



**City of Lorena**  
107-A S. Frontage Road  
Lorena, Texas 76655  
(254) 857-4641 Fax (254) 857-4118

**MINUTES**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
LORENA CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016 6:30 P.M.  
LORENA CITY HALL  
107-A S. FRONTAGE ROAD, LORENA, TEXAS**

**1. Call to Order.**

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Texas Pledge
- c. Moment of silence

Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

Mayor Roper called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. gave the open meeting statement and announced that a quorum of the council was present. Members present were Mayor Chuck Roper, Mayor Protem Bill Coleman, J. Fagner and Jennifer Grimm. Kelly Yarbrough arrived at 6:43 p.m. Jeff Linnstaedter was absent. Constituting a quorum.

City Staff present were City Manager Joseph Pace, Chief of Police Tom Dickson, City Secretary Monica Hendrix, Finance Officer Linda Klump and Public Works Director Kevin Neal.

**2. Visitor and Citizens Forum**

*At this time any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes, and this time is not transferable. No formal action may be taken on any of these items at the meeting. This forum is limited to a total of 30 minutes.*

Bill Randolph 213 Town West Drive Lorena spoke. Randolph has property located on Old Lorena Road next to the water tower which is City of Waco and wanted to know what he needed to do to get an additional water meter. Mayor Roper suggested he contact the City Manager Joseph Pace after this meeting for information. No other visitors spoke.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. **June 20, 2016**

A motion was made by Bill Coleman and seconded by J. Fagner to approve the minutes. Mayor Roper voted to approve the minutes due to the abstention from Jennifer Grimm who was absent at the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried.

**4. Discussion of the preliminary proposed 2016-2017 fiscal year budget.**

Finance Officer Linda Klump presented a balanced budget. The major changes in the proposed budget include a cost of living increase of 1.9% based on the CPI for Central Texas, premium increases in employee health insurance of 17%, Texas Municipal Retirement System contribution increase of 8%, workers' compensation insurance rate increase 20%, the property and liability increase of 2%, increases for a website update, PD sworn personnel increase to upgrade one patrol position in the police department to sergeant, increase for dispatch service update to 800 Mhz, among

other changes. There is a proposed tax rate of .609409 which is below the roll back rate and above the effective rate. There are no proposed utility rate increases in this budget, however the impact of potential debt service for the TIRZ and Utility Projects would change that. Klump says if the city issues certificates of obligations to fund the chloramine project, the WMARSS expansion project and a potential Public Works building, water rates would increase an estimated 3% and sewer rates would increase and estimated 5.10% based on a 20 year debt service amortization.

Bill Coleman had questions about the increase in employee health insurance. Klump explained the original proposed increase was 25% with our current coverage and the city went with a lower cost plan and with a higher deductible. Jennifer Grimm had questions and concerns about the certificate of obligation issuance and paying for the TIRZ with water and sewer money. Klump explained there would be two separate issuances and the rate increases would only pay for utility projects. Klump also explained that there are currently nine projects within the Waco Metropolitan Area Regional Sewer System (WMARSS). The city is obligated to pay their share of these projects. Bill Coleman had questions about how these projects are budgeted. Grimm questioned if the city could possibly have a charge on the bill for WMARSS charges for these projects the way the telephone company does on TIF charges. Grimm says this way the citizens are more aware of what the increases are paying for and show more transparency. Joseph Pace will check with the attorney on the legalities of this.

#### **5. Discussion and action on setting the date for a public hearing on the proposed 2016-2017 fiscal year budget**

There was discussion about the date and August 15<sup>th</sup> was decided. A motion was made by Jennifer Grimm and seconded by J. Fagner to set the date for the budget public hearing on August 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

#### **6. Discussion and action on the proposed 2016 tax rate and setting two dates for the required public hearings.**

Linda Klump informed council the proposed tax rate is .609. There was discussion on which days to hold the tax rate public hearings and by what date the rate has to be adopted. Bill Coleman motioned to set the 2016 property tax rate at .609. J. Fagner seconded the motion. Jennifer Grimm voted in favor to the motion and Kelly Yarbrough voted against the motion. Motion carried. Bill Coleman wanted on the record that he is upset that Kelly Yarbrough is constantly voting against tax increases when tax rates are being discussed and voted on and not offering any solutions to the issues. Jennifer Grimm motioned to set the dates for the required public hearings for the tax rate on August 8<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and adopt the tax rate on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Kelly Yarbrough seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

#### **7. Police Department Activity Report.**

Chief Tom Dickson presented activity report to the council and asked if council had any questions. Dickson reported that the body cameras for the officers are up and running and has had positive feedback from the officers. On IH-35 there have been less accidents since the completion of the expansion, however there are increased speeds on the citations issued. The accidents that do occur have heavier damage due to the increased speeds. Officer Scaman stopped a burglary vehicle out of Waco and recovered stolen property. Chief Dickson thanked all the citizens for the Thank You's, cookies and outpour of support this past few weeks in the wake of the Officer shootings in Dallas.

#### **8. Public Works Report**

##### **a. Update on the status of the Chloramines Conversion**

Public Works Director Kevin Neal says he is in limbo on starting the project. Staff is waiting on direction for funding. Neal also informed the council that the next chloramines violation letter will be mailed out on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **9. City Manager Report**

##### **a. TIRZ and EDC meetings update**

- No meetings
- b. Computer upgrades**  
City had to purchase more memory for Monica's computer and the new server for city hall was installed.
- c. Mentor for Texas City Manager Association (TCMA)**  
Jack Harper II the assistant City Manager for Waco has agreed to mentor Mr. Pace.
- d. Training class attended by City Manager and City Secretary**  
Attended training hosted by the City of Bellmead and led by Bojorquez Law Firm.
- e. TxDot update**  
Projects are completed.
- f. Upcoming meetings**
- g. Future agenda items**  
Amendment of garbage ordinance to specify length of time to put away canisters.

**10. Executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.074 discussion of City Manager's contract.**

Council convened into executive session at 7:33 p.m.

**11. Reconvene and consider action on items discussed during Executive Session.**

Council reconvened into regular session at 8:32 p.m.

**12. Adjourn.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Passed and approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2016.

  
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Chuck Roper, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Monica Hendrix, City Secretary

