

The City of Balcones Heights  
Special City Council Meeting  
3300 Hillcrest Drive  
Balcones Heights, Texas 78201

**MINUTES**

**DATE: September 10, 2014**

**TIME: 5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Suzanne de Leon (Mayor)  
Lamar Gillian  
Madeline Slay

Jack Burton (Mayor Pro Tem)  
Charles White  
Linda Pohl

Members Absent: None

Sign in Sheet: None

**CALL TO ORDER AND RECORDING OF QUORUM**

Meeting was called to order and quorum was present.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U. S. A. AND TEXAS FLAGS**

Councilman White gave the invocation and led pledges.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no citizens signed up to be heard.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

Items #6-8 were addressed before Item #1-5

1. Consideration and **ACTION** to amend memorandum from Mayor Suzanne de Leon on New Procedure dated June 21, 2014. (White)

Council Member White spoke on this item and wanted the Mayor to make changes to her memo. Mayor stated that it was her memo and something she brought forward to expedite the meetings.

City Attorney stated that if it's policy Council Member White wants then a resolution can be brought to a future meeting.

MOTION: I make a motion that the Mayor's memo be changed that council people be allowed to ask as many questions and talk as they wish until their satisfied.

Motion by: Council Member White                      Second: Motion failed for lack of second.

2. Consideration and **ACTION** regarding authority for employment or dismissal of Department Heads. (White)

MOTION: I make a motion that the City Administrator has the authority to hire/fire all Department Heads.

Motion by: Councilwoman Slay      Second: Councilman Gillian      4/1/0    PASSED

Nay Vote: Councilman White

3. Consideration and **ACTION** to make changes and additions to the Council Policy. (White)
4. Discussion and **ACTION** regarding revisiting the grievance policy. (White)
5. Consideration and **ACTION** to amend Ordinance No. 2012-01 regarding council meeting procedures. (White)

Items 3, 4, and 5 will be brought back to a Workshop at a future date.

6. City Council will conduct a Budget **Workshop** for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015.

City Administrator went over the memorandum with the follow up from the last budget workshop.

Police Chief Pena came up to speak on unfunded items submitted after the due date and prioritization.

- Service weapons replacement
- Three Chevy Tahoe's - Councilman Gillian pointed out that only one was actually needed with respect to Rathburn's assessment.
  - Council wants to see the following on the vehicles that need to be replaced:
    - Need to show mileage and/or engine hours
    - Guidelines as to replacement requirements
    - 4 vehicles in question – identify by tag #, number of miles, upcoming expense to fix them, and cost to replace them with another vehicle
- Ticket Writers – Recommendation was made to stagger purchases of ticket writers through the years.
- Fire Engine – Tax Note Option – Victor Quiroga

Workshop was closed at 5:57 p.m. and Item 8 Public Hearing opened at 6:00 p.m.

7. Council will conduct a **Workshop** for programming available space at Balcones Lofts.

Item # 8 was addressed before Item # 7.

City Administrator stated this item is in regards to the 3700 sq.ft. available at the Balcones Lofts across from the Justice Center. City needs to make a decision to use this space for offices or not by the end of November.

Council Member Slay had drawings of available space at the Justice Center and made some proposals on changes.

Workshop closed at 6:51 p.m.

Item #8 was addressed before Item #7.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 6:00 P.M.**

8. City Council will conduct a **Public Hearing** regarding the proposed tax rate of \$0.572199 per \$100 valuation.

Public Hearing opened at 6:00 p.m.

City Administrator gave an update as to the tax rate and no one came up to speak.

Public Hearing closed at 6:04 p.m. and workshop began.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

**Submitted by:**

**DELIA FLORES, TRMC**  
**City Secretary**

**Approved by City Council on October 27, 2014.**