

**CITY OF COPPERAS COVE
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
August 31, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Hull called the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Copperas Cove Texas to order at 7:30 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

ALSO PRESENT

John Hull
Cheryl L. Meredith
Charlie D. Youngs - Absent
Gary L. Kent
Danny Palmer
Kenn Smith
Jim Schmitz - Absent
Frank Seffrood

Andrea M. Gardner, City Manager
Jane Lees, City Secretary

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

E. PUBLIC RECOGNITION – None.

F. CITIZENS' FORUM – None.

G. CONSENT ITEMS – None.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ACTION

1. Public hearing, discussion and general direction to staff on amending the FY 2011 Proposed Budget. ***Imelda Rodriguez, Director of Financial Services***

Imelda Rodriguez, Director of Financial Services, gave an overview of agenda item H-1.

Mayor Hull opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m.

Speaking for: None.

Speaking Against: None.

Mayor Hull closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

City Manager Gardner stated that there was considerable discussion at the last meeting regarding changes to the budget and that she was requested to bring a report back to Council after conferring with the City Attorney to find out how the Charter was to be interpreted with regards to inserting items on the proposed budget after being submitted to the Council as a proposed budget. Section 6.06 of the City Charter states, "After such further hearing, the council

may insert the additional item or items and make the increase or increases to the amount in each case indicated by the published notice, or to a lesser amount; but where it shall increase the total proposed expenditures, it shall also provide for an increase in the total anticipated revenue to at least equal such total proposed expenditures.” Mr. Zech’s interpretation of the Charter is that we take all of the funds and we add them together looking at what was proposed, then added together with the changes.

Ms. Gardner said that on the revenue side the City is adding \$162,748, that is \$186,587 which is all coming from property tax revenue and in the General Fund. At the last workshop it was disclosed to the Council that there was a shortage recorded in the Water/Sewer Fund in terms of a transfer from the Drainage Fund. That shortage was \$123,839. You subtract one from the other and that gives the total amount of revenues that are available. Going back to Mr. Zech’s interpretation of this Charter is that as long as you don’t add expenditures that exceed the \$162,748 in all the funds the Council is good to go. On the expenditures, the total was \$148,914. This means that the council is good to go.

The items that were published in the newspaper were different because we had not heard back from the City Attorney before it was published and staff preferred to be safe rather than sorry. There was a contingency item that was published in the paper in the General Fund that staff is requesting that the Council not insert. If the \$42,000 is inserted, then we will not be O.K. in terms of meeting the Charter requirements.

Another item that was included in the posting in the newspaper was to reduce the utilities in the Water/Sewer Fund for the Wastewater Treatment Department by \$52,787. Staff is requesting that Council only insert for a reduction of \$23,839. That’s all that’s needed in order for this to balance and comply with the Charter.

In the Solid Waste Fund the City advertised to reduce fuel, oil, residential recycling and brush in the commercial departments. All these amounts need not be inserted. Those were published at \$4,729, \$965, \$985 and \$4,243. We don’t need these based on Mr. Zech’s interpretation of the Charter.

Ms. Gardner said that if the Council agrees with what was just recommended, then this is what they will see on September 7, 2010 when the budget comes before them for approval. The Council agreed with the recommendations given by consensus.

No action taken.

Mayor Hull read the following announcement: Per Truth and Taxation, the Governing Body of the City of Copperas Cove, Texas is required to announce the date, time and place of the meeting at which the vote on the tax rate will be taken. The Governing Body of the City of Copperas Cove, Texas, is scheduled to vote on the tax rate, which may result in a tax increase, at a public meeting to be held on September 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers, 507 South Main Street, Copperas Cove, Texas.

I. ACTION ITEMS – None.

J. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ENTITIES, ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS – None.

K. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS – None.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Pursuant to §551.087 of the Open Meetings Act, *Tex. Gov't Code*, City Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss or deliberate economic development negotiations regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations and to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect.

The Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:41 p.m.

M. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION RESULTING FROM ANY ITEMS POSTED AND LEGALLY DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hull reconvened the open meeting at 8:28 p.m. and announced that there was no action required as a result of Executive Session.

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Hull adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

John Hull, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jane Lees, City Secretary