

**December 21, 2023**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

Present:	Mayor:	Larry Sitts
	Trustees:	Vance Brian
		Blaine Ice
		Calvin Melcher
		Bill Kissell
		Rod Swisher

Randy Holland	Town Administrator
Cynthia S. Humrich	Town Clerk/Treasurer
Tracy Kirmer	Town Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

**2024**

**BUDGET HEARING**

Call to Order by Mayor Larry Sitts at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call by Town Clerk/Treasurer Cynthia S. Humrich – all present except Trustee Rushton.

Holly Town Residents in Attendance: Clearly stating name for benefit of the record – no one appeared for the budget hearing.

Questions and Comments from the Public, moderated by Larry Sitts, Mayor – none.

Adjournment of Hearing by motion of the Board. Trustee Swisher motioned to adjourn the public budget hearing at 5:04 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Kissell. Motion carried 5-0.

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

Mayor Sitts presided over the special meeting of the Holly Board of Trustees on the above date at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called. All present except Trustee Rushton, gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the Agenda. None

New Business. Ordinance No. 551 – to Adopt 2024 Budget. Discussion was presented regarding the final devaluation assessment at a loss of \$677,160 which came to a loss of \$19,547 in property taxes for the year 2024. Discussion continued on the Back Fill and ramifications of how the different scenarios will affect our 2024 budget. Motion to adopt the existing budget, Ordinance No. 551, plus to add in an additional 2% increase to salaries was made with request of a Trustee Roll Call Vote. Roll Call. Trustee Ice – yes, Trustee Brian – yes, Trustee Rushton – Absent, Trustee Kissell – yes, Trustee Melcher – yes, Trustee Swisher – yes. Motion carried 5-0. **Ordinance No. 552 – to Appropriate Sums of Money.** It was explained where the revenue dollars appear in the budget and how this coincides with the Ordinance. Motion was made to approve Ordinance No. 552 to Appropriate Sums of Money by Trustee Brian. Seconded by Trustee Swisher. Motion carried 5-0. **Ordinance No. 553 – to Set Mill Levy.** Discussed the current mill levy and what we will certify back to the Prowers County Assessors. Motion was made to approve Ordinance No. 553 to Set Mill Levy by Trustee Roll Call Vote. Roll Call. Trustee Ice – yes, Trustee Brian – yes, Trustee Rushton – Absent, Trustee Kissell – yes, Trustee Melcher – yes, Trustee Swisher – yes. Motion carried 5-0. **Approve 2024 Wage Scale.** Budget discussion on where the wages are at, which is at 5%. The minimum wage is going to increase to \$14.42 as of January 1, 2024 which is an approximate 7% increase from 2023. It was requested to know how much an additional 2% would cost the Town of Holly. Discussion was made about a possible lineman's

wage. Motion was made to approve a 7% wage increase for 2024 by a Trustee Roll Call Vote. Roll Call. Trustee Ice – yes, Trustee Brian – yes, Trustee Rushton – Absent, Trustee Kissell – yes, Trustee Melcher – yes, Trustee Swisher -yes. Motion carried 5-0. **Ordinance No. 554 – to Increase Sales Tax by One Percent at the April 2, 2024 Election (first reading)**. Discussion ensued on how this sales tax compared to Lamar’s and how it would be processed for public safety through accounting. Motion to approve Ordinance No. 554 to Increase Sales Tax by One Percent at the April 2, 2024 Election by a Trustee Roll Call Vote. Roll Call. Trustee Ice – yes, Trustee Brian – yes, Trustee Rushton – Absent, Trustee Kissell – yes, Trustee Melcher – yes, Trustee Swisher – yes. Motion carried 5-0. Some added discussion was made on the rejection letter of Mill Levy decrease to Governor Polis.

**Miscellaneous.** None.

**Adjournment.** Trustee Brian motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Melcher. Motion 5-0 at 5:46 p.m.

/s/ Larry Sitts, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Cynthia S. Humrich, Clerk/Treasurer