

# HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
HEWITT CITY HALL – 200 PATRIOT COURT  
August 9, 2021 – 7:00 PM**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Steve Fortenberry (presiding)	Mayor, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Michael S. Bancale	Mayor Pro Tem, At-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bill Fuller	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bob Potter	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf	Council Member, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Charles D. Turner	Council Member, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Erica Bruce (Conference Call)	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

**Staff present:**

City Manager Bo Thomas  
City Secretary Lydia Lopez  
Finance Director Lee Garcia  
Fire Chief Lance Bracco  
Library Director Waynette Ditto  
Police Chief Jim Devlin  
Utilities Director Kevin Reinke

**Note:** The meeting was opened to the public and also live-streamed for view by the public on the City of Hewitt’s website at <https://www.cityofhewitt.com/790/Hewitt-TX-TV>. Citizens had the opportunity to speak in person or they also could submit written comments to the City Secretary.

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING – 7:00 PM**

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Special Called Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for attendance.  
**PRESENT:** Bruce, Fuller, Potter, Turner, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry  
**ABSENT:** None
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. VOTE TO PLACE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED 2021 TAX RATE ON A FUTURE AGENDA AND TO SET THE DATES FOR THE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS.** City Manager Bo Thomas explained the return of this agenda item. He stated after a discussion between the State Comptroller and the Tax Assessor, the 2021 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet was refigured to include a sales tax adjustment which resulted in the proposed tax rate voted on at the last council meeting to be set higher than the de minimis rate. This would require an automatic election.

He further stated that the Tax Assessor provided a second recalculation on Thursday, August 5, to adjust the property tax refunds which reduced the de minimis rate to \$.540102 cents per \$100 valuation. The Tax Assessor advised the Council would have to retake the record vote. General discussion concerning the effect on setting future tax rates.

**MOTION:** Council Member Charlie Turner moved to vote to place adoption of a tax rate of \$.540102 cents per \$100 valuation, equaling \$.192999 cents for debt service and \$.347103 cents for maintenance and operations, as an action item for the August 16, 2021, council meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m., in Hewitt City Hall, Council Chambers, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bob Potter

City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for the vote.

**AYES:** Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Charlie Turner moved move to set two public hearings to be held on Monday, August 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in Hewitt City Hall, Council Chambers, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bill Fuller

City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for the vote.

**AYES:** Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

4. **CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET.** City Manager Bo Thomas noted that replacement pages for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Annual Budget were provided. These replacement pages reflected the changes in the property tax collection rate (99% to 99.5%), and the increase of an additional \$13,000 in sales tax revenue to approve the budget at the de minimus rate. He stated these changes would have no adverse effect on the departmental budgets. Mayor Steve Fortenberry opened the public hearing and called for those wishing to speak on the FY 2021-2022 Proposed Annual Budget. No one appeared. The public hearing was closed.
5. **CONDUCT THE FIRST OF TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS ON 2021 TAX RATE.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry opened the public hearing and called for those wishing to speak on the 2021 Tax Rate. No one appeared. The public hearing was closed.
6. **MOTION TO ANNOUNCE THAT AUGUST 16, 2021, AT 7:00 PM, AT THE HEWITT CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 200 PATRIOT COURT, AS THE DATE TO VOTE ON THE 2021 TAX RATE.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.

**MOTION:** Council Member Charlie Turner moved move to set the date of August 16, 2021, at 7:00 PM, at the Hewitt City Hall, Council Chambers, 200 Patriot Court, as the date to vote on the 2021 Tax Rate.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bill Fuller

City Secretary polled the Council for vote.

**AYES:** Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

**8. ADJOURN.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM.

**SECOND:** Council Member Charlie Turner

City Secretary polled the Council.

**AYES:** Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry

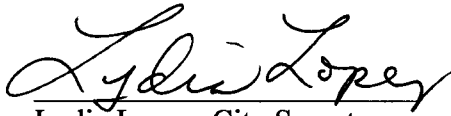
**NAYES:** None

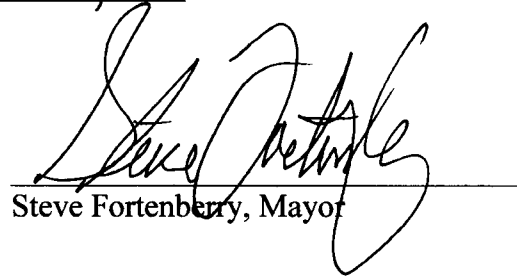
**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

Approved: August 16, 2021

ATTEST:

  
Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

  
Steve Fortenberry, Mayor