

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TO: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors will hold a Board Budget Workshop on Monday, August 3, 2020, at 8:30 a.m., via video conference within the boundaries of The Woodlands Township in The Woodlands, Texas, which can be viewed online at <http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/778/Meeting-Videos>, for the following purposes:

STANDARD ITEMS

1. Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance;
2. Call meeting to order;
3. Receive, consider and act upon adoption of the meeting agenda;
(Pages 1 - 2)
4. Public comment;*
(Page 3 - 4)

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Receive, consider and accept a report regarding the 2020 no-new-revenue tax rate and voter-approval tax rate;
(Pages 5 - 6)
6. Receive, consider and act upon the 2021 Preliminary Budget for The Woodlands Township;
(Pages 7 - 8)
7. Receive and consider Budget Initiatives related to the 2021 Preliminary Budget and Five-Year Plan;
(Page 9)

CLOSED MEETING (if applicable)

8. Recess to Executive Session to discuss matters relating to real property pursuant to §551.072, Texas Government Code; deliberation of economic development negotiations pursuant to §551.087, Texas Government Code; discuss personnel matters pursuant to §551.074, Texas Government Code; discuss IT network or critical infrastructure security pursuant to §551.089, Texas Government Code; and to consult with The Woodlands Township's attorney pursuant to §551.071, Texas Government Code;
9. Reconvene in public session;

DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA /ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. Consideration of items to be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting;

11. Board announcements; and
12. Adjournment.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean", is written over a horizontal line.

President/General Manager for The Woodlands Township

To request ADA accommodations, call [281-210-3800](tel:281-210-3800) or email ADA@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov.

Agendas and Board Meetings may be viewed live at <http://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/index.aspx?NID=778>.

*During the August 3, 2020 videoconference regular Board meeting, members of the public may provide public comment by calling 346-248-7799 or 877-853-5247 (toll-free), then enter ID 864 3309 5728 #. Calls will be taken in the order the calls are received and only during the "public comment" agenda item. This phone number is active only for this Board meeting. New phone numbers will be issued for each future meeting during the public health pandemic emergency.



Board of Directors Budget Workshop #1

Meeting Date: 08/03/2020

SUBJECT MATTER:

Public comment;*

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

Modified Guidelines for Public Comments to be used when the Board is meeting via videoconference during the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency

On March 16, 2020, Texas Governor Greg Abbott temporarily suspended certain requirements within the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) to help reduce the potential transmission of COVID-19. These provisions relate to the public health pandemic emergency. The Township began using videoconferencing for their March 25, 2020 Board meeting, and will continue to use this format until normal Township operations have resumed. The following guidelines will be used to allow the public to provide public comment in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and have been modified for the purpose of the Board’s meetings held by videoconference.

Participation by members of the public in open meetings of the Board of Directors is welcomed and encouraged. A “public comment” agenda item will be included at the beginning of all regular Board meeting agendas. To produce the most efficient and effective process for allowing constituents to address the Board, The Woodlands Township Board of Directors accepts public comments in accordance with State Law and the following Guidelines for Participating in Public Meetings, which have been adjusted due to the use of videoconferencing during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency:

- Each person wishing to address the Board must call in via phone prior to the conclusion of the “public comments” agenda item. The phone number will be included on the posted agenda.
- Individuals who wish to make general announcements, address a topic that is not included on the agenda, or who wish to address specific agenda items must do so under the “public comments” agenda item at the beginning of the meeting.
- Individuals will be limited to a total of three (3) minutes regardless of the number of topics, and individuals who provide and utilize a translator will be limited to a total of six (6) minutes.
- Speakers will be taken in the order in which they call in.
- State Law prohibits the Board from formally acting on a specific item or public comment unless it appears on the posted agenda. Therefore, any Board discussion of items not included on the posted agenda is limited to questions for clarification and whether or not the item should be placed on a future Board agenda.

- Speakers may express their opinions or viewpoints on an issue, but are not permitted to participate in the debate on an issue.
- Speakers will not use profanity.
- Comments from speakers can be made to the Board as a whole or to an individual director(s).
- Consistent with in-person meetings, public comment will only be taken during the “public comments” agenda item.

Additional notes for those wishing to call in for Public Comment:

- When calling in, you will be placed in a queue, and you will be called upon in the order in which your call was received, and only during the “public comments” agenda item.
- When you are placed in the queue, your microphone is muted. When it is your turn to provide public comment, you will be unmuted to indicate that it is your time to speak.
- If you receive a busy signal when calling in and the “public comments” period has not concluded, please hang up and call back. The Board will make every effort to ensure that all callers have an opportunity to speak.
- If you are watching the video of the meeting when you are called upon to speak, please mute the volume on your computer before speaking to avoid audio feedback for Directors. There is a brief lag between the audio and video feeds.
- After you have been called upon, you may disconnect from the phone call and continue to watch through the live stream broadcast at <http://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/778/Meeting-Videos>.

To call in to the August 3, 2020 Board meeting to provide public comment, you may call any of the numbers listed below. For the best quality audio, it is recommended to use one of the local numbers:

- 346-248-7799 or
- 253-215-8782 or
- 669-900-6833 or
- 929-205-6099 or
- 301-715-8592 or
- 312-626-6799 or
- 877-853-5247 (Toll Free) or
- 888-788-0099 (Toll Free)

Once you have connected, you will need to enter ID: 864 3309 5728, then enter the pound sign “#” on your telephone keypad.

These call in numbers are active for the August 3, 2020 Board meeting scheduled for 8:30 a.m. only. New phone numbers will be issued for each future meeting in this format during the public health pandemic emergency.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A



THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

The Woodlands, TX

Board of Directors Budget Workshop #1

Meeting Date: 08/03/2020

SUBJECT MATTER:

Receive, consider and accept a report regarding the 2020 no-new-revenue tax rate and voter-approval tax rate;

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not known at this time

BACKGROUND:

Information regarding the no-new-revenue tax rate (previously referred to as the effective rate) and the voter-approval tax rate (previously referred to as the rollback rate) will be provided by the Montgomery County Tax Assessor’s Office sometime during the week of August 3 - 7, 2020, which is the week of the budget workshop meetings. Once staff receives this tax rate information, the chart and accompanying narrative below will be updated and provided to the Board of Directors. Because staff does not know the exact date the tax rate information will be received from the tax assessor's office, this item has been placed on the agenda for each of the budget workshop meetings.

	Montgomery County	Harris County	Total
2020 Taxable Values			
2019 Taxable Values			
Total Increase in taxable property values			
2020 taxable values attributable to new properties			

2019 adopted tax rate (2020 budget year) = \$0.2240

2020 no-new-revenue (effective) tax rate (2021 budget year) =

2020 debt service rate =

2020 voter-approval (rollback) rate =

The no-new-revenue (effective) tax rate is the rate that would produce the same amount of property tax revenue for the 2020 and 2021 budget years if applied to the same properties taxed in both years.

The debt service rate is the rate that produces the amount of revenue needed to satisfy debt obligations secured by property tax revenue.

The voter-approval (rollback) rate is the total of the effective maintenance and operations rate (the portion of the tax rate that is not used for debt service) multiplied by 3.5%, plus the debt service rate. For the 2020 tax year (2021 budget year), the

multiplying factor is 8.0% due to the disaster declaration issued by the Governor's office regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. For the 2020 tax year, the tax assessor has calculated an effective maintenance and operations rate of \$0.xxxx. This rate when multiplied by 8% = \$0.xxxx. Adding the debt service rate of \$0.xxxx produces a voter-approval rate of \$0.xxxx. If the property tax rate is set above the voter-approval rate, an election to approve the voter-approval rate will be required on November 3, 2020.

Please note that the Harris County taxable value information for the Village of Creekside Park will be based on May 2020 preliminary values. Certified values from Harris County will not be available until August 21.

The purpose of this agenda item is only to accept the tax rate worksheets prepared by the Montgomery County Tax Assessor's Office. The proposed 2020 tax rate for the Township's 2021 budget will be discussed during the budget workshop meetings and voted on as a separate agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and accept the 2020 tax rate worksheet prepared by the Montgomery County Tax Assessor's Office.



Board of Directors Budget Workshop #1

Meeting Date: 08/03/2020

SUBJECT MATTER:

Receive, consider and act upon the 2021 Preliminary Budget for The Woodlands Township;

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please reference the 2021 Preliminary Budget binder.

BACKGROUND:

An overview of the 2021 Preliminary Budget and Five-Year Plan was presented at the Special Board Meeting on Thursday, July 30, 2020. Please reference the 2021 Preliminary Budget binder for detailed information regarding revenues, expenditures, capital projects, debt obligations, reserves, and the five-year plan.

As directed by the Board of Directors, the 2021 Preliminary Budget is a "base" budget that provides funding to:

- maintain existing service levels
- meet contractual and statutory obligations
- accommodate community growth
- account for changing economic conditions
- continue operating and capital programs/initiatives approved by the Board in 2020

Budget items that do not fall within one of the categories listed above are not included in the preliminary budget; instead, they are submitted separately as budget initiatives.

For the past several years, the Board has taken action to approve the base budget after it has been presented by staff and reviewed by the Board. This approval has typically occurred at the conclusion of the first budget workshop meeting. Please note that approving the base budget is not the same action as adopting the 2021 budget. By approving the base budget, the Board is acknowledging the financial plan for the continuation of existing services, programs and amenities and establishing a foundation on which the budget initiatives can be evaluated for impacts on revenues, expenditures and fund balances. The Board always has the option of adjusting any portion of the budget before or after its official adoption.

This particular agenda item has been placed on the agendas for the August 3, August 4 and August 5 budget workshop meetings to provide the Board with flexibility during the budget process to discuss and/or take action on the 2021 Preliminary Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2021 Preliminary Budget (the "base" budget) prior to consideration of budget initiatives in order to establish a foundation on which the budget initiatives can be evaluated for impacts on revenues, expenditures and fund balances.



THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

The Woodlands, TX

Board of Directors Budget Workshop #1

Meeting Date: 08/03/2020

SUBJECT MATTER:

Receive and consider Budget Initiatives related to the 2021 Preliminary Budget and Five-Year Plan;

FISCAL IMPACT:

To be determined by the Board of Directors

BACKGROUND:

Budget initiatives are potential budget items that are not included in the 2021 Preliminary Budget (the "base" budget). Generally, budget initiatives pertain to enhanced services or amenities, but they can also involve matters relating to revenue sources, debt management, or the funding and utilization of reserves. Staff will present the initiatives at the budget workshops.

This particular agenda item is included on the agendas for the August 3, August 4, August 5, August 6 and August 7 budget workshop meetings to provide the Board with flexibility during the budget process to review and discuss budget initiatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discuss budget initiatives related to the 2021 Budget and Five-Year Plan.