

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES –MAY 6, 2021**

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held on **May 6, 2021** at 12:00 p.m. via teleconference pursuant to **Section 551.045 of the Texas Government Code and in accordance with the March 16, 2020 order by the Governor of the State of Texas.**

The meeting notice, agenda and agenda packet were posted online at www.gonzales.texas.gov.

In accordance with Governor Abbott’s Executive Order 29 issued on July 2, 2020 every person attending the meeting shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth unless the person is under 10 years of age or has a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Abbott suspended several provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act for the duration of his statewide declaration of disaster, including the new requirement (added by H.B. 2840 last legislative session) that the public has a right to speak on agenda items. This DOES NOT apply to statutorily mandated public hearings, such as zoning and similar hearings. The Governor has since clarified his intent and stated that citizens should be allowed to offer comments by other means.

In person attendance by the public will be limited to 14 which is 50% capacity of the room less Council Members and required staff and should be separated by at least six (6) feet from other groups attending the meeting together. A temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings has been granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

Citizens wishing to offer comments on the posted agenda items may email their comments at least two hours prior to the start of the meeting and the comments will be read into the record during the time allocated for citizen comments. Emails may be sent to citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov and must include the name of the citizen.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Kacir called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and a quorum was certified.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Connie L. Kacir	Mayor	Present in person
Gary Schroeder	Outgoing-Council Member, District 1	Present in person
Tommy Schurig	Council Member, District 2	Present in person
Bobby O’Neal	Council Member, District 3	Present in person
Robert R. Brown, Jr.	Council Member, District 4	Present in person
Joseph Kridler	Incoming-Council Member, District 1	Present in person

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

City Manager Tim Patek, City Secretary Kristina Vega, Finance and Director Laura Zella,.

HEARING OF RESIDENTS

No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1.1 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2021-28** Canvassing the Returns and Officially declaring the results of the May 1, 2021 City of Gonzales General & Special Election

CANDIDATE	TOTAL VOTES
Sherri Tumlinson Koepp	62
James H. Lawrence	25
Johnnie R. Hunt	47
Total Votes Counted	134

PROPOSITION A.	
For an amendment to the City’s home rule charter prohibiting the mayor and councilmembers from serving on a City appointed committee, commission, board or other City entity unless no other qualified citizen is available for appointment	255
Against an amendment to the City’s home rule charter prohibiting the mayor and councilmembers from serving on a City appointed committee, commission, board or other City entity unless no other qualified citizen is available for appointment	56
Majority FOR the proposed amendment.	
PROPOSITION B.	
For an amendment to the City’s home rule charter requiring an appointment to City Council to a vacancy in a City Council office if there are between 90 and 365 days remaining in the term of the vacant City Council office	237
Against an amendment to the City’s home rule charter requiring an appointment to City Council to a vacancy in a City Council office if there are between 90 and 365 days	72

remaining in the term of the vacant City Council office.	
Majority FOR the proposed amendment.	
PROPOSITION C.	
For an amendment to the City's home rule charter deleting the requirement that the City Manager reside within the City limits during their term of office.	86
Against an amendment to the City's home rule charter deleting the requirement that the City Manager reside within the City limits during their term of office.	228
Majority AGAINST the proposed amendment.	
PROPOSITION D.	
For an amendment to the City's home rule charter deleting the requirement that the municipal judge be a qualified voter of the City.	90
Against an amendment to the City's home rule charter deleting the requirement that the municipal judge be a qualified voter of the City.	218
Majority AGAINST the proposed amendment.	
PROPOSITION E.	
For an amendment to the City's home rule charter requiring the City Council to select the most qualified individual to be City Attorney.	162
Against an amendment to the City's home rule charter requiring the City Council to select the most qualified individual to be City Attorney.	150
Majority FOR the proposed amendment.	
PROPOSITION F.	
For an amendment to the City's home rule charter authorizing the expenditure of economic development funds as authorized by state law.	174
Against an amendment to the City's home rule	135

charter authorizing the expenditure of economic development funds as authorized by state law.	
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Majority **FOR** the proposed amendment.

ACTION: Items 1.1

APPROVED

Council Member O'Neal moved to approve **Resolution #2021-28 Canvassing the Returns and Officially declaring the results of the May 1, 2021 City of Gonzales General & Special Election**. Council Member Schurig seconded the motion. Mayor Kacir called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 1.2 Issuance of the Certificate of Election and Swearing in of the Council Member District 1: Joseph Kridler

Mayor Kacir conducted the Swearing in of Council Member District 1-Joseph Kridler.

- 1.3 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Ordinance #2021-13** Ordering a Runoff Election

ACTION: Items 1.3

APPROVED

Council Member Schurig moved to approve **Ordinance #2021-13** Ordering a Runoff Election for June 1, 2021. Council Member Brown seconded the motion Mayor Kacir called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 1.4 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Voting Machine Rental Service Agreement with Gonzales County for the Runoff Election

ACTION: Items 1.4

APPROVED

Council Member O'Neal moved to authorize the Mayor to Execute a Voting Machine Rental Service Agreement with Gonzales County for the June 1, 2021 Runoff Election. Council Member Schurig seconded the motion Mayor Kacir called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

- 1.5 Discuss, Consider & Possible Action on **Resolution #2021-29** Approving the recommendation of the Gonzales Convention & Visitor Bureau for the expenditure of funds in the amount of \$20,000 to the Come and Take It Committee to assist in securing entertainment options for the 2021 Come and Take It Celebration

ACTION: Items 1.5

APPROVED

Council Member Brown moved to approve **Resolution #2021-29** Approving the recommendation of the Gonzales Convention & Visitor Bureau for the expenditure of funds in the amount of \$20,000 to the Come and Take It Committee to assist in securing entertainment options for the 2021 Come and Take It Celebration. Council Member O'Neal seconded the motion Mayor Kacir called for a roll call vote. For: Unanimous. The motion passed 5 to 0.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Council Member Brown and second by Council Member Schroeder, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Approved this 13th day of May, 2021.



City Secretary



Connie Kach, Mayor