



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Mayor Kelli Cole
Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin
Place 2 Chris Garis Place
Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer
Place 4 Margo Nielsen
Place 5 Laura McCorkle

STAFF PRESENT

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary
Ty Gerstenberger, Chief
Steven Robertson, Comptroller

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – U.S. Flag and Texas Flag

Mayor Cole led everyone in the pledges.

OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER

Mayor Cole led everyone in a moment of silence.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (PUBLIC FORUM)

Public participation is valued and at this time, comments limited to three (3) minutes will be taken from persons who have signed the Speaker's Card located on the table inside the Council Chambers and delivered to the City Secretary before the meeting begins. Written comments received by submission to the City Secretary in person or emailed to citysec@fultontexas.org by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, on any subject matter that is not on the agenda, will be read and summarized in the minutes of the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Council and who have registered using the Speaker's Card will have up to three (3) minutes to speak. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council may not discuss or take action on any item that has not been posted on the agenda. While civil public criticism is not prohibited; disorderly conduct or disturbance of the peace as prohibited by law shall be cause for the chair to terminate the offender's time to speak.

Kathy Kane addressed the Council and said she would like to see more of the police department statistics that can be published to the public, such as number of citations and arrests. She also stated she would like to see more information on things happening within the Town. Ms. Kane mentioned the murals being painted in the City of Rockport and noted those would be a nice addition to the Town.

PROCLAMATION

1. Proclamation in recognition of the Texas Navy's contribution to our state and establishing the week of September 13 - 20, 2025 as Texas Navy Week.

Mayor Cole read the proclamation establishing the week of September 13 - 20, 2025 as Texas Navy Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

2. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** minutes of the Budget Workshop and Regular Meeting held on August 6, 2025.
3. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the July 2025 financials.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** the proposed 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of .265052/\$100.

Mayor Cole read the item and reminded the Council that this is the tax rate that was discussed during the last budget workshop.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 5 McCorkle to approve the proposed 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year Tax Rate of .265052/\$100.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

5. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** a one percent (1%) cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the Town of Fulton employees in Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026.

Mayor Cole read the item and mentioned that the COLA is not the only raise the employees receive. Each employee has the opportunity at their yearly evaluation to earn a merit raise.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Place 3 Pahmiyer to approve the one percent (1%) cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the Town of Fulton employees in Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

6. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** scheduling a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Budget: September 22, 2025.

Mayor Cole read the item. There was no discussion.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin to approve the scheduling of the public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Budget for September 22, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

7. **Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** scheduling a public hearing to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Tax Rate: September 22, 2025.

Mayor Cole read the item. There was no discussion.

Motion made by Place 2 Garis, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin to approve the scheduling of the public hearing to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Tax Rate for September 22, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

CLOSED SESSION

The Town Council may elect to go into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code on any Agenda item where appropriate and particularly Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorney) and 551.074 (personnel matters), Government Code.

Council did not convene into Closed Session.

OPEN SESSION

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove any and all action necessary with regard to the preceding matter(s).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. Mayor's Update.

Griffith and Brundrett are finalizing the surveys for the General Land Office project. The one-year inspection will take place this week on the large west side project. Fulton Beach Road will be seal coated and repaired in the coming weeks. The new "Fulton" sign donated by Class 28 of Leadership Aransas County has been installed at the Fulton Harbor Park. Mayor Cole mentioned looking into the mural project for the Town.

Chief Gerstenberger informed the Council that the Cadet is doing well and in his seventh week of training. The officers will begin staggering patrol hours next month. Jessica Dougherty, a new officer, will attend the next Council meeting for introductions.

Alderwoman Pahmiyer announced that Mayor Cole was named the Leading Lady of Aransas County.

9. The next Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 3, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Cole announced the date and time of the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cole entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.



Kelli Cole, Mayor



Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary