

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
August 1, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in a Budget Workshop on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. in the City Hall Multi-Purpose Room located at 535 N. Main, Schulenburg, Texas. The elected officials present included Mayor, Connie Koopmann, Aldermen, Greg Thomas, Frank Wick III, Larry Veselka, Scott Stoner, and Clarence Ahischlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Mayor Koopmann called role.

Mrs. Walker welcomed Council with a general statement that we are here to work on the Budget, take emotions out of the process and focus on reason.

Mrs. Walker is supposed to have numbers on the financing for the Police Department renovations tomorrow.

Mrs. Walker also announced the Civic Center renovation number of \$2 Million is a "worst case scenario."

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, entered the Multi-Purpose Room at 4:03.

Mrs. Walker stated that the revenue numbers are not exact, she is still waiting on firm numbers from grants.

Mrs. Walker stated that the water lines at James and N. Main are having major problems with leaks. Mrs. Walker said this qualifies as an emergency and the City has reached out to WJC to fix the line. However, there's fiber lines, and permits through TxDOT and the Rail Road that will probably delay construction until after October anyway.

Alderman Veselka announced that he spoke to American Legion and they decided not to go with the handicap parking lot saving cutting \$140,000.

Under Street Department, Herder St. is being pivoted to do minor repairs. The City will rent a maintainer for \$35,000 but take out engineering fees and other materials cutting \$1.47 Million.

Accounts Payable/Municipal Court Clerk, Julie Cernosek, entered the Multi-Purpose Room at 4:20.

Under Hotel Motel, \$10,000 was added for the Sesquicentennial celebration, and \$18,000 for ARTS for Rual Texas.

Mrs. Walker announced that Gardenia Janssen Animal Shelter has been getting \$5,000 but are requesting almost double that. They have not been bumped since 2018.

Under Sports Complex, Mrs. Walker said she is going after a Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant to aid in the costs of the new playground and pickleball court. Mrs. Walker also said that she should have firm numbers on the fitness court by next meeting.

Billing Manager, Megan Bartos, entered the Multi-Purpose Room at 4:30.

Under Water Department, after discussion, Council cut the Operations Manager truck for \$40,000 and kept the truck with a Tommy Gate.

Billing Manager, Megan Bartos, announced to Council that water and sewer rates are both going up \$1 and garbage rates are increasing by \$3. Mrs. Bartos also passed out a sheet listing garbage rates of surrounding towns.

Under Civic Center, Alderman Thomas stated that he wished to get the building back to being usable.

Council was informed that a \$100,000 payment for the "Straight Truck" is needed to be added to the Garbage Department, and a water meter payment for \$122,000 to be added to the water department.

Mayor Koopmann asked Mrs. Walker if she had any suggestions. Mrs. Walker reiterated that she believes that the reserves are "too healthy" and would like to spend it down by about \$2 Million. Mrs. Walker stated that she will have more figures and more accurate revenue numbers by the next meeting.

Alderman Thomas requested that the third budget workshop begin later so he could attend after he gets off from work.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to change the time of the Tuesday, August 8th, Budget Workshop from 4:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to adjourn the workshop at 5:46. The motion passed unanimously.