

# City Council

520 E Ocean Blvd.

## Special Meeting

Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<http://citylf.cloudaccess.net/en/>

### ~ Agenda ~

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Tuesday, September 3, 2024

6:00 PM

City Hall

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TITLE 5 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 AT 6:00 PM AT CITY HALL, 520 EAST OCEAN BLVD., LOS FRESNOS, TX 78566.**

#### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

#### **B. VISITORS REMARKS-TO SPEAK YOU MUST SIGN IN WITH CITY SECRETARY PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND YOU HAVE A LIMIT OF 5 MINUTES TO SPEAK.**

#### **C. PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Public Hearing to receive comments from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024/2025.

#### **D. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve a resolution for the submission of the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Drought Response Grant Program for the City of Los Fresnos.
2. Consideration and ACTION to approve a service agreement with the Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce.
3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the first reading of Ordinance 560 adopting the budgets for fiscal year 2024-2025.
4. Consideration and ACTION to approve the first reading of Ordinance 561 approving the 2024 tax roll and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the use, benefit and support of the City and directing the assessment and collection thereof.

#### **E. ADJOURNMENT**

This is to certify that I, Jacqueline Moya, posted this agenda on the front bulletin board of the City Hall on August 30, 2024 on or before 5:30 p.m. and it shall remain so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary

Persons with any disabilities that would like to attend meetings must notify City Secretary 24 hours in advance so that the City can make arrangements for that disabled person.

**City Council**  
520 E Ocean Blvd.  
Los Fresnos, TX 78566

Meeting: 09/03/24 06:00 PM  
Department: City Secretary  
Category: Public Hearing  
Prepared By: Jacqueline Moya  
Initiator: Jacqueline Moya  
Sponsors:

**SCHEDULED**

**ACTION ITEM (ID # 5562)**

DOC ID: 5562

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**Public Hearing to receive comments from the public on the  
proposed budget for fiscal year 2024/2025.**

This is a time to listen to the public concerning the budget.

**City Council**  
520 E Ocean Blvd.  
Los Fresnos, TX 78566

Meeting: 09/03/24 06:00 PM  
Department: City Secretary  
Category: Resolutions  
Prepared By: Jacqueline Moya  
Initiator: Jacqueline Moya  
Sponsors:

**SCHEDULED**

**ACTION ITEM (ID # 5573)**

DOC ID: 5573 A

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**Consideration and ACTION to approve a resolution for the submission of the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Drought Response Grant Program for the City of Los Fresnos.**

We are working on a grant to fund the planning, engineering and construction for the wastewater reuse project. This grant could possibly provide 95% funding which will be needed. Without grant funding we will not be able to move forward.

I recommend approval.

**RESOLUTION 12-2024*****A RESOLUTION FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WATERSMART DROUGHT RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS.***

This Resolution was introduced and submitted to the City Council for passage and adoption. After presentation and discussion of the Resolution, a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Resolution be finally passed and adopted in accordance with the City's Home Rule Charter. The motion was seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and carried by the following vote:

Mayor Alejandro Flores	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained
Mayor Pro-Tem Alberto Escobedo	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained
Councilmember Juan Munoz	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained
Councilmember Gabriela Fernandez	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained
Councilmember Luis Gonzalez	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained
Councilmember Terry Vinson	_____ For _____ Against _____ Abstained

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Fresnos seeks to request funding aimed at obtaining reliable access to water supplies for the citizens of Los Fresnos; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Fresnos finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Los Fresnos that an application for the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Response Grant Program be submitted; and

**WHEREAS**, that the City of Los Fresnos will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines and processes for entering into and executing this grant if selected; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Fresnos is applying for a 95% cost share as a disadvantaged community and for domestic water supply, may be capable of determining other methods to obtain cost-share funding and/or in-kind contributions if required and further agreed upon; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Fresnos of Los Fresnos designates Mark W. Milum, City Manager as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS:**

The City of Los Fresnos hereby authorizes an application for a United States Bureau of Reclamation Drought Response Program Grant.

**PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2024.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary

**City Council**  
520 E Ocean Blvd.  
Los Fresnos, TX 78566

Meeting: 09/03/24 06:00 PM  
Department: City Secretary  
Category: Presentation  
Prepared By: Jacqueline Moya  
Initiator: Jacqueline Moya  
Sponsors:

**TABLED**

**ACTION ITEM (ID # 5532)**

DOC ID: 5532 B

## **Consideration and ACTION to approve a service agreement with the Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce.**

Last meeting this item was tabled with the request to the Chamber to gather information on funding of other similar Chambers. I have not been provided any data.

I was asked to provide all the funding amounts from the City and CDC.

City	\$42,000	General
	6,000	Events-Easter, Independence Day, Halloween, Christmas
CDC	18,000	General
	5,000	Events-Easter, Independence Day, Halloween, Christmas
Total	\$71,000	Funding directly to the Chamber

Attached is a letter from Val Champion, the Chamber Director to the Mayor. The letter is a request for additional funding. Mr. Champion will be present to share information and answer any questions. Funding for the last few years is as follows.

2019-2020	\$34,200
2020-2021	\$34,200
2021-2022	\$34,200
2022-2023	\$36,000
2023-2024	\$42,000

Funding was increased by \$6,000 last year.

### **HISTORY:**

08/13/24

City Council

TABLED

Next: 09/03/24

## SERVICE AGREEMENT

This is an agreement between the City of Los Fresnos, hereinafter called “CITY” and the Los Fresnos Area Chamber of Commerce, hereinafter called “CHAMBER”.

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a development program between the City and the Chamber to encourage and promote an expanded business development. The City supports the Chamber’s efforts to promote tourism, commercial and industrial development within the City. The City recognizes the substantial economic contribution from the local businesses and industrial establishments deriving from sales tax, economic development sales tax and property taxes.

This agreement will begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2023 and will be for a one (1) year period and will be reviewed by the City Council to consider extending agreement or not. Payment for this agreement shall be monthly.

Therefore, it is agreed that the Chamber will develop programs and perform the following duties:

1. Establish, maintain and share information base of all business listings of Chamber members.
2. Share City related statistics and Economic Development programs to be used for promotion and expansion of businesses and industrial developments.
3. Encourage expansion of existing business and encourage development of new businesses and industry within the City.
4. Maintain a visitor’s information center.
5. Promote, develop and assist the City in producing festivals, celebrations and events for the community and to attract visitors to the community to increase business for the local commercial establishments in addition to recreational activities for the citizens.
6. The Chamber will establish and maintain a website and allow the City to link to the website. The Chambers website will have the City’s statistics and any other information that the City supplies to the Chamber.
7. Provide directory assistance for specific services and events.
8. Promotion of city events, school events and ministry events through social media.
9. Provide promotional services to any and all non-profit organizations.
10. Work on maintaining a community calendar.
11. Present quarterly reports to Council.

Therefore, the City will contribute \$3,500 per month for a total of \$42,000 to the Chamber for a one (1) year period and then will reconsider agreement. The City will assist the Chamber in accomplishing its goals of increasing tourism, commercial and industrial development.

The Chamber must submit Audited Financials from a Certified Public Accountant. A Form 990 to the IRS is sufficient to meet this requirement.

This agreement is effective upon the approval of both parties.

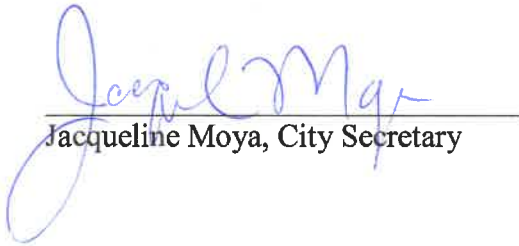
PASSED AND APPROVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 by the City Council of the City of Los Fresnos.

CITY OF LOS FRESNOS



Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary

LOS FRESNOS AREA CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE



Val Champion, Executive Director

ATTEST:



Chamber of Commerce Secretary



# Los Fresnos

## Chamber of Commerce

[www.losfresnoschamber.com](http://www.losfresnoschamber.com)

520 E Ocean Blvd, Los Fresnos, Texas 78566 956 233-4488

July 25, 2024

Mayor Alejandro Flores  
City of Los Fresnos  
520 East Ocean Boulevard  
Los Fresnos, Texas 78566

Dear Mayor Flores,

I am writing to you as Executive Director of the Chamber and on behalf of the Chamber's Board of Directors to request your consideration for an increase to the City's monthly stipend to the Chamber.

As you know the Chamber plays a role in fostering economic growth, supporting local businesses, and enhancing the overall quality of life in our community. We believe that our efforts in the last 10 years have contributed to the economic vitality and resilience of our city.

In the last 10 years we have supported a total of 449 members. As of the date of this writing, the Chamber supports 184 active members.

The demands on the Chamber continue to grow, so too does the need for additional financial support.

The City's stipend is authorized via the annual Service Agreement between the City and the Chamber. The Agreement stipulates 11 duties that the Chamber must perform.

For your ready reference, attached is a listing of the duties with narrative specifying the Chamber's compliance.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I am confident that with your support, we can continue to build a thriving and prosperous Los Fresnos for all our residents.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,



Val Champion  
Executive Director

## SERVICE AGREEMENT

### BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CHAMBER

**1)--Establish, maintain, and share information based on all business listings of Chamber members.**

Immediately upon request the Chamber Membership List is available to everyone.

**2)--Share City related statistics and Economic Development programs to be used for promotion and expansion of businesses and industrial developments.**

The CDC Economic Development Programs are presented to new business inquiries, established businesses, Chamber members, and are announced frequent via eblasts and posted on our Facebook and X pages and on our website.

**3)--Encourage expansion of existing business and encourage development of new businesses and industry within the city.**

The Chamber monitors businesses within the city and makes suggestions for expansion to successful businesses. New businesses and industry are encouraged by capturing Chamber members from surrounding communities and advocating for Los Fresnos at every opportunity.

**4)--Maintain a visitor's information center.**

The visitor information center is current and available to everyone during office business hours, and via our daily eblasts and posting on our Facebook and X pages and on our website.

**5)--Promote, develop, and assist the city in producing festivals, celebrations, and events for the community and to attract visitors to the community to increase business for the local commercial establishments in addition to recreational activities for the citizens.**

The Chamber organizes four annual festivals:- Easter Egg Hunt Festival, Independence Day Celebration, Halloween Festival, Christmas Festival, and two annual parades, the Christmas Parade, and the Rodeo Parade, and provides food vendors and other services for the annual Conjunto Festival.

**6)--The Chamber will establish and maintain a website and allow the City to link to the website. The Chamber's website will have the City's statistics and any other information that the city supplies to the Chamber.**

The Chamber's website is linked to the City's website and information provided by the city is posted on the Chamber's website.

**7)--Provide directory assistance for specific services and events.**

Directory assistance is provided via the City of Los Fresnos Travel and Business Guide, the Chamber's website, daily eblasts, and social media platforms.

**8)--Promotion of City events, school events and ministry events through social media.**

City, school, and ministry events are frequently promoted and announced through all our social media platforms.

**9)--Provide promotional services to any and all non-profit organizations.**

Promotional services are provided to all non-profit organizations. Currently there are 17 non-profit members in good standing.

**10)--Work on maintaining a community calendar.**

Annually, in January the Chamber produces and distributes our festivals and events calendar.

**11)--Present Quarterly Reports to the Council.**

In 2020 the Agreement conditions were amended to presenting Annual Reports, which we present every August.

7/7/25

**City Council**  
520 E Ocean Blvd.  
Los Fresnos, TX 78566

Meeting: 09/03/24 06:00 PM  
Department: City Secretary  
Category: Ordinances  
Prepared By: Jacqueline Moya  
Initiator: Jacqueline Moya  
Sponsors:

**SCHEDULED**

**ORDINANCE (ID # 5563)**

DOC ID: 5563 A

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**Consideration and ACTION to approve the first reading of  
Ordinance 560 adopting the budgets for fiscal year 2024-  
2025.**

The budget is as discussed and recommended by the Council during the budget workshops.

I recommend approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 560**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LOS  
FRESNOS, TEXAS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2024 THROUGH  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION AND  
ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.**

Was introduced and submitted to the City Council for passage and adoption after the second reading of the Ordinance. After presentation and discussion of the Ordinance, a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Ordinance be finally passed and adopted in accordance with the City's Home Rule Charter. The motion was seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and carried by the following vote:

Mayor Alejandro Flores	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Albert Escobedo	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Juan Munoz	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Gabriela Fernandez	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Luis Gonzalez	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Terry Vinson	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager of the City of Los Fresnos has prepared and presented to the City Council a budget for the fiscal year October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, workshops on said budget were called for on August 13, 2024, August 20, 2024, and a public hearing was held on September 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. by publication in a newspaper of general circulation at least ten days and not more than thirty days before the public hearings to be held at the City Hall in the City of Los Fresnos, Texas, where and when any and all interested persons might appear and be heard with reference to any item contained in said budget; and

**WHEREAS**, said public hearing was held on September 3, 2024 at the time and place aforesaid, and the said budget was discussed, and all interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard on any matter relative thereto, and all interested persons having appeared and been heard, and there be not other persons seeking to be heard with reference to any matter concerning said budget, the said public hearings were closed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS:**

SECTION 1. That the budget of the City of Los Fresnos, Texas for the fiscal year October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 will increase from last year's total property tax budget by \$ 416,125.78

SECTION 2. That the budget of the City of Los Fresnos, Texas for the fiscal year October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 is hereby adopted by this Ordinance. A summary of the budget adopted is hereby attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A and the complete detail budget adopted by this Ordinance is incorporated hereby reference and shall be made available for public inspection at the Office of the City Secretary during regular business hours.

SECTION 3. That the City Council is authorized to amend the budget from time to time during the fiscal year should there be changes in revenues and expenditures according to law. An unanticipated need and an emergency shall be defined by and expenditures increased only upon a majority vote of the City Council.

SECTION 4. That once a month the Director of Finance shall present the City Council a written report showing the city's financial condition to date. Such report shall include the status of all revenues and expenditures of the city by each fund and department. The Director of Finance shall also present said report to the head of each city department.

INTRODUCED and APPROVED on the first reading this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024.

APPROVED and PASSED on the second reading this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024 at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Los Fresnos, Texas, at which a quorum was present and which was held in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas.

CITY OF LOS FRESNOS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary

**City Council**  
520 E Ocean Blvd.  
Los Fresnos, TX 78566

Meeting: 09/03/24 06:00 PM  
Department: City Secretary  
Category: Ordinances  
Prepared By: Jacqueline Moya  
Initiator: Jacqueline Moya  
Sponsors:

**SCHEDULED**

**ORDINANCE (ID # 5564)**

DOC ID: 5564 A

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**Consideration and ACTION to approve the first reading of Ordinance 561 approving the 2024 tax roll and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the use, benefit and support of the City and directing the assessment and collection thereof.**

This sets the tax rate at a total of \$0.685 per \$100 valuation, which is the same as the prior year. The operations tax rate is \$0.3879 per \$100 valuation and the debt tax rate is \$0.2971 per \$100 valuation.

I recommend approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 561**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TAX ROLL FOR 2024 AND LEVYING MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE, BENEFIT AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS; AND DIRECTING THE ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION THEREOF.**

Was introduced and submitted to the City Council for passage and adoption after the second reading of the Ordinance. After presentation and discussion of the Ordinance, a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Ordinance be finally passed and adopted in accordance with the City’s Home Rule Charter. The motion was seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and carried by the following vote:

Mayor Alejandro Flores	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Albert Escobedo	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Juan Munoz	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Gabriela Fernandez	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Luis Gonzalez	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained
Councilmember Terry Vinson	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against <input type="checkbox"/> Abstained

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the tax for the year 2024 herein after levied for current expenses of the City and the general improvements of the City and its property, must be levied to provide the revenue requirements of the budget for the ensuing year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS, TEXAS:**

SECTION 1. The Tax Appraisal Roll of the City of Los Fresnos for 2024, as heretofore approved and certified by the Cameron Appraisal District, is hereby approved, together with those supplemental rolls, which the Cameron Appraisal District deems necessary to complete the 2024 Certified Roll.

SECTION 2. For the current expenses of the City of Los Fresnos and for the general improvements of the City and its property, also known as maintenance and operations expenses, there is hereby levied and ordered to be assessed and collected for the year 2024, and for each year thereafter until it be otherwise provided and ordained, on all property situated within the limits of the City of Los Fresnos, and not exempt from taxation by valid laws, and ad valorem tax at the rate of \$0.387900 on the one hundred (\$100.00) dollars valuation of such property.

**THE TOTAL TAX RATE WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS PREVIOUS YEARS.**



SECTION 3. For the purpose of paying interest and providing a sinking fund for the payment of each issue of certificates of obligation issued for various municipal purposes heretofore issued by the City of Los Fresnos, including the various installments of principal falling due during the ensuing year on certificates of obligation issued for such purposes, there is hereby levied and ordered to be assessed and collected for the year 2024 and for each year thereafter until it be otherwise provided and ordained, on all property situated within the limits of the City of Los Fresnos and not exempt from taxation by valid laws, an ad valorem tax at the rate of \$0.297100 on the one hundred (\$100.00) dollars valuation of such property.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of collecting ad valorem taxes levied and ordered to be assessed and collected for the year 2024, and for each year thereafter until it be otherwise provided and ordained, payment shall become due on the first day of October of the year for which the levy is made and may be paid up to and including the following January 31<sup>st</sup>, without penalty, and discounts shall be allowed on said taxes if paid as follows, to wit:

- (1) Three percent (3%) if payment is received in the month of October; and
- (2) Two percent (2%) if payment is received in the month of November; and
- (3) One percent (1%) if payment is received in the month of December; and
- (4) Gross amount without penalty is due in the month of January; and

If not paid before February 1, 2025 said taxes shall become delinquent and the following penalty shall be payable thereon, to wit:

	<u>PENALTY</u>	<u>INTEREST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
February 1	6%	1%	7%
March 1	7%	2%	9%
April 1	8%	3%	11%
May 1	9%	4%	13%
June 1	10%	5%	15%
July 1	12%	6%	18%
Each month thereafter		+1%	+1%

From February 1, 2025 delinquent tax accrues interest at a rate of one percent for each month or portion of a month the tax remains unpaid. Attorney fees may accrue as provided by law.

SECTION 5. The unpaid taxes on all years prior to 2024 shall continue to be delinquent as of February 1<sup>st</sup> of the year next succeeding the year for which such taxes were levied and assessed and shall be subject to penalty and interest as governed by Section 33.01, Texas Property Tax Laws, Annotated 1982.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

INTRODUCED and APPROVED on the first reading this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024.

APPROVED and PASSED on the second reading this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

CITY OF LOS FRESNOS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary