



**CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2018**

The Hutto City Council met in a special called session on Thursday, August 9, 2018, in the Hutto City Council Chamber, 401 W. Front Street, Hutto, TX 78634.

CALL SESSION TO ORDER

Mayor Gaul called the session to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members of the City Council present were Mayor Doug Gaul, Councilmember Scott Rose, Councilmember Nathan Killough, Councilmember Tim Jordan, Councilmember Patti Turner and Councilmember Terri Grimm.

Members of staff that were present were Odis Jones, City Manager; Byron Frankland, Chief of Police; Matt Rector, Executive Director of Public Works and Engineering; Eliska Padilla, Executive Director of Communications; Scott Stromsness, Executive Director of Community Services; and Lynn Trumbul, Senior Assistant City Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gaul led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Todd Corporon – 5350 CR 124, Georgetown, TX 78626 – He stated that he is the Vice President of the baseball/softball leagues. He noted the lack of space and fields to hold baseball and softball games within the City of Hutto. He further stated that he was approached to host tournaments, but had to decline due to the lack of space and current conditions of the fields.

Stacey Henderson – 2000 CR 129, Taylor, TX 76574 – Stated that she has four sons currently enrolled in baseball programs within Hutto. She expressed the need for more ball fields to host tournaments and bring revenue into the City of Hutto. They have had to put a cap on baseball registration due to lack of fields, which means certain kids are being sent away.

Brandy Makovy – 110 Gainer Drive, Hutto TX 7863 – She has two sons in the baseball association since 2009. Stated that Hutto does not have fields capable of hosting tournaments. She emphasized the need for more fields so that the association does not have to run kids away or force them to travel for tournaments.

Daniel Thornton – 111 Hyltin Street, Hutto TX 7863 – He stressed the need for better facilities for ball practices and tournaments. He noted that many of the children playing in tournaments in neighboring cities like Round Rock and Georgetown, are actually Hutto residents.

5A. Discussion and possible action on the Proposed Bond Election and the process for public input.

Mayor Gaul began the discussion by stating that he called the meeting to give Council the opportunity to request any additional information or clarification with regard to the upcoming bond election.

Scott Rose stated that he needs time. He noted that he needs several weeks to digest all of the information. He would like to hear from more residents as he uneducated in sports and fields.

Terri Grimm stated that we have not had a second reading on this agenda item. She noted that the discussion should take place at the following meeting with all members of Council present.

Nate Killough added that the discussion needed to be held during a regular meeting so that more members of the public would be available to attend and hear the discussion and the public comments. He expressed frustration that the Mayor insisted on calling this special meeting. He also noted that there needs to be better communication in the future.

Mayor Gaul asked the Council if \$50 million would be enough for the improvements to the fields. He asked the Council if we need to increase the amount of the bond to \$75 million.

Terri Grimm noted that she and Tim Jordan had a previous discussion regarding the necessity for improvements to the fields and the revenue that could be generated.

Nate Killough agreed with Terri Grimm's comment, and noted that he believed one Saturday could generate at least \$10,000.00 in entry fees.

Terri Grimm stated that the City does not need to put an additional \$25 million on the taxpayers right now. She also noted that \$50 million may also be too much to put on the taxpayers right now, but that she is not familiar with the planning for the fields.

Tim Jordan stated that proposition needs an accurate figure with regard to cost.

Scott Rose noted that the City did not need a "Taj Mahal," but rather needs a more basic ballfield to start.

Terri Grimm insisted on transparency with the voters, and would like to show the voters that the Council will do the right thing with the bond.

Patti Turner asked if the funds needed to be divided, with half going to a new recreational center for the City.

Nate Killough asked how the bond would also would pay for a recreational center.

Terri Grimm spoke to project expansion.

City Manager, Odis Jones, stated the City cold use a private partner to provide additional funds.

Terri Grimm shared her personal experience with the Council. She stated that she removed her daughter from the Hutto Youth Baseball/Softball Association team this year and moved her to a team in Round Rock due to the current conditions of the Hutto fields. Therefore, her family's money went to the City of Round Rock, instead of the City of Hutto.

Scott Rose noted that he needs additional information and additional support so that this can be a team effort.

Terri Grimm mentioned bringing in the other Boards and Commissions to get their input.

Mayor Gaul asked for additional information and to have the lawyers involved in this process.

Terri Grimm added that she wants additional information from the City Manager and needs to better understand the process for approval of the bond.

Nate Killough asked the Mayor what questions he currently has.

The Mayor again expressed his concern that \$50 million may not be enough for the bond, and stated the bond needed to be worded correctly.

Nate Killough spoke to the extra money that could be generated by revenue from the ball events and tournaments, and the payoff in dividends.

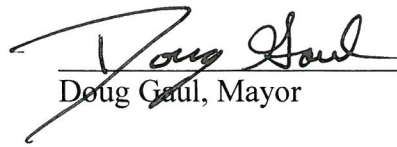
Scott Rose asked about what effects the bond would have on the community, and the need to research the demographics of the community, and what the residents can afford.

The City Manager noted that the bond would cost the average taxpayer approximately \$140.00 per year.

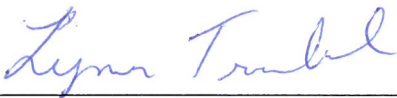
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be heard, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

CITY OF HUTTO


Doug Gaul, Mayor

APPROVED:


Lynn Trumbul, Senior Assistant City Secretary