



CITY OF WALNUT GROVE
July 28, 2022 10:00 AM
1021 PARK STREET MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Mark Moore
Jon Dial
Erica Miles
Linda Pilgrim
Stephanie Moncrief
Tony Powell
Keegan Ramsey

Work Session Minutes

- I. **CALL TO ORDER-** Mayor Mark Moore
- II. **INVOCATION-** Tony Powell
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** All participated
- IV. **AGENDA APPROVAL-** Council member Linda Pilgrim made motion to add executive session and remove Education Involvement Committee Proposal. Council member Stephanie Moncrief seconded. Passed unanimously. Council member Erica Miles made motion to approve the agenda. Council member Stephanie Moncrief seconded. Passed unanimously.
- V. **AGENDA ITEMS**
 1. **Millage Rate Rollback-** Mayor Moore discussed the current projections for rolling back the millage rate to 5.197. Council member Stephanie Moncrief expressed concerns about continually rolling back the millage rate while the city is growing, and more improvement projects will need to be funded. Council member Erica Miles commented projects like added a city Marshall and funding for the library would benefit from the extra revenue. Mayor Moore responded that the city is getting an increase of \$50,000 without increasing the tax burden of the residents by rolling back the millage rate. Mayor Moore stated for the record if council member Moncrief wanted to advocate for increasing taxes on the citizens that was her prerogative. Council member Moncrief stated she believed Mayor Moore was turning her words around and that's not what she was advocating, she was advocating for the growth of the city and having the funds in place when the city needs to do projects. Council member Erica Miles commented she doesn't think an increase is necessary but keeping it the same and for her personally the increase would only be \$60 per year and she feels like that increase would be worth it to help the city grow. Council member Jon Dial stated that he sees advantages both ways and since the city only started collecting taxes in 2018 there has not been a lot of time to build a big tax reserve.
 2. **Town Marshall-** Mayor Moore presented the council figures on the cost involved with creating a town Marshall position. He also discussed the duties the Marshall would have which include code enforcement and writing tickets along with having detention power. Council member Moncrief asked if the position would be appointed by council and if council would get a change to interview any potential candidates which Mayor Moore agreed.
 3. **Sign Ordinance-** Tony Powell commented they did not have a recommendation today and the current ordinance is still under review.
 4. **Moratorium on Downtown Center Extension-** Mayor Moore discussed the status of the downtown master plan and how the plan had to be modified due to springs being located on one of the properties. Mayor Moore presented the pros and cons of extending the moratorium as is or reducing the moratorium area to only include the downtown square district. Mayor Moore commented that the master plan is being revised to take into account for the springs and that process could take up to six months.
 5. **Sewer Plant Expansion Alternatives-** Mayor Moore discussed an alternative technology that would allow the sewer plant to be expanded to five times the capacity of the current plant for roughly the same price as the proposed expansion that would only double

current capacity. Mayor Moore commented that once the EPA permit was complete the city would have a better understanding of the options which include running a pipe system to direct discharge the waste or using modular systems until the city reaches that point.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION-Council member Stephanie Moncrief made motion to enter executive session. Council member Linda Pilgrim seconded. Passed unanimously. Council member Stephanie Moncrief made motion to leave executive session. Council member Erica Miles seconded. Passed unanimously.

VII. ADJOURN-Council member Stephanie Moncrief made motion to adjourn. Council member erica Miles seconded. Passed unanimously.