CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

The City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, met in Special Session (Public Hearing) on Monday, September 23, 2013, in the Council Chamber, First Floor of City Hall, 7008 South Rice Avenue, Bellaire, Texas 77401, for the following purpose(s):

A. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan.

Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan called the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2013.

B. ANNOUNCEMENT OF A QUORUM – Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan.

Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Nathan announced that a quorum was present consisting of herself and the following members of City Council: Councilmen Roman F. Reed, Corbett Daniel Parker, James P. Avioli, Sr., Pat B. McLaughlan and Andrew S. Friedberg. Also present were City Manager Bernard M. Satterwhite, Jr., Chief Financial Officer Linda Symank, and City Clerk Tracy L. Dutton.

Mayor Philip L. Nauert was absent.

C. READING OF THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – City Clerk Tracy L. Dutton.

City Clerk Tracy L. Dutton read the “Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase” into the record.

D. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURE – City Manager Bernard M. Satterwhite, Jr.

City Manager Bernard M. Satterwhite, Jr., summarized the public hearing procedure for the evening.

E. PRESENTATION regarding a proposal to increase total tax revenues for the 2013 tax year from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 4.28 percent by proposing a tax rate of $0.3999 per $100 valuation – Presentation by Chief Financial Officer Linda Symank.

Chief Financial Officer Linda Symank indicated that truth-in-taxation requirements dictated the steps that the City followed in the adoption of a tax rate when the proposed rate would generate additional revenue this year over
last year. Included in those steps was a requirement to hold two public hearings.

Although the tax rate that was proposed, $0.3999, was the same rate that was adopted the previous year, this rate would give the City an additional $758,500 in revenue over the previous year. Of that amount, $255,000 was from new properties added to the tax roll and the remaining approximately $504,000 was from increases in appraised values.

Based on the homestead residents certified roll that was received at the time the City received its certified roll, the average taxable value of a resident homestead for the City of Bellaire this year was $534,810. That value increased approximately 8.6% over the average taxable value from last year and would result in a higher tax liability this year of approximately $170.

The public hearing was held to give the residents the opportunity to comment on the proposed tax rate prior to its adoption, which was scheduled for October 7, 2013.

F. RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS AND/OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES – Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan.

Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan recognized citizens and other interested parties who had completed the sign-in sheet prior to the start of the public hearing.

Richard Franke addressed City Council and advised that the tax increase was totally acceptable; however, the City's infrastructure was disgraceful in his opinion. Mr. Franke advised that the City still needed to complete $200 million of basic infrastructure.

Mr. Franke referred to information that he had obtained from the City which indicated that Glenmont Drive and Nancy Street would be reconstructed in 2013. He had since learned that the referenced streets would be engineered in 2013, not reconstructed in 2013.

Mr. Franke urged City Council to get the infrastructure taken care of now, as construction rates were starting to rise again. In his opinion, the property values in the City were at great risk for declining as a result of the poor infrastructure.

G. QUESTIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL – Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan.

There were no questions this evening from the Mayor Pro Tem and City Council.
H. CLOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING – Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan.

Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2013.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

CITY COUNCIL MOTION TO ADJOURN/ACTION:

Councilman Roman F. Reed moved to adjourn the Special Session (Public Hearing) of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, at 6:10 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2013. Councilman Pat B. McLaughlan seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn carried unanimously on a 6-0 vote as follows:

FOR: Mayor Pro Tem Amanda B. Nathan and Councilmen Roman F. Reed, James P. Avioli, Sr., Corbett Daniel Parker, Pat B. McLaughlan, and Andrew S. Friedberg

OPPOSED: None

ABSENT: Mayor Philip L. Nauert

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Tracy L. Dutton, TRMC
City Clerk
City of Bellaire, Texas

Approved:

[Signature]
Amanda B. Nathan, Mayor Pro Tem
City of Bellaire, Texas