



**TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
AND SPECIAL MEETING**
Monday, September 22, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Mayor Kelli Cole
Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin
Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer
Place 4 Margo Nielsen
Place 5 Laura McCorkle

ABSENT

Place 2 Chris Garis Place

STAFF PRESENT

Hal George, Town Attorney
Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary
Ty Gerstenberger, Chief
Steven Robertson, Comptroller
Alyssa Hendricks, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – U.S. Flag and Texas Flag

Mayor Cole led everyone in the pledges.

OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAAYER

Mayor Cole led everyone in a moment of silence.

CLOSE REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Cole closed the regular meeting at 9:02 a.m.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Cole opened the public hearing at 9:02 a.m.

1. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: BUDGET

The purpose of this public hearing is to discuss the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget proposed for adoption by the governing body of the Town of Fulton.

This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$76,141, which is a 10.61 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$11,052.

Mayor Cole read the item. Steven Robertson, Comptroller, informed the Council that there have been no large changes since last workshop.

Mr. Robertson began the review in the general fund. He noted that the building permits are down and reviewed those amounts. There was discussion regarding possible franchise fees from the new gas company, and he mentioned the increase in insurance. Mr. Robertson further reviewed the changes to the overall budget regarding maintenance and vehicle maintenance.

Mr. Robertson briefly reviewed the minor changes within the PD budget regarding equipment and vehicles. Mayor Cole reviewed the allocations in the hotel motel budget and noted the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce performed a large amount of advertising for the Town. There was some discussion regarding overall allocations.

Mr. Robertson noted the sewer fees were down this year from the prior year. The Fulton Convention Center maintenance costs were increased due to the need for repairs to the air conditioning system. He also noted the pier and visitor center are continuing to do well.

2. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: TAX RATE

The purpose of this public hearing is to discuss a Tax Rate of \$0.265052 per \$100 valuation that has been proposed for adoption for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 tax year by the governing body of the Town of Fulton.

Mayor Cole read the item. Mr. Robertson reviewed the tax rate information.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Cole closed the public hearing at 9:20 a.m.

OPEN REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Cole opened the regular meeting at 9:20 a.m.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (PUBLIC FORUM)

Public participation is valued and at this time, comments limited to three (3) minutes will be taken from persons who have signed the Speaker's Card located on the table inside the Council Chambers and delivered to the City Secretary before the meeting begins. Written comments received by submission to the City Secretary in person or emailed to citysec@fultontexas.org by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, on any subject matter that is not on the agenda, will be read and summarized in the minutes of the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Council and who have registered using the Speaker's Card will have up to three (3) minutes to speak. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council may not discuss or take action on any item that has not been posted on the agenda. While civil public criticism is not prohibited; disorderly conduct or disturbance of the peace as prohibited by law shall be cause for the chair to terminate the offender's time to speak.

No one came forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

3. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 3, 2025.
4. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the August 2025 financials.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tax Rate of \$0.265052/\$100.

Mayor Cole read the item. There were no questions or discussions.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 3 Pahmiyer to approve the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tax Rate of \$0.265052/\$100.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

6. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Ordinance No. 327 an Ordinance adopting the tax rate and levy ad valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the Town of Fulton, Fulton, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; and providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid and providing for publication.

Mayor Cole read the item. There were no questions or discussions.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen to approve Ordinance No. 327 an Ordinance adopting the tax rate and levy ad valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the Town of Fulton, Fulton, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; and providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid and providing for publication.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

7. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Town of Fulton Budget.

Mayor Cole read the item. There were no questions or discussions.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Town of Fulton Budget.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

8. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Ordinance No. 328 an Ordinance making appropriations for the support of the Town of Fulton for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; Adopting the Annual Budget of the Town of Fulton, Aransas County, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

Mayor Cole read the item. There were no questions or discussions.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve Ordinance No. 328 an Ordinance making appropriations for the support of the Town of Fulton for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; Adopting the Annual Budget of the Town of Fulton, Aransas County, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

9. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Ordinance No. 329 authorizing change of Chief's work period and officers' hours and work period; repealing ordinances in conflict; providing for severance and an effective date.

Mayor Cole read the item. There were no questions or discussions.

Motion made by Place 4 Nielsen, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve Ordinance No. 329 authorizing change of Chief's work period and officers' hours and work period; repealing ordinances in conflict; providing for severance and an effective date.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

Reconsideration Items

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin to reconsider Item 6, Ordinance No. 327 adopting the tax rate and levy ad valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the Town of Fulton, Fulton, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; and providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid and providing for publication.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer to approve Item 6, Ordinance No. 327 adopting the tax rate and levy ad valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the Town of Fulton, Fulton, Texas for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; and providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid and providing for publication.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

CLOSED SESSION

The Town Council may elect to go into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code on any Agenda item where appropriate and particularly Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorney) and 551.074 (personnel matters), Government Code.

Council did not convene into Closed Session.

OPEN SESSION

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove any and all action necessary with regard to the preceding matter(s).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. Mayor's Update.

Mayor Cole shared with the Council that she was proud that the Town is able to pass a sustainable budget.

Chief Gerstenberger shared with the Council that National Night Out will be held on October 11, 2025, at Memorial Park in Rockport, Texas. The police department will have a booth and will be giving away small items. He also noted that the cadet is doing very well in training.

11. The next Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 1, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Cole announced the date and time of the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cole entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Kelli Cole, Mayor

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary