



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

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**LORENA CITY COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 6:30 P.M.**  
**LORENA CITY HALL**  
**107-A S. FRONTAGE ROAD, LORENA TEXAS**

THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN THE MEETING BY VIDEOCONFERENCING  
AT THE FOLLOWING LINK <https://meet.goto.com/237056413>

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

**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, Jason Blanek, Emily McKenzie and Brad Wetzel. Mayor Pro tem Kelly Yarbrough was present via teleconference. Council members absent: none.

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

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Mayor Tommy 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.*

Steven Bostick a former GM at Roadster Travel Center spoke. Bostick stressed that he resigned from the Roadster and is not a disgruntled employee but has concerns about things that are going on at the Roadster. Says policies and procedures are not being followed. Bostick voiced concerns about no parking signs being posted, security of CBD products, fire code inspections, mowing of bar ditches, underground fuel leak, food safety and shop lifting.

Citizen and Planning and Zoning member Allison Vrana spoke and voiced her concerns over the semis parking over-night at the Roadster Travel Center. Vrana wants to petition the city council to review the July 12, 2021 minutes of the P&Z meeting and the Conditional Use Permit. Vrana read excerpts of the minutes to council. Vrana is concerned about drugs and prostitution coming to Lorena and is urging the council to review the ordinances pertaining to over-night parking.

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the re-appointment of the EDC Board of Directors:**

**Seat 2 - Kelly Yarbrough: Term expires Oct. 2024**

**Seat 3 - Billy Borunda: Term expires Oct. 2024**

**Seat 4 - Kyle Miller: Term expires Oct. 2024**

**Seat 6 - Jake Dickson: - Term expires Oct. 2024**

MOTION: Brad Wetzel motioned to re-appointment of the EDC Board of Directors listed on the agenda.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

FOR: Jason Blanek, Kelly Yarbrough, Emily McKenzie and Tommy Ross.

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 4-0.

**5. Discussion and possible action on ratifying the purchase of automated gate entry to Public Works (wastewater plant) facility and amend budget accordingly.**

The Public Works department maintains and houses their heavy equipment at the City's old wastewater plant facility. Due to competing projects and limited funding, a proposed project of installing an electronic gate at that facility to secure the premises and streamline transportation of heavy equipment from that site has been deferred for some time.

Staff recommends ratifying the purchase and installation of an electronic gate at the Public Works Facility from Metal Dynamic Worx for \$16,081 and amend the budget as proposed to fund the project

MOTION: Brad Wetzel motioned to ratify the purchase of an automated gate entry to the Public Works (wastewater plant) facility and amend budget accordingly.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

FOR: Jason Blanek, Kelly Yarbrough, Emily McKenzie and Tommy Ross.

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 4-0.

**6. Discussion and possible action on Ordinance 2024-0916-01 approving the increase in customer rates for solid waste services based on increased cost of service to Frontier Waste Solutions.**

The City of Lorena Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 approved at the September 3, 2024 City Council meeting was prepared based on a 5.5% increase in sanitation rates for all classes of sanitation customers to meet expected increases in expenses. This Ordinance provides those adjusted sanitation rates to support the adopted budget with an effective date of October 1, 2024.

MOTION: Jason Blanek motion to approve Ordinance 2024-0916-01 approving the increase in customer rates for solid waste services based on increased cost of service to Frontier Waste Solutions.

SECOND: Brad Wetzel

FOR: Jason Blanek, Kelly Yarbrough, Emily McKenzie and Tommy Ross.

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 4-0.

**7. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2024-0916-01 nominating candidates for the McLennan Central Appraisal District Board of Directors for the year 2025.**

No action.

**8. Discussion and possible action to cast votes for the election of Places 11-14 of the Board of Trustees for the Texas Municipal League Intergovernment Risk Pool.**

MOTION: Kelly Yarbrough motioned to cast votes for Place 11-Randy Criswell, Place 12-Cedric Davis, Sr., and Place 13-Harlan Jefferson.

SECOND: Emily McKenzie

FOR: Jason Blanek, Kelly Yarbrough, Emily McKenzie and Tommy Ross.

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None  
Motion carried 4-0.

**9. Discussion and possible action awarding the 2024 Street Improvement Project for Cindy Lane to Kasparian Underground LLC in the amount of \$174,900.00.**

Cindy Lane, along with many other streets, is much overdue for much-needed repairs. Cindy Lane was identified as a street that the City would have liked to be part of the 2022 street bond project; however, it was removed from the list of streets due to funding constraints. Since the City of Lorena has now had an election to utilize a portion of sales tax revenue for street maintenance, City staff recommended to City Council during the June 2024 meeting to advertise for bid the scope of work to rehab Cindy Lane. The City Council approved this recommendation with a unanimous vote. As a result of that decision, you have before you this agenda item for consideration.

On August 22, 2024, a public bid opening was held at the Lorena City Hall. Lorena received two bids for the 2024 Street Improvement Project for Cindy Lane. The low bidder was Kasparian Underground LLC. After the City's Engineer tabulated the bid schedules for both completeness and accuracy, a letter of recommendation was sent to the City recommending Kasparian Underground LLC be awarded the bid.

MOTION: Brad Wetzel motioned to award the 2024 Street Improvement Project for Cindy Lane to Kasparian Underground LLC in the amount of \$174,900.00.

SECOND: Jason Blanek

FOR: Jason Blanek, Kelly Yarbrough, Emily McKenzie and Tommy Ross.

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 4-0.

**10. Police Department Report.**

**a. August 2024 Monthly report**

There were 193 Calls for Service, 212 Traffic stops, 9 total arrest in August 2024.

Holt informed council the renewal for the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices accreditation will be happening in 2025. Holt says Lorena PD is one of 221 departments in the state of Texas out of 2800 departments that is accredited. There are 173 standards that are reviewed for accreditation.

**11. City Manager Report.**

**a. Waco Animal shelter update.**

Neal reported the Central Texas Humane Society is no longer associated with the Waco Animal Shelter.

**b. Unannounced random TCEQ inspection.**

There was a surprise inspection from TCEQ at city facilities and the city passed with no violations. Neal wanted to recognize Public Works Director Kyler Jones and his staff for the great work that they do to stay in compliance.

**12. Future Agenda Items.**

Appointment of vacant alderman position.

Brad Wetzel would like to see a report on the parking situation at Roadster and the requirement for signage.

**13. Adjourn**

Due to no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

These minutes were approved this 21st day of October 2024.



Tommy Ross, Mayor

Attest:



Monica Hendrix, City Secretary

