City of West Orange
Thursday, September 21, 2023
Special Session

West Orange Council Chambers
2700 Western Avenue *(rear entrance)*
West Orange, Texas
5:15 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mayor Randy Branch | Meritta Kennedy | Jay Odom
Michael Shugart, Sr.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:
Brent Dearing | Lanie Brown

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:
Theresa Van Meter | Christopher Leavins

Call to Order

Mayor Branch called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. He stated that a quorum of council was present.

Special Session

Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance No. 483 *(by record vote)*, levying taxes at the rate of $0.3840 per $100 assessed value for the maintenance and operation expenses of the City of West Orange, Texas for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024 – Council Member Odom made a motion that, "by the adoption of Ordinance No. 483, the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.3840, which is effectively a 3.48% increase in the tax rate." This motion received a second from Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy. There were no questions or discussions brought forth, therefore Mayor Branch then called for a vote from each council member individually:

Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy:	Aye	Council Member Shugart:	Aye
Council Member Odom:	Aye	Mayor Branch:	Aye

With the vote being unanimous, Ordinance No. 483, levying taxes at the rate of $0.3840 per $100 assessed value for the maintenance and operation expenses of the City of West Orange, Texas for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024 was adopted as presented.

Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution ratifying a property tax rate that would increase the budget by $30,110, which is a 4.2% increase over last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is $4,615 – Council Member Odom made a motion "to approve the Resolution for the budget presented for 2023-2024 that proposes to raise more revenue from taxes than was raised in 2022-2023." A second to this motion was given by Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy. With there being no discussion on the matter, Mayor Branch called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Branch announced that the next Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2023 beginning at 5:00 p.m. He also stated that registrations were continuing to be accepted for "Holiday in the Park," which was scheduled for Saturday, November 4th.

Adjourn

With there being no further business before Council, the Special Session was adjourned by the mayor at 5:19 p.m.

RR Branch
Randy Branch, Mayor

CITY OF WEST ORANGE Corporate SEAL ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:
Theresa Van Meter
Theresa Van Meter, City Secretary