

CITY OF COOPER  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR METING  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 – 5:30 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: DARREN BRADDY; MAYOR, DAVID PHILLIPS, SCOTTY  
DEATHERAGE, LINDA BARNES, DIANE STEGALL AND JOSH HOSKISON

CITY ATTORNEY: JAY GARRETT

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, BRENDA PEREZ, BILL SLOAN, SCOTT LANDERS, KAREN ATKINS,  
SUSAN RASER, SHAUNA HOLLOWAY, JEFF HOLLOWAY, DORTHY RUTLEDGE, LISA CARTER,  
KENNETH APPLGATE. VIA ZOOM: SHANNA AND IPHONE

#### AGENDA ITEM #1

Darren Braddy opened the public hearing to discuss the proposed tax rate of .649272 and the proposed 2024-2025 budget. Darren explained that the proposed tax rate was the effective rate presented by the Delta County Tax Assessor Collector's office. Darren stated that the proposed rate was lower than all of the previous year's rates. Darren also stated that property values were higher but it has been the course of the effective tax rate to go lower each year. There were no comments on the proposed effective tax rate or the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

#### AGENDA ITEM #2

Darren Braddy closed the public hearing on the proposed tax rate and the proposed 2024-2025 budget at 5:32 pm.

#### AGENDA ITEM #3

Mayor Darren Braddy called the regular meeting to order and Darren also voiced the prayer.

#### AGENDA ITEM #4

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

#### AGENDA ITEM #5

Josh Hoskison made the motion to approve the August 12, 2024 public hearing and regular meeting minutes and the August 20, 2024 budget work session and special meeting minutes as presented. Linda Barnes seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGENDA ITEM #6

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council Ordinance #01-09-24 for approval of the proposed 2024-2025 budget. Mayor Braddy asked if there were any comments or questions on the proposed budget that was presented. Diane Stegall asked if the Code Enforcer position had been removed. Mayor Darren Braddy stated that, as previously discussed, that the Code Enforcer position had been removed from the proposed budget from the beginning. Mayor Braddy stated that \$1,200.00 of the initially allocated amount of \$40,000.00 for a Code Enforcer has been dispersed to the Animal Control Contract (Kerry Payne) due to the fact that Kerry Payne is licensed to enforce code and has agreed to assisting in the code enforcement effort. Diane Stegall asked where the remainder of the \$40,000.00 went. Mayor Darren Braddy stated that the remainder of funds were consumed within the General Fund Budget.

Diane Stegall made the motion to read Ordinance #01-09-24, adopting the 2024-2025 City of Cooper Budget by caption. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous. City Attorney, Jay Garrett read:

**ORDINANCE NO. 01-09-24  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COOPER, TEXAS,  
ADOPTING THE 2024-2025 BUDGET AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

David Phillips made the motion to approve Ordinance #01-09-24, adopting the 2024-2025 City of Cooper Budget as presented. Scotty Deatherage seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #7**

Diane Stegall made the motion to read Ordinance #02-09-24 adopting the 2024 tax rate in its entirety. Josh Hoskison seconded. Vote unanimous. City Attorney, Jay Garrett, read:

ORDINANCE #02-09-2024

BE IT ORDAINED AND ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Cooper that

We, the City Council of the City of Cooper do hereby levy or adopt the tax rate of \$100 valuation for this City for tax year 2024 as follows:

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF COOPER FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024

\$ 0.627046 For the purpose of maintenance and operation  
\$ 0.022226 For the payment of principal and interest on debt of this City  
\$ 0.649272 Total tax rate

The Tax Assessor-Collector is hereby authorized to assess and collect the taxes of the City of Cooper employing the above tax rate.

The above Ordinance and order was read and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

By the vote of \_\_\_\_\_ ayes and \_\_\_\_\_ nays.

APPROVED:

DARREN BRADY, MAYOR  
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:

EMILY HOWSE  
CITY SECRETARY

Linda Barnes made the motion to approve Ordinance #02-09-24 adopting the 2024 tax rate as read. Josh Hoskison seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #8**

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council the item of the tax collection contract with the Delta County Tax Office.

Josh Hoskison made the motion to approve the tax collection contract with Delta County Tax Office as presented. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #9**

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that Ordinance #03-09-24 would allow the re-zoning of the property located at 701 S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> from R-3 to LC to accommodate the placement of a mobile structure to be moved in for the purpose of a beauty shop which would face S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street. After

much discussion, it was the consensus of the council not to allow this due to the fact that it wasn't fair to place a business right in the middle of a residential area and on a highly traveled street. The council agreed that the owners could pursue the effort to place the beauty shop behind 701 S.W. 1<sup>st</sup>, which would mean that they would have to start the process all over for the new location possibility. Mayor Darren Braddy agreed with the council that setting precedence and uniformity for all was the goal of the city.

Diane Stegall made the motion to deny approving Ordinance #03-09-24 for the placement of a structure which would face S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street for the purpose of a beauty shop. Scotty Deatherage seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGENDA ITEM #10

Mayor Darren Braddy introduced Bill Sloan to present his case of the lack of one signature to make a storage building to living quarters on DCAD Property ID #6422. Bill Sloan stated that he was caring for his ailing aunt and it was his desire to make a storage building into living quarters for her to live so that she would be near him while he cared for her. Bill stated that he had obtained all signatures except one. Bill stated that he had talked to the person that did not sign. Bill stated that she was not against the action but did not see the purpose of signing if she did not live here. Bill explained to her that she owned the property within the area range of which signatures are needed. It was the consensus of the council to allow the storage building to be made into living quarters even lacking the one signature of approval to do so.

Scotty Deatherage made the motion to allow the storage building to be made into living quarters on DCAD Property ID #6422 lacking the one signature of approval to do so. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGNEDA ITEM #11

Mayor Darren Braddy presented the Delta County Appraisal District Proposed Budget and Re-Appraisal Plan. Linda Barnes stated that it was poor that there was no city representative on the DCAD Board. Mayor Braddy stated that it was due to the fact that the Cooper ISD had more votes for candidates and they used them this time which left the city with no representative. Diane Stegall stated that we would have to direct our complaints to the CISD DCAD Board Members.

Josh Hoskison made the motion to deny the DCAD 2025 Proposed Budget and Re-Appraisal Plan. Scotty Deatherage seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGENDA ITEM #12

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that retired employees were receiving a \$50.00 water credit but there was no documentation of approval for such. Mayor Braddy also stated that there needed to be documentation of amount and whom would get this credit in the future. After much discussion on this matter, it was the consensus of the council, for City Attorney Jay Garrett, to create a resolution to document stipulations which consist of the amount of \$50.00 water credit to each elected official after their term ends and to each employee and their spouse, who worked for 20 years, to continue to receive the water credit.

Scotty Deatherage made the motion to approve, City Attorney Jay Garrett, to prepare a resolution documenting the water credit details to be presented at the next council meeting. David Phillips seconded. Diane Stegall abstained from voting. Vote to prepare this resolution carried.

#### AGENDA ITEM #13

Mayor Darren Braddy presented the request for funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be paid to the Delta County Cotton Harvest Festival from the Frankie McKinney Arts Alliance Fund.

Scotty Deatherage made the motion to approve the \$2,500.00 request for funds for the Delta County Cotton Harvest Festival from the Frankie McKinney Arts Alliance Fund. Linda Barnes seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #14

Mayor Darren Braddy updated the council on the sewer line repairs, water leaks and the fact that someone is removing road blocks in a work zone and causing damage to newly prepared road repairs.

AGENDA ITEM #15

Mayor Darren Braddy presented the upcoming holiday schedule for review.

AGENDA ITEM #16

Monthly budget reports were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #17

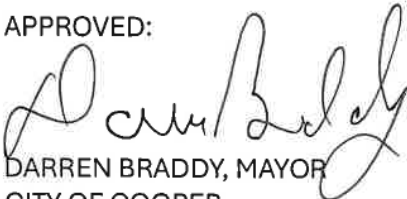
Accounts paid were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #18


Diane Stegall made the motion to adjourn. Josh Hoskison seconded. Vote unanimous.

TIME: 6:26 PM

APPROVED:

  
DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR  
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:

  
EMILY HOWSE  
CITY SECRETARY