

§ STATE OF TEXAS
§ CALDWELL COUNTY
§ CITY OF LULING

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LULING, MET IN BUDGET WORKSHOP ON THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 7, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M. IN CITY HALL 509 EAST CROCKETT STREET.**

The following members were present:

Mike Hendricks	Mayor
Jackie Campbell	Council Member
John Wells	Council Member
Wayne Tresner	Council Member
James Nickells	Council Member
CJ Watts	Council Member

Staff Members present:

Mark Mayor	City Manager
Martha C. Velasquez	City Secretary
Elizabeth Mundine	Finance Administrative

Finance Director, Sonny Rougeou was absent.

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Mayor Hendricks called the meeting to order and welcomed the visitors.

2. Budget Work Session on the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget.

Mark stated that as you see the introduction letter shows some hurdles that we are going to have to work through and to address. Mark stated that he asked a couple of department head personnel to be present to answer any questions that the Council may have for them.

Mark stated that he would like to say that there are several things that we do need to address. We have addressed a lot of the infrastructure but there is still a lot more that needs to be addressed.

Mark stated that some of the projects we have are listed on the infrastructure improvements page; (2016-2018) One of them being the seal coating maintenance. Our streets are in dire need to be addressed. We have about \$350,000 and \$65,000 is from the previous budget because we could not get anyone to bid on such a small project. The electric infrastructure is getting done with some lines over by the school and HEB line. Mark stated that what we are proposing it will take care of all the work that LCRA put in the 2006 study.

Mark stated that we are working at putting money into infrastructure. In the water we have \$209,000 and there is an asterisk in the meter line that is because our water meters are getting old. When the City went with the Sensus Project, we brought in servers; water meters and they need to get updated. Mark stated that the water towers were inspected and there are some improvements that are going to need to be made like sandblasting, repainting and other work.

In payroll expenditures, one additional employee was added to Animal Control to provide coverage for seven days per week. Animal Control officers were provided a merit increase. Certification pay amounts were provided in the Police department totaling \$10,000.

Zedler Park Manager was awarded a pay increase but she will no longer receive overtime pay or local travel reimbursement. If the Council awards a cost of living adjustment for employees, the Animal Control officers and the Zedler Park Manager will not participate.

Mark Mayo stated that in order for EMS to function we have to budget a \$266,723.00. We have a fully staffed EMS and 3 trucks. Mark stated that we have been contacted by 2 different agencies to do their transfers.

Mark stated that one of our General Obligations refunding bonds would be paid off 2019-2020 budget year.

We are looking at filling in the position of Public Works Director on April 1, 2019.

Mark Mayo, City Manager, stated that he wanted to let the Council know that there is grant money that will help our budget which we do not have to put into the budget. We have received a \$250,000 grant from St. David's Foundation and we will be applying for a second one this coming year. We are also working with a grant which is Kaboom, which is also part of a St. David's grant. They are looking at a engineering landscape design and we are looking at Northside Park. We are moving forward, we have ordered electrical poles and wiring for the walking trails. We are going to move to the basketball courts.

TxCDBG is offering a grant for the ambulance. We postponed the LCRA grant in January for July, so we can have a better plan at the Civic Center. LCRA's grant is \$50,000 and we are looking at redoing the kitchen and the restrooms. We want to redo the Civic Center with the driveway and more parking. We are looking at the facade so it won't look so much like an Armory. The Civic Center is also used as a Red Cross center so we could apply for a Homeland Security Grant. Mark stated that we are working hard on getting some grants. Mark stated that he is working on getting a grant for a gas line service out to the Industrial Park. Good news is that we are looking at a company that wants to grow Hobbs out there along with the Galvanized Company that has wanted to come out to Luling but they need gas service out at the Industrial Park.

One of the Council Members stated that they would like to see something like different percentages for employees. The lowest paid employee getting more of a raise than the higher paid employees.

3. Adjourn.

There was no other business and meeting was adjourned.

Approved: _____

Martha C. Velasquez
City Secretary

Mike Hendricks, Mayor
City of Luling