:

FOR	4
AGAINST	0

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 13, Discussion and Action on immediate raises. After discussion a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem on the following raises being given in the first payroll in October.

Police Department	5%
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Street Dept.	2%
Jenny Murphy, Michelle Winters, and MaryAnn Boyd	7%
City Secretary, Debbie Morgan	2%

with all employees receiving an additional of 3% in January of 2024

The motion was seconded by Alderman Hendrix and approved by the following vote of the council:

FOR	3
AGAINST	0
ABSTAIN	1(Alderwoman Gardiner)

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 14, Discussion and Action to approve the cost of painting the elevated tower on Hwy 105. No action was taken on the item.

The Mayor moved to Agenda Item No. 15 and 16, Discussion and Action on a Resolutions for (1) Financial Assistance from the State for TxDot Infrastructure and (2) filing an application for Financial Assistance from TxDot SP2125 Program. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Hendrix to file an application for Financial Assistance from TxDot SP2125 Program. The motion was seconded y Alderwoman Gardiner and approved by the Following vote of the Council:

FOR	-	4
AGAINST	-	0

There being no additional Agenda Items to consider, a motion was made by Alderman Hendrix to adjourn the Sour Lake City Council meeting at approximately 7:09 P.M. on September 19, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Murphy and approved by the following vote of the Council:

FOR	-	4
AGAINST	-	0

The Sour Lake City Council adjourned the September 19, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting at 7:09 P.M.

CITY OF SOUR LAKE

Bruce Robinson, Mayor
Connie Murphy, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Debra Morgan, City Secretary