



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

**NOTICE OF MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**  
**LORENA CITY COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021- 6:30 P.M.**  
**LORENA CITY HALL**  
**107-A S. FRONTAGE ROAD, LORENA TEXAS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call.**

Mayor Ross called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Tommy Ross, Mayor Pro tem Kelly Yarbrough, Katrina George, Jeff Linnstaedter, Emily McKenzie and Shane Phillips.

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

**2. Presentation of the Rich in Community Award presented by Councilman Shane Phillips.**

Councilman Shane Phillips stated that he was literally inundated by dozens of people who suggested/nominated Jonathan Guerra for the Rich in Community award. Phillips says that Guerra is involved in a lot of the good things that go on in the Lorena community and he is honored to recognize him for the award.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

**a. July 16, 2021**

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the July 16, 2021 minutes.

Shane Phillips seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**b. Called meeting August 3, 2021**

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the August 3, 2021 minutes.

Jeff Linnstaedter seconded the motion.

FOR: Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

ABSTAIN: George

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**4. 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.*

Local business owner Malisa Spivey spoke and read a list of concerns to the council to include the budget, backup to the budget, check registers for city accounts, proposed pay increase for all city employees, matching funds for the downtown grant that was awarded, and strong leadership by the Mayor and Council.

**5. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2021-0816-01 approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee ("ACSC") and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division regarding the company's 2021 Rate Review Mechanism filing.**

Tammie Bowman, representative for Atmos Energy was present and explained the agreement and rate increase to the council. Mayor Ross asked how gas customers are in Lorena City Limits and was told 157 which includes residential and commercial. Kelly Yarbrough asked what motivates the increase and Bowman explained safety and reliability of the infrastructure. Examples were replacement of 199 miles of steel, and 168 miles of cast-iron pipe distribution lines in eight states along with 34.7 thousand service lines.

Shane Phillips motioned to approve the Resolution.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**6. Public Hearing:** Mayor Ross opened the public hearing at 6:43 p.m. No one spoke.

**Conduct a public hearing on the FY 2021-2022 Budget.**

Mayor Ross closed the public hearing at 6:44 p.m.

**7. Public Hearing: (Public Hearing postponed to August 31, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.)**

**Conduct a public hearing on the Proposed 2021 Tax Rate of .5353.**

This public hearing is postponed due to publication issues.

**8. Discussion and possible action setting Proposed 2021 Tax Rate of .53346, setting date for public hearing and adoption of the rate.**

Linda Klump explained that after the meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the McLennan County tax office did a correction to the calculation which lowered the tax rate. Council will need to vote on the lower rate for publication of the notice of the rate and public hearing.

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to set the tax rate at .53346 and set the public hearing and adoption date for August 31, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Emily McKenzie seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**9. Discussion and possible action on approval of the Lorena TIRZ #1 East FY2021-2022 Proposed Budget.**

There was lengthy discussion and questions to Jason Mundo concerning this budget and expenditures.

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the Lorena TIRZ #1 East FY2021-2022 Proposed Budget.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough and McKenzie.

ABSTAIN: Phillips

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**10. Discussion and possible action on the approval of the Lorena EDC FY 2021-2022 budget.**

There was lengthy discussion and questions to Jason Mundo concerning this budget and expenditures.

Katrina George motioned to approve the Lorena EDC FY2021-2022 Proposed Budget.

Kelly Yarbrough seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**11. Discussion and possible action on appointment of Mayor Tommy Ross as Lorena TIRZ #1 East Chairman for the remainder of calendar year 2021 term.**

Emily McKenzie motioned to appoint Mayor Tommy Ross as the Lorena TIRZ #1 East Chairman for the remainder of calendar year 2021 term.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**12. Discussion and possible action approving the proposed budget for the McLennan County Appraisal District for 2022.**

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the MCAD Proposed Budget for 2022.

Emily McKenzie seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough and McKenzie.

ABSTAIN: Phillips

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**13. Discussion and possible action approving the McLennan County 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance District proposed budget for FY 2021-2022.**

Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the McLennan County 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance District proposed budget for FY 2021-2022.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough and McKenzie.

ABSTAIN: Phillips

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**14. Discussion and possible action appointing Planning and Zoning Commission members.**

Julia Becker and Allison Vrana have volunteered to serve on the P&Z Commission.

Emily McKenzie motioned to appoint Julia Becker and Allison Vrana to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**15. Discussion and possible action appointing members to the Board of Adjustment.**

Emily McKenzie motioned to appoint Amana Pryor to the Board of Adjustment.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**16. Police Department Activity Report.**

Chief Tom Dickson presented activity report for July 2021. There were 4 arrest, 388 calls and 256 citations issued. Dickson says there are still a lot of EMS calls. Dickson also informed council of the \$4000 grant the Police Department received from the National Police Dog Foundation for the training of our police K-9 Drogen. Drogen was purchased

after the previous K-9 was retired for \$12,500.00. Donations have been received and money raised by Jim Wolfe, Kaye Swain and her group of ladies and Ms. Willard and her group for the amount of \$5000 to \$6000. Dickson has hired a new police officer Christina Nelms that is still attending the McLennan Community College police academy and will graduate in December.

**17. City Manager/Public Works Report.**

Interim City Manager Kevin Neal reported the Well #3 start-up didn't go as planned and the electrical parts are bad inside the control box and now obsolete. Wallace Electric will be making the repairs to the well. The new electrical components will cost around \$32.000.00. Neal is still waiting on the estimate for repairs from Wallace Electric.

Also, the check engine light is on again on the trash truck.

**18. Future Agenda Items**

Kelly Yarbrough would like to have an action item for the Lorena Theater Booster Club and will get with Monica with this request.

**19. Executive session:** Council convened into executive session at 7:47 p.m.

**Convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.**

**a. Water Treatment and Transmission Contract with the City of Robinson**

**20. Return to open session:** Council reconvened into open session at 8:51 p.m.

**Discussion and possible action on items discussed in executive session.**

**a. Water Treatment and Transmission Contract with the City of Robinson**

Shane Phillips motioned to table action until August 31, 2021 pending clarification.

Katrina George seconded the motion.

FOR: George, Linnstaedter, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Phillips.

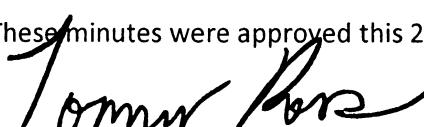
AGAINST: None

Motion carried.

**21. Adjourn.**

Due to no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

These minutes were approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Ross, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Hendrix, City Secretary

