

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 2020

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET 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 75424 AT 7:00 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION.

1. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and called roll with the following members present, Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath, Keith Chitwood, Amber Wood, and Allen Cunyngham.
2. City Secretary Edie Sims offered the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.
3. Public Comment. No one signed up or spoke at this time.
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

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:02pm and asked those FOR the proposed tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams asked those OPPOSING the property tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing at 7:02pm.

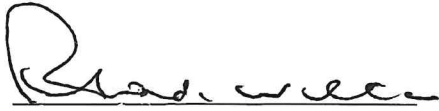
At the last Council meeting, two members of the Council discussed not increasing the tax rate. A proposal was presented to step down the rate from 3% increase to 1.5% increase. Council discussed at length the pros and cons of the difference in income between the two rate percentages.

A record vote was taken regarding the 2020 tax rate as follows: Christina Porath 3%, Amber Wood 3%, Keith Chitwood 3%, Allen Cunyngham no rate increase. Christina Porath motioned to approve the 2020 tax rate to be \$0.558249 with the date and time of the meeting to adopt the tax rate will be September 1, 2020 at 7:00pm. Amber Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried the tax rate vote 3 to 1 and full Council approval for the date and time of the next meeting date for adoption.

5. Consider, discuss and act upon policies for City Hall due to public health emergency and other matters related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

The concerns of the Pandemic whether to have City Hall administrative employees work from home was discussed. Council agreed the Public Works employees should not enter City Hall due to exposure concerns, while the administrative employees will all work at City Hall and keep City Hall accessible. City Hall doors will remain locked with customers needing to make appointments and have face covering to enter. Visitor Screening Questionnaires will be provided. No further action was taken by Council.
6. Discussion of placing items on future agendas. No one requested an item to be placed on a future agenda.
7. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 7:02pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edie Sims, City Secretary