

**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES****BUDGET WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2014**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Budget Work Session Meeting on Thursday, July 31, 2014, Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, Assembly Room, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

BRIEFINGS

2. Presentation and discussion regarding the City's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.
Presentation was made by Elaine Hart, Chief Financial Officer, Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Officer, and Kimberly Springer, Deputy Budget Officer. Direction was given to staff to provide the following information: the total amount of revenues generated by the Drainage Utility fee; the justification for the additional eight sanitarian positions in Health and Human Services; information on fleet replacement schedule; the policy used to determine the amount of reserve funds for Austin Energy; information on the total impact on the general fund on the rate increase being requested by Travis County Appraisal District; a copy of the staff memo relating to the transfer of the Balcones Canyonland Reserve from Austin Water Utility to the General Fund; a breakdown of the assessed valuation based on existing properties compared to new properties or renovations of existing properties; a justification for the increase in Austin Police Officers; a comparison of tax rate with peer cities including the average appraised value. Additional questions will be submitted through the Budget Q&A Process.
1. Discussion and possible action regarding council meeting schedule and the budget and tax rate calendar.
This item was postponed to the August 7, 2014 Council Meeting.
3. Presentation and discussion regarding the impact of providing a general homestead exemption as a percentage of appraised value on homeowners and the City budget.
The motion to postpone this item to the August 5, 2014 Council Work Session was approved on Council Member Martinez' motion, Council Member Tovo's second on a 7-0 vote.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the Budget Work Session Meeting to go into Executive Session at 12:41 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council went into Executive Session, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, to receive advice from Legal Counsel, to discuss matters of land acquisition, litigation, and

personnel matters as specifically listed on this agenda and to receive advice from Legal Counsel regarding any other item on this agenda.

4. Discuss legal issues related to the July 26, 2013 officer-involved shooting (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).

Executive Session ended and Mayor Leffingwell called the Budget Work Session Meeting back to order at 1:59 p.m.

Mayor Leffingwell adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. without objection.

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