

**City of West Orange
Thursday, November 16, 2023
Special Session**

**City Council Chambers
2700 Western Avenue (rear entrance)
West Orange, Texas
3:45 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Randy Branch Jay Odom Michael Shugart, Sr.
Meritta Kennedy

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENT:

Brent Dearing Lanie Brown

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Theresa Van Meter Jon Sherwin Christopher Leavins

Call to Order

Mayor Branch called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. Council Member Shugart gave the invocation. The mayor then led in the Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags.

Special Session

Canvass of November 7, 2023 Election on ¼% Sales Tax Dedicated to Economic Development - Those presented reviewed the Official Results provided by Orange County Elections Administrator, LaDonna Alford. These results showed that the election to implement a ¼% sales tax dedicated to economic development in the City of West Orange passed: 119 votes for; 100 votes against.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy made a motion to accept these results as presented. Council Member Odom seconded her motion. Mayor Branch reported that, on Election Day, there were 1,869 registered voters in West Orange. This equated to 11.7% of them voting in this election. He also added that, unlike the Street Maintenance Tax, this tax does not have to go before the voters again. Should Council wish to stop collecting this tax, they can put it before the voters to do so. Or, if the voters want it to stop, if they get enough valid signatures on a petition, it could be brought to an election. Otherwise, this tax will remain in place as is.

Mayor Branch then called for a vote on the motion to accept the election results as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

With there being no further business before Council, Mayor Branch adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.



Randy Branch, Mayor

ATTEST:



Theresa Van Meter, City Secretary

