

NOTICE

THIS NOTICE IS POSTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT
(TEX. GOV'T. CODE CHAPTER 551, SEC. 551.041)

AGENDA FOR REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING 5:30 P.M.

GATESVILLE CITY COUNCIL-COUNCIL CHAMBERS
110 NORTH 8TH STREET, GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
FEBRUARY 22, 2022

An Open Meeting will be held concerning the following subjects:

1. Call to order -----
2. Hear Visitors/Citizens Forum: At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council for a maximum of three (3) minutes. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting.
3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Consent Agenda: (all consent agenda items are considered routine by City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests an item be removed and considered separately.)

Resolution 2022-16: Minutes from Regular City Council meeting February 8, 2022

Resolution 2022-17: Appointment of Douglas Glimp as an Officer to the Gatesville Reserve Police Force

4. Briefing/presentation of the annual Gatesville Police Department Report – Police Chief Nathan Gohlke
5. Discussion and possible action regarding an Ordinance adopting the 2021 editions of the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Fire Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Energy Conservation Code, and International Property Maintenance Code; and the 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code
6. Discussion and possible action regarding renewal of the Verizon Department of Information Resources (DIR) Contract with the City of Gatesville
7. City Managers Report: Capital Projects, Future Agenda Topics, Department Head Reports: Finance, Fire, Code Enforcement/Building Permits, Utility, Police, Court, Recreation, Convention & Visitor's Bureau
8. Adjourn Meeting

I hereby attest that the above agenda was posted on this the 18th day of February, 2022 by 5:00 p.m. on the official City of Gatesville website, www.gatesvilletx.com and the official bulletin boards at the Gatesville City Hall, 110 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, Texas.

Wendy Cole, City Secretary

The City of Gatesville council chambers are wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available at the back entrance of City Hall. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 24 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the city secretary's office at 254-865-8951 or FAX 254-865-8320, or eMail wcole@gatesvilletx.com for further information.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 110 NORTH 8TH STREET
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

AN OPEN MEETING WAS HELD CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

1) CALL TO ORDER REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 5:35 P.M. THIS 22ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Chumley, Councilmembers Billy Sinyard, Meredith Rainer, Claude Williams, and John Westbrook

REGRETS: Councilmembers Barbara Burrow and Greg Casey

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager William H. Parry III, City Secretary Wendy Cole, Rene Ochoa, Mike Halsema, Nathan Gohlke, Barrett Pollard, Scott Harper, Robert Featherston, and Jeff Osborne

Mayor Gary Chumley welcomed Dr. Barrett Pollard and Mr. Scott Harper of the Gatesville Independent School District to the meeting.

2) HEAR VISITORS/CITIZENS FORUM: AT THIS TIME, ANY PERSON WITH BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL NOT SCHEDULED ON THE AGENDA MAY SPEAK TO THE COUNCIL FOR A MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) MINUTES. NO FORMAL ACTION CAN BE TAKEN ON THESE ITEMS AT THIS MEETING

Visitors present were only concerned with an agenda item.

3) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CONSENT AGENDA: (ALL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE BY CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS UNLESS A COUNCILMEMBER REQUESTS AN ITEM BE REMOVED AND CONSIDERED SEPARATELY)

RESOLUTION 2022-16: Minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting February 8, 2022

RESOLUTION 2022-17: Appointment of Douglas Glimp as an Officer to the Gatesville Reserve Police Force

Motion by Meredith Rainer, seconded by John Westbrook, to approve the Consent Agenda:

RESOLUTION 2022-16: Minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting February 8, 2022;

RESOLUTION 2022-17: Appointment of Douglas Glimp as an Officer to the Gatesville Reserve Police Force; all four voting "Aye", motion passed.

Following approval of the consent agenda Police Chief Gohlke told the Council that Douglas Glimp was hired as an Animal Control officer but will also be an officer in the Gatesville Reserve Police Force.

4) BRIEFING/PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – POLICE CHIEF NATHAN GOHLKE

Police Chief Nathan Gohlke provided each councilmember a 2021 Police Department Annual Report which included an overview of Gatesville PD's activity for the previous year and the Racial Profiling Report as is required by Texas State Legislature. Chief Gohlke encouraged the council to ask questions

as he discussed the report and stated that he was always available if anyone had concerns or comments later.

- Presented the Police Department Organizational Chart
- PD responded to 19,272 calls for service which is an increase from 2020 with 379 arrests for a variety of crimes and generated 719 Reports. The COVID-19 pandemic is still affecting how things are done. The jail was mostly closed to Gatesville PD use in 2021 except for certain crimes. Any crimes that were felony offenses and above and family violence cases were the only instances that the PD were able to utilize the jail. Persons with Class C misdemeanor cases or City Ordinance violations still will not see jail time. There are many Municipal warrants that are just sitting and can't be served.
- Juveniles: 7 warnings & 3 citations were issued compared to 18 warnings & 3 citations last year for curfew violations. There were 18 juvenile arrests which included Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Assault, Sexual Assault, Criminal Mischief, and Runaway.
- There were 157 vehicular accidents in 2021, an increase of 22 from the previous year. 1273 traffic citations, 1360 traffic warnings, and 7 DWI arrests were also issued during this time period.
- Officers responded to 206 alarm calls in 2021, 142 of which were determined to be false alarms. The PD collected \$300.00 in false alarm fees. The ordinance requires that the PD allow 5 free false alarm calls. There were 14 new permits issued in 2021.
- Chief Gohlke credited Animal Control Division and volunteers for all of their hard work in promoting the animal adoptions and keeping the euthanasia rate low. Officers responded to 1264 calls for service that resulted in 80 citations and 10 warnings being issued for animal related offenses. A total of 296 animals were impounded or surrendered. 11 animals were euthanized, 32 were returned to an owner, 81 transferred to rescues, and 67 were adopted. There were also 238 feral cats trapped during this period. Feral cats and registered cat colonies have really become an issue in Gatesville because the people that have registered colonies don't always do what they are supposed to do. Animal Control Officers investigated 17 animal bite cases and quarantined 5 dogs during the year. Gatesville's shelter is a state certified quarantine facility so staff is able to charge fees to people that are required to quarantine an animal.
- Code Enforcement: There were 149 calls for service regarding code enforcement issues with 818 violation notices issued and 593 of these cases brought into compliance. 12 citations were issued. This program that is still a work in progress and because Gatesville has many neglected properties is progressing slowly. Current Animal Control Officer, Jason Holt, has gone through code enforcement training and is now certified to work these code violation tasks but has not officially started because he is training the new Animal Control Officer. Holt will transition over to code enforcement soon and will be certified to issue citations for City ordinance violations only. If a violation is occurring under the State's health and safety code a police officer will accompany the code enforcement officer to the site and would issue the citation. The overall goal of the Code Enforcement program is to enhance the quality of life for the citizens by working with property owners to eliminate nuisances that exist on their properties – not just issue citations.

Chief Gohlke discussed the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) which collects data on each single crime occurrence. The report gave an overview and comparison of both the 2020 and 2021 calendar years with regard to Gatesville's crime data. Gatesville's 2021 crime rate per 1000 people is calculated at 13.1, which is a slight increase over 12.3 that was reported in 2020. This crime rate is based on 7 Index crimes that include Murder, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft. The 2021 crime rate for Coryell County as a whole, which includes the City of Gatesville, City of Copperas Cove, and Coryell County is listed at roughly 13 per 1000 people and compares roughly half to the Texas statewide crime rate of 26.67 per 1,000.

Chief Gohlke gave an analysis of data and discussed the breakdown of a few of the classifications of offenses and percentage rates of cleared cases regarding this year compared to last year. Outside agencies will be called in to assist the Police Department (PD) and three (3) investigators if additional resources are needed to solve a crime. The narcotics investigator position that was approved to be hired this year has been deferred to a future date. The PD is still having staffing issues as no one that has applied is qualified or eligible to hire. The PD is still short four (4) officers and two (2) dispatchers. These staff shortages have probably affected these crime numbers as officers are having to work overtime and extra shifts but the required duties and on-going investigations are thoroughly completed.

Community Outreach initiatives and events were affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and because of restricted resources many events had to be cancelled. The Beard Campaign (No Shave November) did occur and \$8,000.00 was raised and donated to the Gatesville Care Center.

Chief Gohlke reported on racial profiling which included a breakdown of census information data and a racial comparative traffic review regarding traffic stops. Gohlke noted that in 2021 the Gatesville Police Department received no formal or informal complaints of racial profiling.

Also discussed were possible City of Gatesville incentives to interest new hires for the Police Department such as a sign-on bonus, sponsorship to the Police Academy which would include putting them on salary as they are going through the academy, and promote the City's very good benefits.

Chief Gohlke answered questions from the Council and again told the Council to contact him if they have any other concerns.

5) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2021 EDITIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE, INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE, INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, AND INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; AND THE 2020 EDITION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE

City Manager Parry said that this is the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 to adopt the 2021/2022 editions of the International Codes Council family of codes. Parry discussed the chart that was included in the read ahead book which compared the currently adopted versions of the code vs. the state-adopted version vs. the proposed version. Staff is asking the Council to adopt the code and with the amendments that are specific to local situations.

Building Inspector, Robert Featherston, told the Council that one of the circumstances that is driving this code change proposal is the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) that impacts insurance policies—mainly Commercial Insurance policies. The ISO inspects the Fire Department and Building Department processes and codes every few years to determine the rating for Gatesville. ISO determined that everything looked very good in both departments except for the codes that Gatesville is using because they are ten (10) years behind the current codes. The fundamental issue is not whether the adopted Codes apply, but how a City chooses to enforce the Codes. While licensed contractors are required to follow the standards adopted by the State, the City Building Inspector can only inspect to/enforce the standards in the Code(s) adopted by City Council Ordinance. ISO will give back the points lost on the inspection if this new ordinance would be approved by the Council. If the Council chooses not to approve the code the points would be taken away. Mr. Featherston presented the International Building Code book which detailed all things regarding commercial buildings. The International Residential Code book which detailed all things regarding residential structures was also discussed. There are about nine (9) of these code books that would be adopted if Ordinance 2022-01 is approved.

Mr. Parry said that the Building Inspector needs to be given the tools to be able to inspect to the safest standard of codes and to be able to enforce these standard of codes. The City Attorney said that the code can be amended in certain places that would be suitable for local circumstances and conditions. Ordinance 2022-01 shows the modifications that the City staff is proposing to amend.

ORDINANCE 2022-01-01: Motion by Meredith Rainer; seconded by Billy Sinyard; to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-01 amending Chapter 10, Buildings and Building regulations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gatesville; adopting the 2021 edition of the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Fire Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Energy Conservation Code, and International Property Maintenance Code; and the 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code; repealing sections 10.129 and 10.130; and amending section 10.22 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gatesville; all four voting “Aye”, motion passed.

6) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RENEWAL OF THE VERIZON DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES (DIR) CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF GATESVILLE

City Manager Parry said that the City has a mobile provider (Verizon) that provides not only cell phones and cell phone coverage but also mobile hot spots for the Police and Fire Departments, and iPads and auto dialers for other departments. State law specifies that any services that the City contracts for over \$50,000 has to be approved by the City Council. The City is able to utilize the State Department of Information Resources (DIR) for the mobile contracts so a Request for Proposal does not have to be written and sent out for bid every year for cell phone services as long as the City uses a State approved agency. Because of the growth of mobile technology and the fact that the City is relying more and more on technical equipment as well as adding more equipment the cost of these services have gone over the \$50,000 annual procurement limit (combined departments) this last year. Because of the procurement limit the Council must approve Verizon as the wireless network operator and approve the new agreement that will be valid through 2025. The actual cost for the Verizon services this last year was about \$57,000.00.

RESOLUTION 2022-18: Motion by Billy Sinyard; seconded by John Westbrook; to approve the City of Gatesville's agreement with Verizon valid through 2025 and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement; all four voting "Aye", motion passed.

7) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Stillhouse Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion (Update): Staff will meet with Walker Partners this Thursday on February 24th at the Stillhouse WWTP to review the technical memorandum information regarding the treatment plant expansion project. Initial budget estimates from 2018 have increased 49% since then so some items may have to be deferred or cut. Staff will look at the American Rescue Plan Act to see if grant funds are available to help make up some of the difference of this project.

Draft Wastewater System Master Plan (January 2022): As part of the Stillhouse expansion project the Texas Water Development Board approved an update to the 1989 Wastewater Master Plan for the City of Gatesville. Walker Partners partnered with a third party contractor to take a look at the next 25 years and identify elements that need to be done to upgrade and improve the wastewater system in the city of Gatesville. 37 projects totaling \$132.5 million over the next 25 years have been identified in the master plan. More information to follow at future meetings.

Other activities/dates of note: Household Hazardous Waste event will be held on March 26, 2022. Staff is meeting with Keep Gatesville Beautiful tomorrow to determine their role in this event.

BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP GRANT FOR THE ROTUNDA (update): The next step in this process is to hire a Qualified Environmental Professional that will assist staff with planning the execution of the grant to demolish the Rotunda. The City has received two (2) proposals from qualified firms and are currently assessing those proposals and will be cleared through the Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 office. After this step is completed the Quality Assurance Plan will be implemented as well as the finalization of the cleanup alternatives for the Rotunda.

SKATE PARK UPDATE: The City has received the donation from Stanley Ford of McGregor in the amount of \$8500 to help rehabilitate the skate park. Parks & Recreation Director, Seth Phillips, believes that this is sufficient funds to rehabilitate all of the equipment that is currently in the existing skate park. Seth is having a meeting with the volunteers that came to the council meeting in August (voicing their skate park concerns) and will discuss their interest in helping with the skate park rehabilitation project.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA TOPICS: March 8, 2022: Discussion on ½ -cent sales tax for dedicated purposes. Parry encouraged the Council to individually reach out to him if they had questions before the meeting on March 8th.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING TOPICS- DATES TO BE DETERMINED:

- Broadband Options- The Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) is applying for an Economic Development Administrative Grant to study broadband in regards to what is already in place and how affordable it is in the seven (7) counties that make up the Council of Governments. The Coryell County Commissioners Court decided that they did not want to wait for the study and have made funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act that they already have. Parry will have a virtual meeting this week with the contractor that CTCOG hired for this project and is also who the County is using. An assessment of the study will be brought to the Council at a future meeting as well as the options to increase capability of broadband in this area.

- Carnivals/Circus Ordinance: The Chamber is requesting that the Carnival/Circus Ordinance be amended to allow more flexibility than the current ordinance allows. The Chamber of Commerce would like to have a carnival for the Shivarree the first week in June. If the Council chooses to consider an amendment to the ordinance from its current requirements; it could be included in the March 22nd agenda so the Chamber would have time to plan for the event. The three (3) specific issues that the Chamber wants the Council to change is:

1. Insurance requirements: the insurance limit has already been resolved and lowered to the 1 million requirement.
2. The start time: Chamber requests the start time to be at 10:00 a.m. instead of 12:00 p.m.
3. Limitation on Proximity to Residential Area: The current ordinance states that a carnival cannot be set up within 1000 ft. of a residence. Parry provided three (3) maps to the Council that showed locations that the Chamber is considering to hold the circus: the parking lot around the Depot, Courthouse square, and between 7th & 8th Street approximately west of the public swimming pool. Parry discussed the three (3) proposals which showed a radius of 500 ft. and 1000 ft. on each map and illustrated where residential areas were situated. The Chamber is requesting that the Council consider changing the radius to inside the 1000 ft. current requirement.

8) ADJOURN MEETING AT 6:46 P.M., THIS 22ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022

ATTEST:

Wendy Cole
City Secretary

APPROVED:

Gary M. Chumley
Mayor