



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin

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/PRAYER

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.

Rebecca Johnson introduced herself and informed the Council that she and Alderwoman Pahmiyer had attended a meeting at the Republican Club the night before. Mrs. Johnson wanted to correct a misstatement by Alderwoman Pahmiyer during that meeting. Mrs. Johnson stated that Alderwoman Pahmiyer made a statement that the Johnsons owed the Town of Fulton \$31,000 in attorney fees. Mrs. Johnson provided copies of partial documents from the lawsuit between the Town of Fulton and the Johnsons, wherein the judgment awarding the

Town \$28,306 in attorney's fees were denied. Mrs. Johnson wanted it to be made clear that they do not owe the town said attorney fees.

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 March 19, 2025.
2. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the March 2025 financials.

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

Voting Yea: Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

3. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** Resolution No. R-01-2025; A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fulton Approving and Adopting Internal Computer Controls.

Mayor Cole read the item and informed the Council of the updated control policies. Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary, also discussed the updated resolutions and policy.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve Resolution No. R-01-2025; A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fulton Approving and Adopting Internal Computer Controls.

Voting Yea: Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

4. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the updated police policy for the Fulton Police Department.

Mayor Cole read the item and asked Chief Gerstenberger to review with the Council. Chief Gerstenberger informed the Council that the policy was last revised in 2018. He has used the template provided by the Rockport Police Department to revise and update the Fulton Police policy. Chief Gerstenberger informed the Council that the updates will provide a stronger policy for the department. Hal Gerge, the Town's attorney, also informed the Council that he has reviewed the policy and that Chief Gerstenberger has done an excellent job with the update. Alderwoman McCorkle asked Chief Gerstenberger if he was uncomfortable with any of the changes. Chief Gerstenberg replied that he is very comfortable with the policy. Alderwoman Nielsen had a question regarding the gas gun. Chief Gerstenberger addressed her question.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen to approve the updated police policy for the Fulton Police Department.

Voting Yea: 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

5. Mayor's Update.

Maintenance: Mayor Cole informed the Council that the parts for the Fulton Harbor bathrooms have been received and work has begun on the repairs from recent vandalism. She mentioned that the portable toilets are being serviced three times a week. The Fulton Harbor bathrooms will be open daily from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FCC: Mayor Cole informed the Council that the Convention Center was a shelter for the fire victims the previous Wednesday through Friday morning.

Pier: Mayor Cole informed the Council that the Pathway sign was unveiled this week.

Administration: Mayor Cole informed the Council that the administration has been working with City of Rockport, Aransas County, and the Navigation District on the 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan. They have also been working with the Comptroller and Bookkeeper on audit submissions.

Early Voting: Mayor Cole informed the Council that early voting begins April 22 – 29, 2025.

6. The next Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 7, 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 Place 4 Nielsen to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Kelli Cole, Mayor

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary