

ORIGINAL

MINUTES OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

PUBLIC HEARING - SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014, there was a Public Hearing of the Commissioner' Court held in the Commissioners' Court, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, with the following members present: C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., County Judge; Jack Chaney, Commissioner, Precinct 1 (not in attendance because of family emergency); Leslie "Bubba" Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2; Charles Smith, Commissioner, Precinct 3; Betty Stiles, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Peggy L. Friebele, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Jeri D. Cox, Tax Assessor/Collector; Bill Mills, Sheriff; Collin Jackson, IT Director; and Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor.

The Meeting was convened at 8:30 a.m. at which time a quorum was declared by County Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

2014 TAX INCREASE

Judge Mills stated the purpose of the public hearing was to hear public comments on the 2014 tax increase used to fund the 2015 budget.

Norma Martinez with The Rockport Pilot asked if this was a deficit budget. Commissioner Smith stated it was; \$309,000.00 used.

Local resident Bill McPherson's comment was he did not think taxes should be raised when revenues are increased each year. The residents have to live within their budget and the County should. He further stated that he does not get anything from the taxes he pays. He added that the County should not be paying \$5,000.00 for a \$300.00 television. Sheriff Mills replied the money was spent on a projector and not a television. Mr. McPherson stated he had to cut costs when he needed to give raises to keep his personnel.

A new resident stated, as a business owner she must live within her budget and thinks the County should also.

Commissioner Smith stated the increase in taxes was due to the jail and sheriff needing to increase pay to retain employees.

Sheriff Mills stated he was losing employees to the City of Rockport, Nueces County and San Patricio County because of higher wages.

2014 TAX RATE ADOPTION DATE

Judge Mills asked for a motion to set the date for adoption of the 2014 tax rate; Commissioner Smith made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Casterline to adopt the tax rate on Monday, September 22, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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No further business presenting, the Court adjourned on a motion made  
by Commissioner Smith duly seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr. COUNTY JUDGE

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PEGGY L. FRIEBELE, COUNTY CLERK &  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT