

NOTICE

THIS NOTICE IS POSTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT
(TEX. GOV'T CODE CHAPTER 551, SEC. 551.041)

AGENDA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 25, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M
GATESVILLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 NORTH 8TH STREET, GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

An Open Meeting will be held concerning the following subjects:

1. Call to Order
2. Hear Visitors/Citizens Forum: At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council for a maximum of three (3) minutes. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting.
3. Discussion and possible action to approve the Minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting August 11, 2020
4. Recess Regular meeting and call Public Hearing #1-----

Public Hearing

Hear comments concerning the City of Gatesville's participation in a Texas Community Development Block Grant- Fire Ambulance and Services Truck (FAST) Fund Program

5. End Public Hearing and reconvene Regular meeting
6. Discussion and possible action regarding an Ordinance of The City of Gatesville, Texas Repealing Article VI, Chapter 5, Substandard Structures of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gatesville, with the exception of Section 5-67; adopting a new Article VI providing for Definitions; Building Standards Commission; Substandard Buildings; Standards of Repair, Vacation, or Demolition; Inspections; Pre-Hearing Notices; Hearing Procedures; The Order – Building Standards Commission Final Decision; Post-Hearing Notice; Alternative Action; City Action Pursuant To Its Order; Enforcement; and Judicial Review; and amending Section 5-67 (1st reading of Ordinance 2020-13)
7. Recess Regular meeting and call Public Hearing #2 -----

Public Hearing

Hear comments on the proposal to set tax rate at \$0.5600 per \$100 of taxable value

8. End Public Hearing and reconvene Regular meeting
9. City Manager's Report: Capital Projects, Future Agenda Topics, Coronavirus Update, Department Head Reports: Fire, Finance, Code Enforcement/Permits, Utility, Police, Municipal Court, Recreation, Convention and Visitors Bureau
10. Adjourn Meeting

I hereby attest that the above agenda was posted on this the 21st day of August, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. on the official City of Gatesville website, www.ci.gatesville.tx.us and the official bulletin boards at the Gatesville City Hall, 110 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, Texas.

Wendy Cole
City Secretary

The City of Gatesville council chambers are wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available at the back entrance of City Hall. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 24 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the city secretary's office at 254-865-8951 or FAX 254-865-8320, or email wendy.cole@ci.gatesville.tx.us for further information.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 25, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 110 NORTH 8TH STREET
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

In accordance with guidelines of the Office of the Governor, the City Council of the City of Gatesville conducted an in-person meeting while maintaining social distancing to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). In order to provide a safe and healthy environment for the public attending the meeting, social distance regulations and guidelines were followed.

AN OPEN MEETING WAS HELD CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

1) CALL TO ORDER REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 5:30 P.M. THIS 25TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Chumley, Council Members Meredith Rainer, Greg Casey, and Bill Robinette

REGRETS: Council Member Randy Hitt and Council Member Jack Doyle

WARD 1 PLACE 1: Vacant

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager William H. Parry III, City Secretary Wendy Cole, Rene Ochoa, and Brenda Kiphen

Mayor Chumley stated that since there was not a quorum present at the meeting no action could be taken on agenda items #3 and #6. These agenda items will be placed on the next Council meeting agenda scheduled for September 8, 2020. Mayor said that the Public Hearing for the FAST grant which was agenda item #4 would be withdrawn from the agenda and will not be placed on any upcoming agenda since the City is no longer applying for this grant. City Manager Parry said that it was discovered that there would need to be a significant amount of data compiled and would be infeasible given that the application deadline was September 1, 2020.

2) HEAR VISITORS/CITIZENS FORUM: AT THIS TIME, ANY PERSON WITH BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL NOT SCHEDULED ON THE AGENDA MAY SPEAK TO THE COUNCIL FOR A MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) MINUTES. NO FORMAL ACTION CAN BE TAKEN ON THESE ITEMS AT THIS MEETING.

Visitors present were only concerned with an Agenda item.

3) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 11, 2020

There was no action taken on this agenda item due to lack of quorum and will be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

4) RECESS REGULAR MEETING AND CALL PUBLIC HEARING #1-----

Public Hearing

Hear comments concerning the City of Gatesville's participation in a Texas Community Development Block Grant- Fire Ambulance and Services Truck (FAST) Fund Program

Mayor Chumley removed the FAST grant public hearing from the agenda since the City is no longer applying for the FAST grant.

5) END PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

6) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS REPEALING ARTICLE VI, CHAPTER 5, SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SECTION 5-67; ADOPTING A NEW ARTICLE VI PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION; SUBSTANDARD BUILDINGS; STANDARDS OF REPAIR, VACATION, OR DEMOLITION; INSPECTIONS; PRE-HEARING NOTICES; HEARING PROCEDURES; THE ORDER – BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION FINAL DECISION; POST-HEARING NOTICE; ALTERNATIVE ACTION; CITY ACTION PURSUANT TO ITS ORDER; ENFORCEMENT; AND JUDICIAL REVIEW; AND AMENDING SECTION 5-67 (1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2020-13)

There was no action taken on this agenda item due to lack of quorum and will be placed on the next Council meeting agenda.

7) RECESS REGULAR MEETING AT 5:32 P.M. AND CALL PUBLIC HEARING #2-----

Public Hearing

Hear comments on the proposal to set tax rate at \$0.5600 per \$100 of taxable value

City Manager Parry presented a Power Point Presentation on the proposed tax rate of \$0.56/\$100 and briefing of how it supported the Fiscal Year 2021 proposed budget and plan of Municipal Services. Parry stated that the Council can lower the tax rate at any time prior to the 22nd of September but not raise it from what was proposed at the last Council meeting (\$0.5600). Adopting the No-New-Revenue rate –which would raise approximately the same amount of property tax revenue as in Fiscal Year 2020 due to new properties added to the rolls and slight increases in valuation- would result in a tax decrease of \$0.91 per \$100 valuation which would equate to approximately \$35,000.00 less in budgeted revenues.

Parry gave an overview of General Fund Department requests which was based on a tax rate of \$0.56/\$100- the current rate. If a lower rate was adopted – then funded items would have to be removed or re-prioritized. Items funded, items cut, and contingent appropriation items were highlighted. Also discussed were tax rates comparing Gatesville to other cities in the local region:

1. The proposed tax rate of \$.5600 is in the middle of the comparisons.

2. The median value of an owner-occupied home in Gatesville is the lowest in the region.

So, while the tax rate of about five (5) of the cities are slightly lower than the proposed tax in Gatesville – they will generate more revenue from ad valorem taxes than Gatesville because they have a higher value of home valuation.

A resident with a \$100,000 house pays \$2,265 in taxes and of that amount, less than 1/4 - \$560 to be exact- is collected by the City. 51.4% of the total tax bill pays for schools- and the other portion goes to Coryell County.

Council will adopt the tax rate on September 22, 2020.

There were no comments from the public

8) END PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING AT 5:41 P.M.

9) CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

FY 2020 Capital Projects:

Booster Pump 2 Ground Storage Tank: There is a leak in the pump house and not sure of the source.

The Water Department is working with Walker Partners to isolate the issue. The pad is dry so work can progress on the steel storage tank replacement.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL REPORT: Reconciled financial statements for July are attached. Revenues in both the General and Enterprise funds are above straight line. Contingent Appropriation spending requests will be reviewed and determined before September 30th. A budget amendment will need to be done.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Water Production: Free chlorine burn ended August 15, 2020 and city staff is waiting on biofilm inspection results from Texas Tank Services.

Recreation Department: Finance Department has issued 617 (92%) refunds for baseball/softball and 10 sponsors fees, for a total of \$30,400.00. This will be included in the budget amendment.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA TOPICS: An ambulance ordinance may be added to the September 8th agenda. The City of Gatesville pays Coryell Memorial Healthcare System \$25,000.00 annually regarding ambulance service. This was agreed to years ago but there is no written agreement. City staff has provided an agreement to CMH officials and are waiting for their comments or approval.

COVID -19 (Update): Presented an updated chart which depicted confirmed COVID-19 cases inside Gatesville city limits and cases outside Gatesville city limits during July and so far in August. July inside: 44 and July outside: 31. As of 8/25/2020; inside: 43 and outside: 14. The information availability is lagging somewhat but this information is the latest. Confirmed positive COVID-19 cases by age and gender were discussed. Parry reminded the Council that the Governor's Executive order is still in effect and that any public gatherings in excess of ten people (where 6 foot social distancing cannot be observed) inside the city limits must be requested and approved by the Mayor. Residents are wearing masks but many seemed to have become a bit lax and it was encouraged for residents to observe the mask mandate.

Councilmember Rainer requested – if possible- to compile information for public knowledge regarding a profile graph of confirmed COVID-10 just within the city limits of Gatesville.

MILITARY MOBILIZATION: The military mobilization cycle was discussed and Mayor Chumley said that he had a request from a Major and Lieutenant Colonel at Fort Hood for the dining brochures and list of rental properties that were distributed to them awhile back. City Manager Parry said that he would ask Convention and Visitors Bureau Director, Cheri Shepherd, to update and coordinate getting them to the right people at Fort Hood.

10) ADJOURN MEETING AT 6:14 P.M., THIS 25TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2020

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Wendy Cole, City Secretary

Gary M. Chumley, Mayor

