

MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP – STAFFORD CITY COUNCIL AND
STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024

On the 1st day of August, 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 and SMSD Staff were present: City Secretary Roxanne Benitez and SMSD Executive Assistant/Board Coordinator Sonya M. Austin.

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 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Mathew called the meeting to order for the City Council at 7:03 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
- Trustee Joyce Wilkins
- Trustee Suzette Thompson
- Trustee Patricia Soza-Montelongo
- Trustee Adam Sanchez

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
- Council Member Virginia Rosas

3. Presentation by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) regarding the 2024-2025 SMSD budget and tax rates.

SMSD Superintendent Dr. Robert Bostic introduced Chief Financial Officer Dovran Ovezov, Financial Consultant Dr. Jesus Amezcua, and Clarence Grier, with RBC Capital Markets.

Chief Financial Officer Dovran Ovezov provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed SMSD budget for 2024-2025.

Vice-President Hamirani exited the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Vice-President Hamirani entered the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Mayor Mathew exited the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Trustee Sanchez exited the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Trustee Sanchez entered the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor Mathew entered the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Ovezov and Dr. Amezcua answered questions from the Council Members.

Dr. Bostic also answered questions from the Council Members.

Trustee Soza-Montelongo exited the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Trustee Soza-Montelongo entered the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Council Member Bostic exited the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Clarence Grier, with RBC Capital Markets, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the maintenance and operation budget.

Council Member Bostic entered the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Trustee Thompson exited the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Council Member Caldwell exited the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Trustee Thompson entered the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Council Member Caldwell entered the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Mr. Grier and Dr. Amezcua answered questions from the Board Trustees and Council Members.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Public Comments were received from the following:

- Joe Longoria, who lives at 12811 Linda Street, spoke on the enrollment trend. He asked what could be done to correct the trends. Mr. Longoria spoke on the

downward trend of revenues and asked why it was so. He also spoke on the proposed budget and asked if it was a state requirement. Mr. Longoria spoke on the proposed tax rate.

Council Member Caldwell exited the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

- Mr. Longoria asked if there was a way to address the receipt of less federal revenues. He spoke on the Robin Hood plan. Mr. Longoria asked if there was a way to fix attendance.

President Hinojosa allowed Mr. Longoria to speak for an additional three minutes.

- Mr. Longoria asked about several elementary students who were no longer attending SMSD schools. He also asked about administrative assistant positions. Mr. Longoria asked why the rating changed from A-1 to A-3 and the bond rating. Dr. Bostic provided clarification on Mr. Longoria's questions.

Council Member Caldwell entered the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

- Lana Hoelsing, who lives at 327 N. Esplanade Lane, spoke on buses, reasons why Stafford students who were no longer attending SMSD schools, programs where students can obtain college credits, and protection of students.

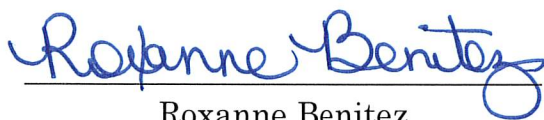
5. Adjournment.

The Board Trustees and Council Members provided their closing remarks.

Trustee Sanchez motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m., and Trustee Thompson seconded the motion. President Hinojosa, Vice-President Hamirani, and Trustees Wilkins, Thompson, Soza-Montelongo, and Sanchez voted "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Chen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m., and Council Member Bostic seconded the motion. Mayor Mathew, Mayor Pro Tem Chen and Council Members Bostic, Wood, Caldwell, and Rosas voted "Aye". "Nay" – none. Motion carried 6-0.

ATTEST:



Roxanne Benitez
City Secretary



Ken Mathew
Mayor