

§STATE OF TEXAS
§CALDWELL COUNTY
§CITY OF LULING

THE CITY OF LULING CITY COUNCIL MET IN PUBLIC HEARING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 509 E. CROCKETT STREET, LULING, TEXAS.

The following members: present:

C J Watts	Mayor
Jackie Campbell	Council Member
Lee Rust	Council Member
Marc Taylor	Council Member
Ray McGlothlin	Council Member
John Wells	Council Member

Staff Members present were:

Mark Mayo	City Manager
Martha Velasquez	City Secretary
James Rougeou	Finance Director
William Sala	Police Chief
Trey Bailey	LEDC Director

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Mayor Watts called the meeting to order.

2. Open Public Hearing.

The City Council of the City of Luling will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate of .4079 per \$100 valuation.

Finance Director, Sonny Rougeou stated that Caldwell County had calculated the required tax rates for 2023 being
2023 No New Revenue Tax rate \$0.3905/\$100
2023 Voter Approval Tax Rate \$0.4079/\$100
2023 De Minimus Tax Rate \$0.528/\$100

He stated that we had posted the Notice about 2023 Tax Rates on our Website and at City Hall in the form prescribed by the state Comptrollers. At the last Council meeting we discussed the tax rate and proposed a tax rate of \$0.4079/\$100 and scheduled a public hearing for September 7, 2023. We published the notice of public hearing on tax increase in the local newspaper. Tonight we are holding the required public hearing on the proposed tax rate since the proposed tax rate of \$0.4079 exceeds the “no new revenue tax rate” of \$0.3905. Council has the option of adopting the tax rate after the public hearing which we have posted on the special called meeting for September 7th. The proposed tax rate is expected to generate \$1,562,954 in tax revenue based on a 90% collection rate; our average collection rate over the past 5 years has been 89.47%; and if that collection rate is attained, the revenue generated will exceed our budget estimate by \$12,954.

If this proposed tax rate of \$0.4079/\$100 is adopted, the average homestead will see a \$52.29 increase in tax compared to the prior year and is due primarily to the 12.95% increase in valuation of the property. The average home taxable value in 2023 was \$177,237 and in 2022 the average home taxable value was \$156,916.

Sonny stated that is the reason of the increase because of the home value and not the tax rate because as John Well, Council Member 5 mentioned the proposed tax rate has decreased.

If the proposed tax rate of \$0.4079/\$100 is not adopted tonight, we are required to announce the date, time and place of the meeting at which the tax rate will be adopted and the date must be within 7 days from tonight.

3. Close Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing was closed at 5:36 p.m.

4. Adjourn.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned. Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member John Wells to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

Approved;_____

C J Watts, Mayor
City of Luling

Martha C. Velasquez
City Secretary