

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 27, 2018**

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bassler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL

Those present were Council Member Crowell, Council Member Poole, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates, Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman and Mayor Bassler.

ITEM 3 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

Mayor Bassler led both.

ITEM 4 OPEN FORUM

None.

ITEM 5 PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE TOTAL TAX REVENUES FROM PROPERTIES ON THE TAX ROLL IN THE PRECEDING TAX YEAR BY 11.35 PERCENT.

Council Member Poole moved to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Crowell. Ayes: Council Member Poole, Council Member Crowell, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

Seth Luther, a resident of 244 Saratoga Drive stated that he had many questions. He asked what the additional revenue would be used for. Council Member Poole stated that the additional funds were to hire two additional Police Officers, one police vehicle and all of the other budget items that will go along with the additional positions such as benefits, uniforms, fuel, etc.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman re-stated that there is not a tax rate increase and that the increase is only in tax revenue.

Mayor Bassler included that the Town drainage project will be completed during this budget year.

Council Member Poole added that in the Water/Sewer Budget that we will be spending funds for a SCADA system and other water and sewer lines.

Dorothy Cummings, a resident of 216 Jockey Court stated that she thought it was good that the rate in decreasing and asked if the budget is available for public view. Sheri Clearman replied that it is on the Town of Ponder website. Council Member Poole gave Ms. Cummings the last two years tax rates and the Mayor stated that the Town of Ponder has a lower tax rate that all surrounding Towns with the exception of Argyle.

Council Member Poole stated that he appreciates everyone showing up.

Nick Maitland would like to get information on meeting times.

Ernesto Ortega, a resident of 241 Saratoga, asked when the Town would be taking over the park. Sheri Clearman replied that it would be sometime near October 1, 2018.

ITEM 11 ADJOURN

Council Member Poole moved to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Crowell. Ayes: Council Member Poole, Council Member Crowell, Council Member Bates, Council Member Cockburn and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

John Bassler, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Sheri N. Clearman, City Secretary