

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BUDGET WORKSHOP #4

JULY 30, 2010

MINUTES

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTIES OF HARRIS & MONTGOMERY §

The Board of Directors of The Woodlands Township met in special session, open to the public, on July 30, 2010, posted to begin at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room at the Office of The Woodlands Township, Board Chambers, 10001 Woodloch Forest Drive, Suite 600, The Woodlands, Texas, within the boundaries of The Woodlands Township.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chairman Bruce Tough*, Vice Chairman Lloyd Matthews, Secretary Claude Hunter, Treasurer Ed Robb, Director Nelda Blair, Director Tom Campbell, and Director Peggy Hausman
***Indicates arrived late**

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

STAFF/ADVISORS: Don Norrell, President/General Manager, John Powers, Assistant General Manager Community Services, Monique Sharp, Assistant General Manager of Finance & Administration, Nick Wolda, Director of Community Relations/CVB President, Karen Dempsey, Management Analyst, Mary Connell, Manager of Community Relations

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA:

Vice Chairman Matthews called for a motion and second to adopt the meeting agenda.

MOTION: Motion by Secretary Hunter; second by Director Blair

VOTE: **Ayes:** Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

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Nays: None
Absent: Chairman Tough*

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

No public officials were recognized.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following members of the public addressed the Board:

- **Anthony Fasone**-budget
- **Paul Martin on behalf of Ted Stanley and College Park VA**-Mason Pond entry
- **Bill Roberton**-budget concerns

The Public Comment Roster is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE 2011 OPERATING BUDGET AND FIVE-YEAR PLAN:

Monique Sharp reviewed the General Government Departments including:

- Board of Directors
- President's Office
- Legislative and Government
- Human Resources
- Finance
- Information Technology
- Records/Property Data Management
- Non-Departmental

Note: Chairman Tough arrived at this point in the meeting.

Next, Ms. Sharp reviewed the capital budget for Information Technology as well as proposed new positions. At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms. Sharp asked if there were any questions from the Board. There were no questions.

The Board recessed from public session at 9:30 a.m.

The Board reconvened in public session at 9:40 a.m.

Chairman Tough then called on Don Norrell to provide an update on specific requests made by Directors. The Board was then provided a handout on the revised property tax revenues based on the certified property tax roll. Mr. Norrell also informed the Board that J.R. Moore, Jr, Montgomery County Tax Assessor/Collector had provided The Woodlands Township with the 2010 effective tax rate of \$0.325.

Monique Sharp then presented a review of the Debt Service Plan, Five-Year Plan, and Reserve Plan. Following Ms. Sharp's presentation, Board members were provided an opportunity to ask questions and comment on matters discussed.

Handout material is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".

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BUDGET PLANNING INITIATIVE SESSION;

Don Norrell referred Board members to handout material that summarized items included in the proposed 2011 budget, items not included in the proposed 2011 budget, and Village Association requests not included in the proposed 2011 budget.

Chairman Tough explained the process to be followed by the Board in regards to the Budget Initiatives. The Board then considered and acted upon the following items:

1. **MOTION:** Director Hausman moved to adopt Budget Initiative #27 regarding installing lights on neighborhood entrance signs over a five (5) year period. Vice Chairman Matthews seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: None

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

2. **MOTION:** Director Hunter moved to direct staff to bring back a proposal to achieve a 32.0 cent per \$100 valuation tax rate. Motion died for lack of a second.

3. **MOTION:** Motion by Vice Chairman Matthews to increase the YMCA funding level from \$25,000 to \$50,000 within program parameters for crime safety for The Woodlands Township residents. Treasurer Robb seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: None

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

4. **MOTION:** Director Blair moved to implement the additional one cent Hotel Occupancy Tax in 2011 (to be voted on separately by the Board) and commit the 2011 collection to fund the renovation and operation of the Water Taxi service at a level of approximately \$500,000 for a one time allocation; charge the CVB to make the operation self supporting within a five (5) year period at which time the existing Boards of the Township and CVB would decide the future of the Water Taxis. Vice Chairman Matthews seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair

Nays: Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed.

5. **MOTION:** Director Campbell moved to reduce the Parks/Recreation Capital Budget expenses by \$750,000 and charge staff with making this recommendation. Secretary Hunter seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Director Campbell
Secretary Hunter

Nays: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Hausman

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion failed.

6. **MOTION:** Secretary Hunter moved to eliminate all Alpha & Omega services from the 242 corridor, south of the Waterway and all of the area west of Grogan's Mill Road and reallocate these funds to law enforcement. Director Campbell seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Secretary Hunter
Director Campbell

Nays: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Hausman

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion failed.

7. **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Matthews moved to allocate \$50,000 for a trial study to extend trolleys to the Village Centers. Directors Hausman and Blair seconded the motion. Director Campbell offered an amendment to include a fare box to the study. The amendment was not accepted.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: Treasurer Robb

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed.

8. **MOTION:** Motion by Chairman Tough to allocate \$50,000 for a feasibility study on sports complexes and aquatic facilities. Vice Chairman Matthews seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb

Director Blair
Director Hausman
Nays: Director Campbell
Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed.

9. **MOTION:** Director Blair moved to allocate \$20,000 from the Economic Development reserve fund for a cultural arts feasibility study. Vice Chairman Matthews seconded the motion. Director Hausman offered an amendment to allocate the \$20,000 in the regular budget. The amendment was accepted.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: None

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

10. **MOTION:** Director Campbell moved to not implement a Pavilion ticket tax for 2011. Director Hausman seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Director Campbell
Director Hausman
Nays: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion failed.

11. **MOTION:** Secretary Hunter moved to request that The Woodlands Development Company reduce the sidewalk plan in Town Center by 10-20%. Director Campbell seconded the motion.

VOTE: **Ayes:** Secretary Hunter
Director Campbell
Nays: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Hausman

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion failed.

12. **MOTION:** Vice Chairman Matthews moved to have staff prepare a list of parks with parking problems and provide a cost estimate over a ten year period of installing egg crates (grass pavers). After comments from John Powers, the motion was withdrawn in order to allow time for an overall park evaluation.

13. **MOTION:** Director Campbell moved to reduce the revitalization program to \$75,000 in 2011. Treasurer Robb seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair
Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: None

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

14. **MOTION:** Secretary Hunter moved to eliminate \$50,000 in Waterway songs for 2011. Director Campbell seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Secretary Hunter
Director Campbell
Director Hausman
Nays: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion failed.

15. **MOTION:** Director Campbell moved to consider a reclassification and merit program instead of a 2% adjustment. Following discussion, Director Campbell withdrew his motion.

16. **MOTION:** Director Hunter moved to direct staff to reduce energy costs by 10%. Motion died due to lack of a second.

A request was made by Secretary Hunter to have staff look into the feasibility of Foundations, Public-Private Partnerships and Grants.

Handout material is attached hereto as Exhibit "C".

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- None

ADJOURN

As there was no further business to discuss, Chairman Tough called for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Treasurer Robb; second by Director Blair

VOTE: Ayes: Chairman Tough
Vice Chairman Matthews
Secretary Hunter
Treasurer Robb
Director Blair

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Director Campbell
Director Hausman

Nays: None

Absent: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

(SEAL)

Claude Hunter
Secretary, Board of Directors

EXHIBIT OMISSIONS*

EXHIBIT "A"

EXHIBIT "B"

EXHIBIT "C"

***To view Exhibits, please contact the Records Management Analyst at 281-210-3800.**