

CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023

Present:

Mayor Mattie Parker
Mayor Pro tem Gyna M. Bivens, District 5
Council Member Carlos Flores, District 2
Council Member Michael D. Crain, District 3
Council Member Charlie Lauersdorf, District 4
Council Member Jared Williams, District 6
Council Member Macy Hill, District 7
Council Member Chris Nettles, District 8
Council Member Elizabeth Beck, District 9
Council Member Alan Blaylock, District 10
Council Member Jeanette Martinez, District 11

Staff Present:

David Cooke, City Manager
Leann Guzman, City Attorney
Jannette Goodall, City Secretary

1. Call to Order - Mattie Parker, Mayor

With a quorum of the City Council Members present, Mayor Parker called the Budget Work Session on the FY2024 Budget of the Fort Worth City Council to order 10:03 a.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2023, in the City Council Conference Room 2020 of the Fort Worth City Hall, 200 Texas Street, Fort Worth, Texas.

2. Opening Comments - David Cooke, City Manager

3. Recommended Tax Rate - David Cooke, City Manager

- a. Overview
- b. Exemptions
- c. Recommended

David Cooke, City Manager provided a presentation on the recommended tax rate including exemptions and recommended allocations.

Mayor Pro Tem requested that staff ensure communication with the public is clear regarding what was adopted by the State, the County and the City.

Council Member Flores asked for information on what is happening with commercial properties nationally.

Council Member Crain requested details on the growth in the 100% tax exemption category.

Council Member Beck requested projections on where and how we prepare for the future growth.

Council Member Hill requested the number of commercial properties captured in the tax base from 1998-99 to present.

Mayor Parker and Council Member Beck requested a comparison based on sampling on what we are taxing commercial properties compared to the amount commercial properties are selling.

Mayor Parker information on the decrease to the tax payer if the City were at the No New Revenue Tax Rate.

4. Police Staffing - Robert Alldredge, Executive Assistant Police Chief

Council Member Flores requested additional details on the impact to training staff with the compressed academy classes.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens recommended discussing the possibility of housing incentives as a recruiting tool to help keep officers living in neighborhoods.

Council Member Beck requested details about what else is included in the police budget other than staffing.

Council Member Williams requested consideration of more patrol and NPO's in District 6.

Council Member Williams requested an update on recruit pay and where we are headed with pay for recruits.

Council Member Flores requested details on NPO vacancies.

Council Member Flores requested consideration of a bike patrol in the Stockyard District and possible funding through the PID.

Council Member Martinez recommended considering incentives for transfers to help retain officers in the central and south sectors of the City.

Council Member Nettles requested information on officer vacancies and crime response time and the City's hot spots.

Council Member Beck requested consideration for bike patrols in the Near Southside and discussion on where bike patrols would be most effective in the future.

Mayor Parker request information on the MOU's the Police Department has with surrounding cities to provide support.

5. Budget Response Review

[BR 24-003](#) Police Staffing Plan

Discussion was part of the Police Staffing presentation by Robert Alldredge, Executive Assistant Police Chief provide a presentation on police staffing.

6. Wrap-up Discussion & Schedule Forward - David Cooke, City Manager

7. Closing Comments - Mattie Parker, Mayor

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.