



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

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & PUBLIC HEARINGS  
LORENA CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 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 6:31 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, Jeff Linnstaedter and Kelly Yarbrough. 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 and utility worker Matthew Huffhines.

**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.*

No visitors spoke at this time.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. July 18, 2016

Bill Coleman motioned and J. Fagner seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. Jennifer Grimm and Jeff Linnstaedter voted in favor and Kelly Yarbrough voted against the motion. Motion carried.

**4. First Public Hearing of the citizens on the 2016 Proposed Tax Rate.**

Mayor Roper opened the tax rate hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Gary Cox spoke and feels the TIRZ is a colossal mistake and doesn't think raising taxes is the way to fund it. Cox is concerned about borrowing \$3 million dollars to fund the TIRZ, says council should let a Travel Center and Holiday Inn Express come and collect taxes on them first then spend the money. Cox says council should use caution when proceeding with the TIRZ participation.

Gaylen Barnes spoke, says his appraisal value is too high and that he would need to spend half as much as the appraisal value on the property to get what they have the value set at should he try to sell. Barnes is concerned about the "dirt road" in front of his home and the quality of the water. Barnes feels council