



## TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 06, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

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### MINUTES

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#### CALL TO ORDER

##### PRESENT

Mayor Kelli Cole

Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin

Place 2 Chris Garis

Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer

Place 4 Margo Nielsen

Place 5 Laura McCorkle

##### STAFF PRSENT

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary

Matt Olenick, Director of Operations

Steven Robertson, Comptroller

Ty Gerstenberger, Police 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](mailto: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: Mrs. Kane spoke regarding the Rockport City Council meeting that took place the night before. She gave a comparison of the fees that will be paid by out-of-resident citizens versus the in-city citizens. She discussed her concerns regarding the upcoming larger fees and the sewer charges from the Town of Fulton.

Kathy Kane: Ms. Kane also discussed the upcharges of the water rates from the City of Rockport. Her question to them was about a water utility need to justify the cost of what the City of Rockport is charging. She stated that the City of Rockport did not have an answer for her. She feels this is wrong, the City of Rockport should give them an explanation. Ms. Kane says that she feels someone from the Fulton Town Council should be representing the citizens of Fulton. She is also asking that the Town speak to the City of Rockport regarding these rates.

## 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 Town Council Meeting held on August 16, 2023.
2. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** May and June 2023 financial reports.

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Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to approve the Consent Agenda 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** recommendation for approval of banking services contract to begin October 1, 2023.

Mayor Cole read the item and informed the Council that the current contract will expire on October 1, 2023. She referenced the recommendation memorandum to the Council and informed them of the review committee was in favor of awarding the contract to American Bank.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the recommendation presented by the Mayor for the approval of the banking services contract.

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

4. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** award of banking services contract to recommended entity to begin October 1, 2023.

Mayor Cole read the item and noted that the contract would be awarded to American Bank.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to approve the award of the banking services contract to American Bank.

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

- 5. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2023-2024 Between County of Aransas, Texas, and The Town of Fulton, Texas.

Mayor Cole read the item and informed the Council that this is a yearly Interlocal with Aransas County where in they collect taxes for the Town. The only changes were to the dates of the contract.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2023-2024 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

- 6. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the proposed 2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of 0.266875/\$100.

Mayor Cole read the item and stated that the Town will be using a No New Revenue tax of 0.266875/\$100.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis the proposed 2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of 0.266875/\$100.

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

- 7. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** scheduling a Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 – 2024 Budget and 2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate: **September 18, 2023.**

Mayor Cole read the time and stated the meeting would be held on Monday, September 18, 2023 due to a possible lack of quorum on the normal Wednesday night meeting.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis scheduling a Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 – 2024 Budget and 2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate: September 18, 2023.

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

- 8. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the time and date to adopt the Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Budget and Fiscal Year 2023 Tax Rate: **September 18, 2023.**

Mayor Cole read the item and indicated there will be a public hearing prior to the regular meeting.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen the time and date to adopt the Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Budget and Fiscal Year 2023 Tax Rate: **September 18, 2023.**

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.*

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**

### 9. Mayor's Update.

Mayor Cole noted that the Town's attorney, Hal George, was on vacation.

Maintenance: Mayor Cole informed the Council that Matt Olenick is working hard to keep the large project on track and there have been many calls, specifically Mesquite and Chaparral. She noted there will be a construction update on September 12th at FCC, 6 p.m. in conjunction with Neighborhood Watch. Craig Thompson, engineer, Crain Karonka, LCR contractor, and Melinda Kapelka, Grantworks will be at the meeting.

### 10. The next Public Hearing and Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Monday, September 18, 2023, 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 Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle 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 6:17 p.m.

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Kelli Cole, Mayor

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Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary