

MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP – STAFFORD CITY COUNCIL AND
STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024

On the 18th day of June, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Stafford, Texas and Board of Trustees of the Stafford Municipal School District (SMSD) met in the Board Room of the Scarcella Administration Building in said City. In addition to the Council and Trustees listed below, the following City Staff were present: City Secretary Roxanne Benitez and Assistant City Secretary Shandra Phillips.

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

1. Call to Order.

President Hinojosa called the meeting to order for the SMSD Board at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Mathew called the meeting to order for the City Council at 7:00 p.m.

2. Announcement by the Board President and Mayor whether a quorum is present, that the meeting has been duly called and notice of the meeting has been posted for the time and manner required by law.

President Hinojosa announced that there was a quorum of SMSD Board of Trustees present. The following were in attendance:

- President Manuel Hinojosa
- Vice-President Ash Hamirani
- Secretary Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste
- Trustee Joyce Wilkins
- Trustee Suzette Thompson
- Trustee Patricia Soza-Montelongo
- Trustee Adam Sanchez (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)

Mayor Mathew announced that there was a quorum of the City Council present. The following were in attendance:

- Mayor Ken Mathew
- Mayor Pro Tem Alice Chen
- Council Member William K. Bostic
- Council Member Tim Wood
- Council Member Christopher Caldwell (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)
- Council Member Virginia Rosas
- Council Member Xavier Herrera (arrived at 7:02 p.m.)

3. Invocation and Pledge.

Mayor Mathew led the pledge to the United States flag. President Hinojosa gave the invocation.

4. Presentation by the Chief Financial Officer regarding the 2024-2025 SMSD budget and tax rates.

SMSD Superintendent Dr. Robert Bostic introduced Financial Consultant Dr. Jesus Amezcua as well as the newly appointed Chief Financial Officer Dovran Ovezov.

Josh Haney, Vice-President of Finance at Moak Casey, provided a PowerPoint presentation on school finance, recent legislation, property tax growth, and tax rates.

Secretary Jean-Baptiste exited the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Mr. Haney answered questions from the Board Trustees and Council Members.

Secretary Jean-Baptiste entered the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

President Hinojosa exited the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Chen exited the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Financial Consultant Dr. Jesus Amezcua provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the outcome of SMSD's voter approved tax rate election.

Mayor Mathew exited the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

President Hinojosa entered the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Chen entered the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Mathew entered the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Council Member Caldwell exited the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Council Member Caldwell entered the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Dr. Amezcua spoke regarding proposed tax rates for 2024-2025, expenditure projections, tax anticipation maintenance notes, as well as the possibility of a bond election for defeasance of maintenance notes.

Dr. Amezcua, Dr. Bostic, and President Hinojosa answered questions from the Council Members.

Dr. Bostic and Dr. Dubose answered questions from the Board Trustees.

Council Member Caldwell commended Dr. Bostic and the SMSD Board Trustees on the decisions made over the years to increase the number of programs attracting more students.

Council Member Wood suggested that low-cost mechanisms be implemented to increase student attendance.

Dr. Amezcua answered questions from the Board Trustees.

Dr. Bostic answered questions from the Council Members.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items.

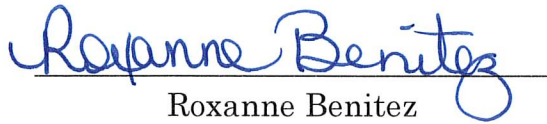
None.

6. Adjournment.

Secretary Jean-Baptiste motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m., and Trustee Sanchez seconded the motion. President Hinojosa, Vice-President Hamirani, Secretary Jean-Baptiste, and Trustees Wilkins, Thompson, Soza-Montelongo, and Sanchez voted "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Chen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m., and Council Member Bostic seconded the motion. Mayor Mathew, Mayor Pro Tem Chen and Council Members Bostic, Wood, Caldwell, Rosas, and Herrera voted "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 7-0.

ATTEST:



Roxanne Benitez
City Secretary



Ken Mathew
Mayor