



City of Lorena
107-A S. Frontage Road
Lorena, Texas 76655
(254) 857-4641 Fax (254) 857-4118

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
LORENA CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021– 6:30 P.M.
LORENA CITY HALL
107-A S. FRONTAGE ROAD, LORENA TEXAS**

Some council and commission members may attend, while others may call to participate. To help contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, participation by the public may be done remotely in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act or pursuant to the Action issued by the Governor of Texas on March 16, 2020.

THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN THE MEETING BY VIDEO CONFERENCING AT THE FOLLOWING LINK <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/805555917> and/or join the conference call at (254) 655-5400; GUEST PIN :2021

Questions and comments on items listed on the agenda may be emailed no later than NOON on the day of the meeting to the City Secretary via email to mhendrix@lorenatx.gov

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Outgoing Mayor Chuck Roper called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Emily McKenzie, Tommy Ross, Kelly Yarbrough and outgoing council member Bill Coleman. Jeff Linnstaedter was absent.

City Staff present were Tom Dickson, Monica Hendrix, Linda Klump, Kevin Neal, Joseph Pace and Peter Rivas.

2. Administer the oath of office and issue Certificates of Election to elected Council Members.

City Secretary Monica Hendrix presented the Certificates of Election to unopposed candidates Tommy Ross for Mayor and Shane Phillips for council member. Hendrix gave the Statement of Office and Oath of Office to Mayor Tommy Ross and Council member Shane Phillips. Tommy Ross then took control of the meeting.

Mayor Ross spoke and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Ross thanked Chuck Roper and Bill Coleman for all the years they served on the council. Ross also mentioned the upcoming departure of City Manager Joseph Pace and thanked him for all he has done for the city and how much he is appreciated by the city council.

3. Citizens questions or comments.

At this time any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes, and this time is not transferable. Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is prohibited from discussing, responding, or acting on any comments or items that have not been properly posted on the agenda. This forum is limited to a total of 30 minutes.

No citizens spoke.

4. Discussion and possible action to appoint a candidate to the vacant alderman position for the Lorena City Council.

Mayor Tommy Ross spoke about the six outstanding candidates for the vacant position. Ross would like for the full council to be attendance to make the appointment and since Jeff Linnstaedter is absent tonight, he is asking for this item to be tabled until the next meeting.

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to table until the June meeting.

Emily McKenzie seconded the motion.

FOR: Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

5. Discussion and possible action appointing a Mayor Pro Tempore for a one-year term.

Mayor Tommy Ross says he has 3 outstanding councilmembers that have reached out to him for the appointment. Those are Emily McKenzie, Shane Phillips and Kelly Yarbrough. Mayor Ross would again like to table this action until a full council is present.

Emily McKenzie motion to table to the June meeting.

Shane Phillips seconded the motion.

FOR: McKenzie, Phillips and Yarbrough.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

6. Approval of Minutes:

a. April 19, 2021

b. May 3, 2021

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the April 19th and May 3, 2021 minutes.

Emily McKenzie seconded the motion.

FOR: Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action on a request for closure of E. Center Street on July 3, 2021 for the First Lorena Golf Cart Festival.

Malissa Spivey who owns Key Real Estate and Wisteria in downtown Lorena spoke and is requesting the closure of E. Center Street from Bordon to McBrayer for a Golf Cart Festival to be held on July 3, 2021. Spivey is wanting to have food trucks, vendors and possibly a parade. There was concern about people driving the carts through town because Lorena is not a Master Planned Community nor is it within two miles from a golf course. There was discussion about the laws concerning golf carts and what is legal. Police Tom Dickson spoke and explained the laws and Attorney General's opinion on golf carts. Drivers of golf carts must be licensed by state law. After further discussion, Joseph Pace made the suggestion for Mrs. Spivey to work out a plan/route with Police Chief Tom Dickson for the event.

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to close the street contingent upon Chief Dickson and