



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Mayor Kelli Cole
Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin
Place 2 Chris Garis Place
Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer
Place 4 Margo Nielsen
Place 5 Laura McCorkle

STAFF PRESENT

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary
Alyssa Hendricks, Administrative Assistant
Hal George, Town Attorney
Steven Robertson, Comptroller
Robert Brake, Police Officer

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.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.

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.

Mary Clare Kane addressed the Council regarding high grass on the vacant lot near Seven Palms.

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.

1. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 7, 2024.
2. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the July 2024 financials.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

3. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the proposed 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of .250843/\$100.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to table Item 3 until later in the meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

Mayor read the proposed tax rate and asked Steven Robertson, Comptroller to discuss. Mr. Robertson asked for any questions and informed the Council of last year's rate of 0.266875. Alderwoman McCorkle inquired as to why the rate was lower. Mr. Robertson gave an explanation regarding the lower Voter Approval Rate versus the No-New Revenue Rate. He again formed the Council that the Town is proposing the Voter Approval Rate of 0.250843. Alderwoman Pahmiyer asked for the three rates that would be available for the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year. Mr. Robertson explained the rates and noted that due to tax laws the Town cannot use the No-New-Revenue rate.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to approve the proposed 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of .250843/\$100.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

4. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** scheduling a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025 Budget: **September 9, 2024.**

Mayor Cole read the item and there were no questions or comments.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the scheduling a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025 Budget: September 9, 2024.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

- 5. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** scheduling a public hearing to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025 Budget and Tax Rate: **September 9, 2024.**

Mayor Cole read the item and there were no questions or comments.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen to approve the scheduling a public hearing to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025 Budget and Tax Rate: September 9, 2024..

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

- 6. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2024-2025 Between County of Aransas, Texas, and the Town of Fulton, Texas.

Mayor Cole read the item, and it was noted that the only change was the dates of the agreement.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2024-2025 Between County of Aransas, Texas, and the Town of Fulton, Texas.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

- 7. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the renewal of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool insurance for the Town of Fulton.

Mayor Cole read the item and noted that the rates remained the same.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen to approve the renewal of the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool insurance for the Town of Fulton.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, 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.

The 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

8. Mayor's Update.

Maintenance – Mayor Cole informed the Council that the maintenance team has been working the stabilization of Fulton Beach Road to prevent erosion. They have also been cutting dangerous rebar that was left in the stabilization materials. She also noted that after last storm the Town spent approximately \$70K to repair the part of Fulton Beach Road that washed out. The maintenance department has also acquired two new large mowers.

Police Department – Officer Brake informed the Council that the traffic control during the first week of school went well and continues to go well.

9. The next Joint Public Hearing and Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 4, 2024, beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Cole announced the next meeting date and time.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 a.m.

Kelli Cole, Mayor

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary