

Minutes

The City of Princeton

Special City Council Meeting of September 16, 2008

The City Council of the City of Princeton, Texas, met in special session in the Council Chamber of City Hall on September 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

The following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Pro Tempore Billy Combest, Councilmember JM Caldwell Sr, Councilmember Rick Wheeler, Councilmember Bruce Beauchamp and Councilmember Ken Bowers. The following Staff Members were present: City Administrator Lee Lawrence, Assistant City Administrator/City Secretary Lesia Thornhill, Deputy City Secretary Tabatha Monk, Finance Director Patty Martinez, and Chief Barnett. The following Councilmember's were absent: Mayor Steven Deffibaugh, Councilmember Bruce Beauchamp.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** asked Councilmember **Wheeler** to lead the Council and audience in the invocation.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then asked Councilmember **Bowers** to lead the audience in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced **Citizen Appearance**. Judy Bass spoke regarding the proposed tax rate.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced the first item under the Special Agenda: **(2008-197)** "Discussion regarding the fact that this tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$15.39 and approval of this increase". Councilmember **Wheeler** made a motion to approve

this item. Councilmember **Bowers seconded the motion.** Councilmember **Caldwell opposed this item.** The **motion carried 3-1.**

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced the second item under the Special Agenda: **(2008-198)** "Discussion and possible approval of an ordinance adopting the fiscal year 2008/2009 budget for the City of Princeton". Councilmember **Bowers made a motion to approve the proposed budget.** Councilmember **Wheeler seconded the motion.** Councilmember **Caldwell opposed the motion.** The **motion carried 3-1.**

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** announced the third item under the Special Agenda: **(2008-199)** "Discussion and possible approval of an ordinance adopting the tax rate for fiscal year 2008/2009 of 0.728394/\$100 valuation". Councilmember **Bowers made a motion to approve.** Councilmember **Wheeler seconded the motion.** Councilmember **Caldwell opposed the motion.** The **motion carried 3-1.**

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced the first item under the Report Agenda "Mayor".

No comments.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced the second item under the Report Agenda "Council".

Councilmember **Caldwell** expressed his concern that the city was contracting engineering and inspection services.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** explained to the citizens that the Council has to make difficult decisions and faces constant opposition in everything they approve or deny.

Councilmember **Bowers** discussed the approval of the budget and tax rate to help assure the citizens the Council was acting in good faith.

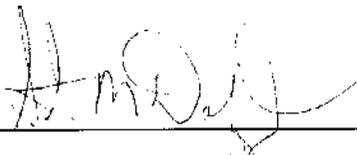
Councilmember **Beauchamp** echoed his appreciation to the Volunteer Fire Department.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** then announced the third item under the Report Agenda "Administrator".

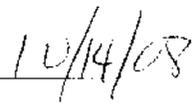
No comments.

Councilmember **Caldwell** made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember **Bowers** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore **Combest** adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

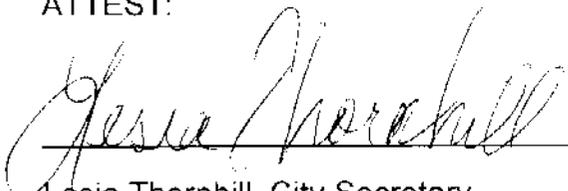


Steven Deffibaugh, Mayor



Date

ATTEST:



Lesia Thornhill, City Secretary



Date