



*Expanding Horizons*

CITY OF CONVERSE  
CITY ADMINISTRATION

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MINUTES  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE  
CITY OF CONVERSE CITY COUNCIL  
September 18, 2013 - 6:00 PM

Be it known that the City Council of the City Of Converse met for a Special Called Meeting at the City Council Chambers at 402 South Seguin Street on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 6:00 PM. A quorum of the following commissions may be present: Beautification & Environmental, Building & Standards, Economic Development Corporation, Park & Recreation and Planning & Zoning.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Suarez called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. **ROLL CALL, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM & RECOGNITION OF VISITORS.**

Mayor Al Suarez  
Councilwoman Renee Paschall, Place 2  
Councilman Joe Guastella, Place 5  
Ms. Shawna D. Burkhart, City Manager  
Mr. Ray Ortiz, City Attorney

Councilwoman Kathy Richel, Place 1  
Mayor Pro Tem Randy Pannell, Place 4  
Councilman Steve Brown, Place 6  
Mr. John Quintanilla, Assistant City Manager  
Ms. Holly Nagy, City Secretary

3. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD.**

None.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve the City of Converse Ordinance # 108-2013; an Ordinance Providing Funds for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2013 and Ending September 30, 2014 by Approving and Setting Aside the Necessary Funds Out of the General Fund and Other Revenues of the City of Converse for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 for the Maintenance and Operations of the Various Departments, Capital Projects, Payments to Debt Service and for Various Activities and Improvements to the City. (Second Reading)(City Manager)**

- Decrease in Tax Rate would require a decrease in expenditures
- Werling Pay Study
- Allocating funds for reserve
- Debit consideration
- Water/sewer impact plans
- Union Pacific water line relocation
- Meter replacement
- ROW acquisition

- Mayor Suarez supports the budget but not tax rate increase.

Councilman Guastella made a motion to approve Ordinance # 108-2013 Mayor Pro Tem Pannell seconded the motion and asked for a roll call vote. The motion passed with the votes of Brown, Richel, Paschall, Guastella, Pannell and Mayor Suarez all in favor.

**B. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve City of Converse Ordinance #201-2013; An Ordinance of the City of Converse Levying the Ad Valorem Taxes for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year at a Rate of \$0.606675 Per \$100 Assessed Valuation on All Taxable Property Within the Corporate Limits of the City of Converse as of January 1, 2014, to Provide Revenue for the Maintenance and Operations and Debt Service Needs for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year. (Second Reading) (City Manager)**

- Values have gone up
- Definition of effective tax rate based on prior year
- M&O + I&S tax rate = total tax rate

Mayor Suarez

- Concerned regarding the new water rates and sewer rates.
- One of the highest tax rates in the Metrocom
- Does not support budget cuts or tax hike
- Use seed funds to buy down tax rate

Ms. Burkhart

- Using seed funds prevents building reserves
- All options valid and doable
- Already cut 20 positions
- Significant increase of ongoing costs

Mayor Pro Tem Pannell

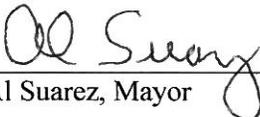
- Supports based on previous comments

Mayor Pro Tem Pannell made a motion to approve Ordinance # 201-2013 and asked for a roll call vote Councilwoman Paschall seconded the motion. The motion passed with the votes of Richel, Paschall, Guastella, Brown, and Pannell all in favor and Mayor Suarez against. The motion carries. 5:1

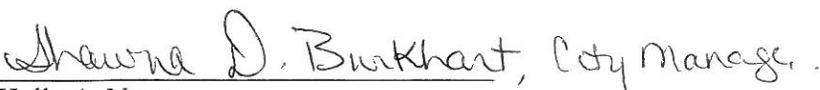
**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

Mayor Suarez adjourned the meeting at 6:31 PM.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF October, 2013.**

  
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 Al Suarez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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 Holly A. Nagy  
 City Secretary