



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 18, 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 5 Laura McCorkle

ABSENT

Place 4 Margo Nielsen

STAFF PRESENT

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary
Ty Gerstenberger, Chief

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 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.

Kathy Kane addressed the Council regarding the Singing Cadets and referenced the informational flyer. The Cadets will be at the Martha Luigi Auditorium on January 11, 2025, at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online or at the door. All proceeds will go to scholarships for students attending A&M.

PROCLAMATION

1. Proclamation honoring Faynell Harrell

Mayor Cole read the proclamation honoring Faynell Harrell. Mrs. Harrell spoke and thanked everyone.

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.

2. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 6, 2024.
3. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the October 2024 financials.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

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

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4. Receive a report from Alyssa Massingill, Tourism and Events Coordinator, of the quarterly expenditures and activity for the HOT funds for the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Cole read the item and introduced Ms. Massingill. Ms. Massingill indicated the report was for the fourth quarter of 2024 and reviewed the information provided. She mentioned that July and August numbers were down significantly; however, September seemed to bounce back. Ms. Massingill reviewed the advertising that had been done during the fourth quarter.

5. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** a variance request from the Rockport-Fulton Independent School District for the expansion of the existing fire alarm system at Fulton Elementary School.

Mayor Cole read the item. Michael Miller introduced himself as Vice President of Teal Construction Company. He gave a background to the Council regarding the fire alarm system. The Rockport-Fulton School District intended to keep the existing fire alarm system and have Teal perform modifications to the new systems. Mr. Miller stated that after reviewing the plan the decision was made to in fact extend the system. By doing so, it would lower the cost to the District. Mr. Miller explained the difference between the existing system and the new system. Alderman Loflin deferred to Hal George, Town Attorney, regarding legality. Mr. George indicated that the Town was within its rights to make the variance.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 3 Pahmiyer to approve a variance request from the Rockport-Fulton Independent School District for the expansion of the existing fire alarm system at Fulton Elementary School.

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

Voting Abstaining: Place 2 Garis

- 6. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Contract for Election Services between the Elections Officer of Aransas County and the Town of Fulton for the May 3, 2025 General Election.

Mayor Cole read the item and indicated the cost increased and the dates were changed to 2025.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the Contract for Election Services between the Elections Officer of Aransas County and the Town of Fulton for the May 3, 2025 General Election.

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

- 7. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Resolution No: R-07-2024: A Resolution of the Town of Fulton, ordering a general election and establishing procedures for said election to be held on May 3, 2025.

Mayor Cole read the item.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 3 Pahmiyer to approve the Resolution No: R-07-2024: A Resolution of the Town of Fulton, ordering a general election and establishing procedures for said election to be held on May 3, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, 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

8. Mayor's Update.

Aransas County Leadership has been working with us to erect a "FULTON" letter sign at the park near the playground. The Town may contribute a small portion; however, the majority of the project is being paid for by AC Leadership.

Christmas in Fulton was a success. We gave away 25 bikes and 5 \$100 gift cards.

Police – Chief Gerstenberger indicated that there have been many reports of theft. He reminded everyone to keep their vehicles and doors locked.

Alderwomen Pahmiyer noted that the Pathways sign should be installed soon.

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

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Kelli Cole, Mayor

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary