

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on Tuesday **MAY 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013**, the Riesel City Council met in a **SPECIAL** called **WORK SESSION** meeting, at 6:30 p.m. in the Riesel City Hall Meeting Room, at 104 Hwy. 6 North in Riesel, Texas, with notice of said meeting having been posted at least 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Roger Fitzpatrick presiding officer, at 6:30 p.m.

**Council Members Present:** Jeanne Lehrmann, Al Bumelis, Gerry Suttle & Deena Tobias & Phyllis Koester

**Employees Present:** Alisha Flanary, Steven Wetzel

**Visitors Present:** Tom Flanary Jr., Debi Haynes

**PARK:**

01. Discussion/Comparison of Park Bids – only one bid was received and discussion pertained to asking for an amended bid or putting the project out for bid again
02. Discussion was held regarding Lehrmann property for sale next to City Park and actual cost of property and clean up costs were mentioned
03. Discussion on fencing around park – only one quote has been received so far, still soliciting estimates

**BUILDING/MAINTENANCE**

04. Brief discussion pertaining to City Hall maintenance and drainage repairs
05. There was discussion on removal of old theatre row seats/pews from council meeting room and possibly giving them to the fire department
06. Discussion was held on Backhoe Repairs/Maintenance versus selling it and buying a replacement backhoe
07. Discussion was held on security upgrades for City Hall and the Court

**WATER:**

08. Discussion was held regarding water conservation ideas and the possibility of purchasing low flow shower heads for distribution – it was requested that Alisha Flanary check into pricing on shower heads
09. There was discussion on increasing Water & Sewer Tap Fees, which haven't been increased in more than 12 years and this would only apply to new water/sewer customers requesting new taps
10. Discussion was held on researching utility billing collection services for charge offs and/or reporting to credit bureau
11. Discussion was held pertaining to past due customer accounts (garbage & water & sewer)
12. Discussion/Update on Rattlesnake Well Repairs (failure of main pump and two booster pumps) – cameras will be down the well shaft to help find causes of problems
13. Council briefly discussed FHLM and how it pertains to the city and RMS and MS

**SEWER:**

14. Discussion was held on Sewer Plant maintenance and repairs (aerator, bridge, irrigation field/hay) – these items will be discussed during budget work sessions in the near future

**FINANCIAL:**

15. Discussion was held pertaining to Refunding USDA bonds, issuing Certificates of Obligation and an update on the city Financial Advisor – Coastal Security has had a massive turnover in staff
16. Discussion was held regarding the 2013-14 Preliminary Effective Tax Rate and the reduction of taxable value on roll – effective rate went from .25 cents to .447 with a rollback rate of .48 – these rates do not have to be adopted, but to maintain the same amount of tax revenue as received in the past, this would be the effective rate – this subject will be discussed and researched in greater detail before a tax rate is proposed by Council

**PERSONNEL**

17. Council briefly discussed Hiring and Interviewing Practices
18. Discussion was held on pre-employment background and reference checks and consider having an outside neutral party perform them

**Adjournment:** Mayor Fitzpatrick adjourned the meeting at 8:57pm.

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Mayor, Roger Fitzpatrick

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Attest: Alisha Flanary, City Secretary