

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF FALLS  
CITY OF MARLIN

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On this the 19th day of August 2014, the City Council of the City of Marlin, Texas convened in a SPECIAL CALLED BUDGET WORKSHOP, at 5:30pm, the same being open to the public and having been posted as prescribed in Local Government Code, Section 551.041 with the following members present to wit:

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mayor Elizabeth Nelson  
Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson  
Rose Morin  
Cecil Sparks @ 5:35pm  
Billie Jean Scaggs  
Tommy Tate  
Douglas Porter

**STAFF**

Richard Fletcher, Interim City Manager  
Sandra Herring, City Secretary

1. Call to Order by Mayor Nelson @ 5:31pm.
2. Roll Call by Sandra Herring.
3. Certify Posting in accordance with State Law.
4. Invocation & Pledge by Rose Morin and Tommy Tate.
5. Approval of minutes from August 12th, 2014.

This item was skipped.

6. Budget Discussion for Proposed Budget for FY 2014-2015.

Interim City Manager Dick Fletcher started the discussion by indicating to Council that it was going to be a year to make some really hard decisions. Beginning with the General Fund, the current proposed budget has a deficit of approx. \$288,000. Also several factors are indicating that the effective tax rate for 2014 will be .671 which is lower than the current rate of .0675 resulting from the ½ cent for property tax reduction, less debt on the tax obligation side and increase in sales tax. After the tax discussion, Police Chief Allen discussed with Council the need for new vehicles. All of the police vehicles are at least 7 years old and all but 2 are over a mileage of 100,000 most over 130,000. Two are completely down, one for transmission and the other is motor related. There are also 3 that are malfunctioning and unsafe. Chief Allen indicated that there was a possible loan/grant from the USDA that he would be applying for to assist with that expense. Mr. Fletcher also indicated an increase in the police department due to the need for another dispatcher and a full time animal control officer. Next to speak was Fire Chief Parker. He indicated that his department has already made cuts within the day to day operations. He and Mr. Fletcher indicated that there could be a functioning fire department with a staff of seven, and that is reflected in the proposed budget. With a staff of seven, the department would be limited to one station for operations. That would reduce the employees in the Fire

Department but they would be offered one of the current open positions as an option for continued employment. Chief Parker also indicated the need for new air packs. The current ones are unreliable and that he was searching for grant funding for that expense. Mr. Fletcher then discussed other cuts within the maintenance department that the city was supplying but was not necessary for the city to supply such as cell phones, water, ice, etc.; and that other items should be purchased in bulk such as gloves, pvc parts, safety glasses etc. but someone would have to be in charge of the inventory.

Mr. Fletcher ended discussion with that it was going to be a year that Council had to make some tough decisions and that it was there decision make on how the city would move forward.

7. Future Agenda Items.

8. Adjourn.

Councilmember Sparks made motion to adjourn.

Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson seconded this motion and the motion carried as follows:

AYES: Councilmember Morin, Councilmember Sparks, Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson, Councilmember Scaggs, Councilmember Tate, Councilmember Porter, Mayor Nelson

NAYS: None.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014.



*Elizabeth Nelson*  
Elizabeth Nelson, Mayor

*Sandra Herring*  
Sandra Herring, City Secretary