



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2014**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Budget and Tax Rate Work Session Meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 721 Barton Springs Road, Assembly Room, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

**BUDGET**

1. Approve a resolution adopting a maximum proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate of 49.22 cents per \$100 taxable value that the City Council will consider for Fiscal Year 2014-2015; and setting the date that the Council will adopt the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 property (ad valorem) tax rate (Suggested date and time: September 8, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. Town Lake Center Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX). (Public comment will be allowed on this item.)  
**Resolution 20140819-001 was approved as amended on a roll call vote on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Mayor Leffingwell's second on a 7-0 vote. Those voting aye were Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Cole and Council Members Martinez, Morrison, Tovo, Riley and Spelman. The amendment was adopted the maximum proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate of 48.09 cents per \$100 taxable value and set the date to adopt the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 property (ad valorem) tax rate for September 8, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at Town Lake Center Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX.**

**ITEMS SET TO PUBLIC HEARINGS**

2. Set a public hearings to consider the proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 (Suggested dates and times: August 28, 2014 at 4:00 p.m., Travis County Commissioners Court, 700 Lavaca Street, Austin, Texas and September 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m., Town Lake Center Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX). (Public comment will be allowed on this item.)  
**The public hearings were set for August 28, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at Travis County Commissioner's Court, 700 Lavaca Street, Austin, TX and September 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at Town Lake Center, Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX on Council Member Martinez' motion, Council Member Riley's second on a 7-0 vote.**
3. Set a second public hearing to receive public comment on the City of Austin Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Proposed Budget. (Suggested date and time: September 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m., Town Lake Center Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX). (Public comment will be allowed on this item.)  
**The public hearing was set on consent for September 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at Town Lake Center, Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX on Council Member Martinez' motion, Council Member Riley's second on a 7-0 vote.**

**MORNING BRIEFINGS**

- 4. Briefing and discussion related to the departmental proposed budgets.

**Parks and Recreation**

Presentation was made by Sara Hensley, Director and Kimberly McNeeley, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with the following: information on which rules apply to swimming down stream of Barton Springs; statistical information on the number incidents occurring within a park or responses made by Parks Police; information on the option of establishing resident and non-resident fees for golf and tennis; the Aquatics Master Plan; and information on transportation options for the Senior Meal Program at the Asian-American Cultural Center.

**Austin Energy**

Presentation was made by Larry Weis, General Manager and Ann Little, Vice-President of Finance and Corporate Services, Austin Energy. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with a breakdown of the bad debt expense and a five-year historical perspective of the bad debt expense.

**Austin Resource Recovery**

Presentation was made by Bob Gedert, Director and Jessica Edwards, Financial Division Manager, Austin Resource Recovery. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with the total route miles and research the ability to include City pools under the contract for providing recycling services to City facilities.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the Budget Work Session at 12:15 p.m.

Mayor Leffingwell called the Budget Work Session back to order at 1:05 p.m.

**MORNING BRIEFINGS CONTINUED**

**Austin Transportation**

Presentation was made by Robert Spillar, Director, Austin Transportation. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with an update on the implementation of the schedule for valet fees and a project list of planned restriping projects.

**Austin Water**

Presentation was made by David Anders, Assistant Director, Austin Water Utility. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with the following a chart of showing the impact of increase in fees on customers by customer usage and an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the 2007 Conservation Taskforce.

**Public Works**

Presentation was made by James Snow, Assistant Director, Public Works. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with the assessment of conditions of the street conditions within Austin.

**Watershed Protection**

Presentation was made by Victoria Li, Director, Watershed Protection. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with a map showing the properties located in the 100-year floodplain and an explanation on the wide range of numbers of salamanders reported in Eliza Spring.

**Aviation**

**Presentation was made by James Smith, Executive Director, Aviation. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with information on the parking rate fees being proposed.**

**Convention Center**

**Presentation was made by Mark Tester, Director, Austin Convention Center.**

**Code Compliance**

**Presentation was made by Carl Smart, Director, Code Compliance. Direction was given to staff to provide Council with an analysis the number of complaints relating to short term rentals based on the type of rental and a recommendation on incorporating the cost for enforcement into the registration fees based on the type of rental.**

**Economic Development**

**Presentation was made by Kevin Johns, Director and Synovia Holt-Rabb, Assistant Director, Economic Development.**

**Neighborhood Housing & Community Development**

**Presentation was made by Betsy Spencer, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development.**

**Support Service Fund Departments**

**Questions will be submitted through the Budget Q&A process.**

**Communications and Technology Management**

**Questions will be submitted through the Budget Q&A process.**

**Fleet Services**

**Questions will be submitted through the Budget Q&A process.**

**Mayor Leffingwell adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m. without objection.**

**The minutes were approved on this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014 on Mayor Pro Tem Cole's motion, Council Member Spelman's second on a 7-0 vote.**