



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

MINUTES

LORENA CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023, 6:30 P.M.
LORENA CITY HALL
107-A S. FRONTAGE ROAD, LORENA TEXAS

THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN THE MEETING BY VIDEOCONFERENCE
AT THE FOLLOWING LINK <https://meet.goto.com/459379917>

The City Council Meeting will be opened to the public.

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 Monica Hendrix via email to
mhendrix@lorenatx.gov

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, Jason Blanek, Emily McKenzie, Brad Wetzel and Kelly Yarbrough was present via teleconference. Katrina George was absent.

City Staff present were Monica Hendrix, Kyler Jones, Linda Klump, Kevin Neal, Scott Holt and Peter Rivas.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ross led the pledge.

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 visitors spoke and no comments were received.

4. Approval of Minutes:

a. September 18, 2023

MOTION: Emily McKenzie moved to approve the September 18, 2023 minutes.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

Discussion: Brad Wetzel questioned the approval of item 15 and his vote. Wetzel thought he voted against both motions. Monica Hendrix reviewed the recorded minutes after the meeting and confirmed the typed minutes as submitted were correct on Wetzel's vote.

FOR: Blanek, McKenzie and Wetzel

ABSTENTION: Kelly Yarbrough

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried.

5. Committee and Corporation Reports:

a. Lorena Economic Development Corporation

Chairman Kelly Yarbrough reported there was no meeting due to her absence but a meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Yarbrough said she was able to attend a Texas Economic Development Council luncheon while she was in Houston and accept a plaque for Lorena EDC for recognition of exemplary achievement in Community Economic Development. Central Texas was represented well as Hillsboro, McLennan County and the City of Waco also received this award.

b. Lorena Planning and Zoning Commission

No meeting.

6. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2023-1016-01 by the governing body of the City of Lorena approving the renovation and construction of an addition to its appraisal office and to finance the renovation and construction of an addition to its McLennan County appraisal office.

Jim Halbert, Chief Deputy Appraiser for the McLennan County Appraisal District was present and explained the purpose of the request. The appraisal district office has run out of room in the current building and is looking to expand at the current location. Texas Property Tax Code Section 6.051 requires the acquisition or conveyance of real property by the appraisal district or the construction or renovation of a building to be approved by the governing bodies of three-fourths of the taxing units entitled to vote on the appointment of members. Halbert reviewed the planned upgrades to the facility and stressed the district will not request any additional funds from the taxing units for this addition and remodel.

MOTION: Brad Wetzel motioned to approve Resolution 2023-1016-01 by the governing body of the City of Lorena approving the renovation and construction of an addition to its appraisal office and to finance the renovation and construction of an addition to its McLennan County appraisal office.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

FOR: Blanek, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Wetzel

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried 4-0.

7. Discussion and recognition of new employee, School Resource Officer, Hannah Perry.

Police Chief Scott Holt introduced new SRO Hannah Perry. Perry comes to Lorena from the Waco ISD Police Department. Perry graduated from the MCC police academy in 2019 and worked for Robinson Police Department prior to Waco and has four years experience. Perry was given the Oath of Office by City Secretary Monica Hendrix and her son Hayden pinned her badge on her.

8. Discussion and possible action on the approval of the purchase and funding for a used 2019 for a 4th School Resource Officer.

Scott Holt reminded council of the July authorization by council to expend \$83,000 on two used vehicles for School Resource Officers. With the school's mandated need of a fourth SRO, the Lorena PD is in immediate need of an addition used vehicle. Of the \$83,000 (FY 24) planned expenditure on police vehicles, the Police Department has used \$55,948.62 (2017 Tahoe, \$28,742.23 and 2019 Charger, \$23,379.59. Final cost of those two vehicles with equipment is estimated at \$73,000 leaving \$10,000 remaining balance of the \$83,000 budgeted. LISD has committed to a \$100,000 reimbursement of the cost of the 4th SRO. The Police Department estimates potentially \$10,000 remaining from the \$100,000 commitment after salary, benefits, and personal equipment. The Police Department anticipates utilizing forfeiture funds to complete funding of the vehicle for the 4th SRO. Due to the urgent need of hiring and equipping the 4th SRO, a used 2019 Tahoe was purchased for \$30,000 to fulfill the City's commitment to support the LISD with SRO services. Total estimate for the 4th SRO vehicle is \$37,000.

MOTION: Kelly Yarbrough motioned to approve the expenditure of funds for the Chevy Tahoe for the 4th SRO.

SECOND: Brad Wetzel

FOR: Blanek, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Wetzel

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried 4-0.

9. Discussion and possible action on transfer of 90% of the end of year General Fund, Utility Fund, and Sanitation Fund Budgetary Net Revenue over Expenditures.

Linda Klump explained the transfers go to each respective Capital Project Fund to save for costly capital projects. Klump says the surplus for the sanitation fund will be transferred into the utility capital project fund as it was a component of the utility fund.

MOTION: Emily McKenzie motioned to transfer 90% of the end of year General Fund, Utility Fund, and Sanitation Fund Budgetary Net Revenue over Expenditures.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

FOR: Blanek, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Wetzel

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried 4-0.

10. Presentation of the Summary of Cash and Investments and budget reports for 9/30/2023.

Linda Klump reviewed the reports with council and pointed out significant changes.

11. Discussion and possible action on approving purchase order # KCS248COV for an amount of \$52,032.00 for a 2024 Chevy 3500.

Kyler Jones informed council this will replace a 2011 F-250 that is starting to have costly mechanical issues. Jones explained it may take a while to get the truck but the price is locked in on Buy Board.

MOTION: Jason Blanek motioned to approve purchase order # KCS248COV for an amount of \$52,032.00 for a 2024 Chevy 3500.

SECOND: Brad Wetzel

FOR: Blanek, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Wetzel

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried 4-0.

12. Discussion and possible action on transferring the balance of the Sanitation Equipment Reserve (\$161,722.57) to the Utility Capital Project Fund.

Linda Klump explained to council that back in 2014 the city started our own sanitation business and at that time started saving to replace the sanitation truck when the time came. This is the amount of money that was saved from 2014-2022.

MOTION: Jason Blanek

SECOND: Emily McKenzie

FOR: Blanek, Yarbrough, McKenzie and Wetzel

AGAINST: None

ABSENT: Katrina George

Motion carried 4-0.

13. Police Department Activity Report.

Chief Holt said the numbers are in the packet and will answer any questions about them. Mayor Ross thanked the PD for the representation of the department at the Memorial Service for Jake Owens on Saturday.

14. City Manager Report.

1. Donation policy update.

Neal explained he found a policy from another larger city and is working with the attorney to

make this policy fit for a Type A General Law city. Neal is planning to bring it to council next month.

2. Street project update.

Contractors are working on the S. Old Temple Road bridge and making the approach to the bridge on the south side more managable and will start working on Evelyn tomorrow. Hoping to have a new paving date soon for the streets they have been preparing. We are still on budget and on schedule for a completion date on January 22, 2024.

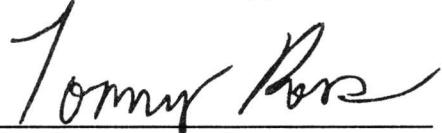
15. Future Agenda Items.

None.

16. Adjourn

Due to no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

These minutes were approved this 20th day of November 2023.



Tommy Ross, Mayor

Attest:



Monica Hendrix-City Secretary