



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

October 06, 2011 @ 5:00 p.m. at the Oran White Civic Center

Minutes

The City of Tool Special City Council Workshop Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm. Present were Council Members Williams, Candage, Wright and Reeder. Quorum was established with Mayor Pitts presiding. Councilman Phillips was absent.

ITEM 1 Discussion on Municipal General Election procedures as related to Texas Senate Bill 100. The options available to conform to the new Senate Bill 100 were discussed. Option “A” was to keep the election date in May of every year as it has been and purchase or go in with other entities’ to purchase our own voting equipment so that we would not have to lease from County since they have supplied notice that a lease with them would not be an option on even numbered May years. This option though the estimated cost of \$20,000 would be shared there is no guarantee of additional future expense. Option “B” is to move our current election date to November, have current Council and next year’ Mayor and Council “hold over” from May to November. Though this option appears to have the least amount of financial impact on the City, it requires a joint election with the County, no polling location at our City Hall and the uncertainty about placement on the County Ballot. Option “C” would be to move the election date to May of odd numbered years only. County has indicated that they will lease equipment in odd number of years. This option would require a 1 year hold over and to un-staggered terms which means that Mayor and all Council would be up for election in the same year. The only option left but not really considered by Mayor and Council was to move to 4-year terms. This would require a special election and allow the Citizens to decide whether they wanted their City Officials to hold four-year terms. If approved by vote in an election it would require candidates to win by majority and not plurality as it is currently. If a candidate did not win by majority then a run-off election would be mandatory. Also, if a seat became vacant at any time during the four year term of office then the City would be required to hold a special election to fill the vacant seat. Mayor and Council did not consider this option and leaned towards moving to November date and contracting with County. Mayor Pitts said that we would put it on the October Agenda and make a final decision at that time.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilman Candage, second by Councilman Wright. Motion passed 4-0 at 5:40pm.

Passed and approved this 20th day of October 2011.