

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES –AUGUST 11, 2020**

The Special Meeting of the City Council was held on **August 11, 2020** at 1:00 p.m. via teleconference pursuant to **Section 551.045 of the Texas Government Code and in accordance with the March 16, 2020 order by the Governor of the State of Texas.**

The meeting notice, agenda and agenda packet were posted online at www.gonzales.texas.gov.

In accordance with Governor Abbott’s Executive Order 29 issued on July 2, 2020 every person attending the meeting shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth unless the person is under 10 years of age or has a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Abbott suspended several provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act for the duration of his statewide declaration of disaster, including the new requirement (added by H.B. 2840 last legislative session) that the public has a right to speak on agenda items. This DOES NOT apply to statutorily mandated public hearings, such as zoning and similar hearings. The Governor has since clarified his intent and stated that citizens should be allowed to offer comments by other means.

In person attendance by the public will be limited to 14 which is 50% capacity of the room less Council Members and required staff and should be separated by at least six (6) feet from other groups attending the meeting together. A temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings has been granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

Citizens wishing to offer comments on the posted agenda items may email their comments at least two hours prior to the start of the meeting and the comments will be read into the record during the time allocated for citizen comments. Emails may be sent to citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov and must include the name of the citizen.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Kacir called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and a quorum was certified.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Connie L. Kacir	Mayor	Present in person
Gary Schroeder	Council Member, District 1 <i>arrived at 1:07 p.m.</i>	Present in person
Tommy Schurig	Council Member, District 2	Present in person
Bobby O’Neal	Council Member, District 3	Present in person
Dan Blakemore	Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member, District 4	Present in person

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

City Manager Tim Patek, Finance Director Laura Zella and Administrative Services Director/City Secretary Kristi Gilbert.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF RESIDENTS

No individuals were signed in or present to speak.

The Council moved to Agenda Item 2.1 prior to conducting the workshop.

ACTION ITEMS

- 2.1 Discuss, Consider and Possible Action Approving Resolution #2020-69 Authorizing the Finance Director of the City of Gonzales to Direct Crystal Cedillo, Gonzales County Tax Assessor-Collector to calculate the 2020 Voter Approval Tax Rate of the City of Gonzales in the Manner Provided for a Special Taxing Unit Due to the Governor's State Wide Declaration of Disaster in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and Declaring An Effective Date

ACTION: Items 2.1

APPROVED

Council Member O'Neal moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Schurig seconded the motion. Mayor Kacir called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

WORKSHOP

- 1.1 Presentation, discussion and deliberation on the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2020 and Ending on September 30, 2021, including the 2021 proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate and Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget.

Kim Tucker, Interim EDC Director, presented the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation budget.

Ashley Simper, Tourism Director, presented the budget on the Tourism Department.

Liz Reiley, Main Street Manager, presented the budget for the Main Street Department.

Gary Schurig, Museum Director, presented the budget for the Museum.

Marty Ficken, Golf Course Superintendent, presented the budget for the Golf Course.

Caroline Helms, Library Director, presented the budget for the Library.

Anne Dollery, Parks and Recreation Director, presented the budget for the Parks, Swimming Pool, Recreation, and JB Wells Park.

Ralph Camarillo, Special Projects Manager, presented the Airport budget.

James Cowey, Building Official, presented the Community Development budget.

Billy Rhoades, Building Maintenance Superintendent, presented the Building Maintenance budget.

Keith Schmidt, Fire Chief, presented the Fire Department budget.

Tim Crow, Police Chief, presented the Police and Animal Control budget.

Todd Remschel, Street Director, presented the Streets and Solid Waste budget.

Keith Schauer, City Engineer, presented the Street and Drainage Projects from the Certificate of Obligation Projects.

Nick Deleon, Electric Director, presented the Electric Department budget.

Marland Mercer and Ryan Wilkerson presented the Water and Wastewater budgets.

Tim Patek, City Manager, presented the City Manager budget.

Kristi Gilbert, Administrative Services Director, presented the City Secretary, Municipal Court and Court Restricted Fund budgets.

Laura Zella, Finance Director, presented the Finance and Revenue Collections budgets.

The Council held discussions with regard to conducting a water and wastewater rate comparison, as well as electric rates.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Council Member O'Neal and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Blakemore, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Approved this 10th day of September 2020.



Connie Kacir, Mayor



Kristi Gilbert, City Secretary

