

The Childress City Council met in Called Session Monday, August 29th, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Childress City Hall, 315 Commerce St., Childress, TX 79201.

Mayor	Cary Preston
Aldermen	Marino Rodríguez Gary Clark John Preston C.T. Taylor Sharon Johnson
City Manager	Kevin Hodges
City Attorney	Steve Bird

Mayor Preston led invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Robert Smith alleges zoning and setback issues with neighboring property and fence. City Manager advised Mr. Smith of the need for a survey, redirected to City Staff.

Reviewed FY 22-23 Proposed Budget. City Manager Kevin Hodges reviewed components budget, capital improvement plans, and employee wage increases that are proposed in this budget. Motion to accept the budget made by Alderman Preston; Seconded by Alderman Rodriguez. All Ayes.

First reading of Tax Rate Ordinance 949

ORDINANCE No. 949

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE RATE FOR OPERATION OF TAX SUPPORTED DEPARTMENTS IN THE CITY OF CHILDRESS, TEXAS, REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCE IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHILDRESS TEXAS, that we hereby levy the rate of \$100.00 valuation for this city for the tax year 2022 as follows:

**.568762 for the purpose of maintenance and operation
.185032 for the payment of principal and interest on debt of the city
- .1706935 for General principal and interest
- .0143385 for TWDB principal and interest
.753794 total tax rate**

**READ AND APPROVED on the first reading this 29th of August, 2022
READ AND APPROVED on the second reading this 12th of September, 2022**

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 12th day of September, 2022

Roll call vote on Ordinance:

**Aye: Alderman Clark; Alderman Taylor; Alderman Preston; Alderwoman Johnson;
Alderman Rodriguez**

Nay: none

Absent: none

Childress County Heritage Museum board members were present to discuss their projects and budget. Museum has participated and hosted many events this year, including: Art Show, Photography Contest, Park Ranger display, All School Reunion, etc with ~542 visitors for the year. Discussed the approval process for Historic Marker at Airfield.

New MDD Director Sheabree Nix was present to present MDD Financial report. Ms. Nix advised the Council that the Event Center generated ~\$324,000.00 for the year, holding events. Further that the MDD is able to break even with HOT Funds. Ms. Nix continued that MDD currently has ~2,000,000.00 in assets and currently carries no debt.

Council entered recess at 7:19 p.m.

Council exited recess at 7:26 p.m.

City Manager Kevin Hodges advised the Council of MDD wishes for land in Fair Park, north of the tennis courts. MDD would like to construct RV spaces to be available for Event Center and Expo rentals. Mr. Hodges advised the Council that currently Fire Department training materials are in that location, preventing the construction of the spaces. For this reason, Mr. Hodges will be requiring the Fire Department to relocate the training supplies, materials, and facilities. No Action.

Susan Leary, Main Street Director & Chamber of Commerce Director provided information for both entities. Chamber of Commerce has had 4 new members in ~45 days, up to ~223 members. Main Street has upcoming revitalization projects for sidewalk improvements.

Mayor Preston advised that the Council will enter into executive session to discuss City Attorney contract.

Council entered into executive session at 7:26 p.m.

Council exited executive session and re-entered in open session at 7:38 p.m.

Council discussed market rate for City Attorneys, discussed tenure of City Attorney, and work hours dedicated to City business. Motion to enter into contract for annual renewal for City Attorney services with Steve Bird for \$60,000.00 annual gross salary made by Alderman Preston; Seconded by Alderwoman Johnson. All Ayes.

With there being no further business, Council adjourned 7:47 p.m.

The minutes were read and approved the ____ day of Sept 2022.

Cary Preston, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kevin Hodges, City Manager