

# Special Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2024

The City Council of Audubon Park held a meeting Monday, July 1, 2024. The following were present Mayor Madeline Bozeman, City Clerk Cecilia Niemann, Councilors Elyse Shackleton, Brenda Hartman, Austin Schwenker, and Joe Brenner. Councilors Michael Hartman and Pete Becker were absent.

## Call to Order

The mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

## Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## New Business

Mayor Bozeman introduced the compensating tax rate and circulating information discussion. She gave the floor to Austin Schwenker. He stated the tax rate hasn't changed. Because of the increased values of the homes in Audubon Park and the WM contract, the amount of revenue available for the city to collect has created some divide within the city. The council wanted to discuss utilizing the 4% increase above the compensating tax rate, which is allowed by law without a recall. The Mayor shared similar sentiments. Austin Schwenker stated that the recall vote would put the tax rate on the ballot for November. That would have to be certified and then adjusted by Audubon. The city would not collect taxes until late December, early January meaning the city would not have any revenue for six months.

Mayor Bozeman asked for a motion to amend Ordinance 1, Series 2024 Ad Valorem. Joe Brenner made a motion, Brenda Hartman seconded. Austin Schwenker read the ordinance. There was no discussion. All were in favor, 2 absent.

## Public Comments

A member of the public asked if the city would be able to pay off the loan. The council responded that it wouldn't. She went on to thank the council for everything they do for the city.

A member of the public wished residents contacted the council members who worked on the budget to ask questions instead of following a Facebook page that pretends to be a media with falsehoods being given out. Another member of the public asked what the falsehoods were, to which another member of the public responded.

A member of the public asked if the Revised Statutes governed how much you could raise the tax rate. Joe Brenner explained the ad valorem taxes in Audubon Park. Austin Schwenker responded that the tax rate didn't increase. The city had to decrease the tax rate to stay, because of the PVA values increasing, the amount of revenue that would have been would have been higher than the 4% increase allowing there to be a recall. The member of the public asked if the city could even be allowed to generate revenue over the 4% increase of the previous year's revenue. Schwenker responded that the city could, but, if enough people sign a recall, then it goes to a citywide vote.

Someone asked Dorn Crawford to give up the Residents of Audubon Park Facebook page. Dorn Crawford said no.

## Adjournment

Mayor Bozeman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Austin Schwenker made a motion to adjourn, Brenda Hartman seconded. The motion passed with all in favor, 2 absent (Michael Hartman and Pete Becker).

The meeting adjourned at 6:26PM.

Attested



Approved

