

City of Wimberley
City Hall, 221 Stillwater
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Special Meeting of City Council
November 22, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mayor Bob Flocke.

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers Marilee Wood, Mac McCullough, Bill Appleman, Steve Thurber, and John White.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland.

Discussion and Action:

Discuss and consider possible action authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wimberley to sign a letter supporting a Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District stakeholder group's recommendations for legislation relating to the authority and operation of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (HTGCD). (*Mayor Bob Flocke*)

Mayor Flocke provided background information on discussions and actions regarding HTGCD's historic role and authority under Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (TWC). He referred to the stakeholder group's recommendations, as listed in a letter addressed to Senator Jeff Wentworth and Representative Patrick Rose. *The full text of the letter is attached to these minutes.* Mayor Flocke highlighted stakeholder group members' contributions and commended Andrew Sansom, Executive Director of Texas State University's River Systems Institute, as a key consensus-builder within a very diverse group.

Discussion addressed:

- Controversial issues, such as ad valorem taxation, access to private property, and exempt versus non-exempt wells
- Need for public education about water conservation
- Specific tax rates in other districts
- *Modified* authority for HTGCD under TWC Chapter 36
- Average/maximum tax rates
- Potential revenues
- Current limitations of HTGCD's authority and need to gain the public's trust
- Five principal areas where HTGCD's authority differs from districts granted full authority under Chapter 36 of the TWC:
 1. Limits on district funding
 2. Management of exempt wells
 3. Authority for access to private property for the purpose of well inspection
 4. County oversight
 5. Board election and lengthened term of office (from two to four years)

- Process of achieving consensus
- Formation of HTGCD and the purpose of limiting its authority
- Compensation for board members (unsalaried)

Mayor Flocke expressed confidence in the stakeholder group's extensive specialized knowledge and resulting recommendations.

Councilmember Thurber moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Appleman seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Recorded by:



Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 2nd of December, 2010.

APPROVED:



Bob Flocke, Mayor

