

**MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
June 30, 2011**

The City Council convened in a Special Session in the basement conference room, City Hall, Midland, Texas, at 12:01 p.m. on June 30, 2011.

Council Members present: Mayor Pro Tem Michael Trost (District 4), Council Member Jerry Morales (At-Large), Council Member Jeff Sparks (District 1), Council Member Vicky Hailey (District 2), and Council Member John James (District 3).

Council Members absent: Mayor W. Wesley Perry, Council Member Scott Dufford (At-Large),

Staff members present: City Attorney Keith Stretcher, Deputy City Manager Tommy Hudson, Assistant City Manager Jim Nichols, City Secretary Amy Turner, GIS Manager Bill Hodge, and Executive Legal Assistant Linda Ochoa.

District Representatives present: John Love (District 3)

1. To discuss the process of redistricting the City Council Member Districts. Attorney(s) with the law firm of Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, Acosta, LLP will make a presentation on redistricting and be available for questions from the Council.
2. Presentation and discussion of the need to redistrict the City Council Member Districts based on recently issued 2010 Census Data.
3. Discussion of traditional redistricting criteria to be utilized by the City for the 2011 redistricting process.
4. Discuss specific plans and proposals for redistricting City Council Member Districts.

Bob Heath of Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, Acosta, LLP, explained the purpose of redistricting noting that the intent is to come up with an illustrative plan. He explained that all changes must be presented to the Department of Justice for approval. Midland has one district with substantial minority representation which is District 2. He noted the desire is to obtain districts with a total deviation of no more than 10% and that there is currently a 19.93% deviation. He commented that if a plan is drawn that does not change District 2, no questions should be raised from the Department of Justice.

Mr. Heath reviewed the examples previously reviewed. Plan B would move County Voting Precinct 206 from District 1 into District 3 with a 1.52% deviation. Plan A would move County Voting Precinct 404 from District 1 to District 3 with an 8.5% deviation. He reminded everyone that Plan C split voting precincts and involved three districts with the rationale of keeping Wadley as a major dividing line between districts and noted that it produced a 7.45% deviation.

Council Member Sparks suggested they move forward with Plan A or Plan B because they were the simplest and looked good on the map. He also noted that District 3 is landlocked and thought that eventually Loop 250 would be the new dividing line if Midland continues to grow to the north and to the west.

Council Member James noted his preference was Plan B.

Mr. Heath suggested that if everyone was in agreement to move forward with Plan B it would be put out to a public hearing to allow comments from the public. City Attorney Stretcher noted that July 26, 2011, would be a good date to hold the meeting. He stated that a notice would be published in the newspaper in English and Spanish and would also be available on the City's website along with the illustrative plan.

Council Member James suggested that an evening public hearing be considered to address the topic. A general consensus was received to hold the public hearing at 7 p.m. on July 26, 2011 and to move forward with Plan B.

All of the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED the 12th day of July, 2011.

W. Wesley Perry, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy M. Turner, City Secretary