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**MINUTES**  
**ROCKWALL CITY COUNCIL**  
**Monday, August 31, 2015**  
**8:00 a.m. Budget Work Session**  
**Municipal Court Building, 2860 SH-66 Rockwall, TX 75087**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pruitt called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Present were Mayor Jim Pruitt, Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Lewis and City Council Members David White, Mike Townsend, John Hohenshelt, Scott Milder, and Kevin Fowler. Also present were City Manager Rick Crowley, Assistant City Managers Mary Smith and Brad Griggs, department directors, and the city secretary.

2. HOLD BUDGET WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE CITY OF ROCKWALL'S FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET, AND TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY.

Councilmember Hohenshelt shared information he assembled related to budget and tax rate related strategic planning data and information. After the discussion, it was decided that further dialogue related to these ideas would be scheduled for a separate meeting so that potential implementation strategies could be developed.

Councilmember Milder requested to have an in depth discussion pertaining to the Fire Department including staffing and the condition of Fire Station 1. Chief Poindexter indicated that funding to hire a consultant to study needs pertaining to Station 1 and its potential expansion or replacement is being proposed in this budget. Extensive discussion took place related to staffing of the department as a whole, at each of the various fire stations and on scene during structure fires. Discussion ensued regarding fire department volunteer recruitment efforts as well as volunteer training and experience. The need for goal setting pertaining to the fire department on the part of the city council was discussed. Councilmember Milder indicated that he would like the council to consider adopting the current tax rate instead of the effective tax rate this budget year, and he would like the council to consider funding six new, full-time firefighters.

Following the discussion, council and staff discussed the Water/Sewer Fund, Debt Service, and the General Fund and General Government budget proposals. Staff indicated that Animal Services will begin reporting to Andy Hesser starting October 1<sup>st</sup>, and Lieutenant Valliant in the Police Department will serve as an advisor. The Finance Department budget was discussed, followed by additional discussion related to the Fire Department and the proposed Police Department budget.

Mayor Pruitt recessed the meeting at 11:46 for a brief break. At 12:05 a.m. discussion took place related to a park grant to expand the SH-66 boat ramp, including the required local funding match. General discussion took place related to improvements to some sidewalks, including ADA accessibility of those sidewalks, in the downtown area (a portion not included in bond related improvements). Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the

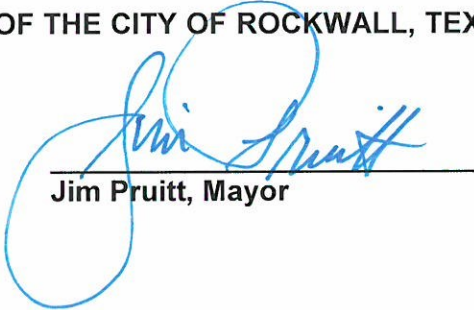
49 Community Development, Parks, Public Works/Engineering, Special Revenue Fund, and  
50 Internal Services Fund budget proposals were discussed.

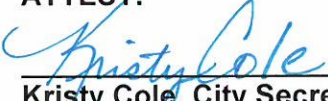
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52 At 1:40 p.m., wrap up comments were made. Brief comments were offered regarding  
53 adoption of the effective rate versus the current tax rate. Assistant City Manager, Mary  
54 Smith, provided an explanation of the remainder of the budget process, including  
55 required public notices, upcoming public hearings, and city council votes needed for  
56 ultimate adoption of the budget.

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58 3. ADJOURNMENT

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60 The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

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63 PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS,  
64 THIS 8<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2015.

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70 Jim Pruitt, Mayor

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68 ATTEST:  
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71 Kristy Cole, City Secretary

