

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA
August 25, 2020, 7:00 P.M.
Blue Ridge Community Center
200 W. Tilton Street

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020, AT THE BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 200 W. TILTON, BLUE RIDGE, TEXAS WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION.

1. Call to order, Roll Call
2. Prayer and Pledges of Allegiance
3. Public Comment: This is an opportunity for the public to address the Council on any matter included on the agenda, except public hearings. Comments related to public hearings will be heard when the specific hearing begins. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, unless the speaker requires the assistance of a translator, in which case the speaker is limited to six (6) minutes, in accordance with applicable law. To address the Council, speakers MUST complete a Speaker Form and provide it to the City Secretary PRIOR to the start of the meeting. Each speaker shall approach the front of the Council and state his/her name and street address before speaking. Speakers shall address the Council with civility that is conducive to appropriate public discussion. The public cannot speak from the gallery but only from the front of the Council. Per the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any item not listed on the agenda. The Council may: (1) make a statement of fact regarding the item; (2) make a recitation of existing policy; or (3) propose the item be placed on a future agenda, in accordance with Council procedures.
4. Public Hearing to receive public comment on the Proposed 2020 Property Tax Rate for the City of Blue Ridge and schedule date and time of the meeting where the vote will be held regarding the 2020 Property Tax Rate for the City of Blue Ridge
5. Consider, discuss and act upon policies for City Hall due to public health emergency and other matters related to the COVID-19 Pandemic
6. Discussion of placing items on future agendas
7. Adjournment.

Certified this the 21st day of August, 2020.



Rhonda Williams
Mayor, City of Blue Ridge

The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, Sections: 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.087 (Economic Development), 418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues) and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to, Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information)

This facility is wheelchair accessible. Request for accommodations or sign interpretative services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the city secretary's office at 972-752-5791 for further information.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this notice was posted in the regular posting place of the City Hall building for Blue Ridge, Texas, in a place and manner convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and said Notice was posted August 21, 2020 by 5:00P.M. and remained so posted continuously at least 72 hours proceeding the scheduled time of said meeting.



Edie Sims, City Secretary



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.558249 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Blue Ridge.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.558249 per \$100
NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.534613 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.558249 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$1.410918 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2020 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Blue Ridge from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that City of Blue Ridge may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for City of Blue Ridge exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for City of Blue Ridge

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for City of Blue Ridge, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for City of Blue Ridge

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Blue Ridge is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on August 25, 2020 at 7:00 PM at Blue Ridge Community Center, 200 W. Tilton, Blue Ridge TX 75424.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Blue Ridge is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the governing body of City of Blue Ridge at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

The members of the governing body voted on the proposed tax increase as follows:

FOR:

Christina Porath, Mayor Pro Tem
Keith Chitwood, Council

Amber Wood, Council

AGAINST:

Allen Cunnyngnam, Council

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Blue Ridge last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Blue Ridge this year:

	2019	2020	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.564995	\$0.558249	<i>decrease of</i> -\$0.006746 or -1.19%
Average homestead taxable value	\$128,506	\$135,349	<i>increase of</i> 5.32%
Tax on average homestead	\$726	\$756	<i>increase of</i> \$30 or 4.06%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$307,394	\$321,551	<i>increase of</i> \$14,157 or 4.60%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Blue Ridge at 972-547-5020 or taxassessor@collincountytx.gov, or visit www.collincountytx.gov for more information.