

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
WORKSHOP AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 22, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Barbara Domain called the meeting to order at that time. Domain conducted the roll call, at this time the members of the City Council who were present were: Mayor Barbara Domain, Michael Trahan II, Elizabeth (Liz) Hardy, Councilwoman Audrey Harrison, Councilman Eddie White and Alfred Freeman Jr.

1. CONSIDER AND DISCUSS 2025 BUDGET

Mayor Domain stated that the municipal court budget was submitted to her. She stated that all of the court fines and fees are for the city and any money collected will help to pay the budget. Discussion was made that any department under the city could go to the city. Mayor Domain explained how the complaints form worked. She explained the process of how three letters would be sent to citizens who are out of compliance with city ordinances. Discussion was made about the municipal court budget. Mayor Domain stated that there are some things that the court would need in addition to what is used by the city. Mayor also stated that she would be responsible for keeping up with the budget. A question was asked about permits and how much money was being brought in. Discussion was made to add CPA services to the budget and Wellona stated that item is already on the budget.

Mayor wants to talk about salaries for the employees. She mentioned that \$10.00 an hour and even \$12.00 is not enough money to keep employees, so she would like to offer \$16.00 an hour. A question was asked about how many office staff we have. Mayor mentioned that there are only two, Wellona and Jennifer, then there is Erwin and two people who work with him. Wellona salary is separate. Discussion about Ms. Jennifer being a 1099 employee, Mayor explained that she works only 30 hours a week and is an employee; she mentioned that four employee salaries would come out of utilities and Ms. Wellons's would come out of general. There was discussion regarding an eminent domain lawyer; money for a new truck was already budgeted. Mayor mentioned how much property taxes were collected so far. Mayor wants to put in for the Secretary to get a raise. There was a discussion about budgeting for increase in Mayor's pay. Then there were discussions about each line item on the budget and the bills.

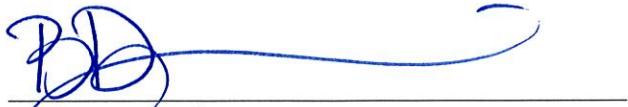
2. MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 PM.

Motion to made by: Councilwoman Liz Hardy
Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



Barbara Domain
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey
City Secretary