



**CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT**  
**City Council**  
**Called Hearing**  
**MINUTES**  
**August 27, 2018**

The City of Whitewright met for a Called Meeting, Monday, August 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Whitewright Visitors Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Sarah Beth Owen</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Bart Bodine</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Rick Magers</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>George Fenner</b>

**Others present:** Mayor Jamie Lawrence, City of Whitewright, City Secretary Tona Shiplet, Kelly Selman, David Perkins, John Simon, Martha Mangrum, Barbara Hughes, Brandon Latimer, Dwayne Henderson, Cathy Pierce, James Sauls, Shaun Skiles, Sally O'Brien, Annette Snider, Cheryl Harvey, Sheri Kent, Mike Lane, Edwina Lane, Rick Webber, and Mark Kline.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **INVOCATION**  
Shaun Skiles gave the invocation.
3. **PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE**
4. **ROLL CALL**  
Councilmembers Owen, Magers, Bodine, and Fenner were present.  
Councilmember Glover was absent.
5. **OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**  
Public hearing opened at 6:32 p.m.

A tax rate of \$0.643040 per \$100 valuation has been proposed for adoption by the governing body of the CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT. This rate exceeds the lower of the effective or rollback tax rate, and state law requires that two public hearings be held by the governing body before adopting the proposed tax rate.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.643040 PER \$100
PRECEDING YEAR'S TAX RATE	\$0.661114 PER \$100
EFFECTIVE TAX RATE	\$0.595410 PER \$100
ROLLBACK TAX RATE	\$0.643040 PER \$100

**a. Citizens Comments**

No comments.

**b. Council Comments**

Councilmember Owen asked why the proposed rate was selected. Tona Shiplet said that each department has now established a capital improvement fund, and the increase in tax funds would be used for long term planning. Owen stated that the notice stated infrastructure and roads and the city needs to be transparent. Shiplet stated she would make the changes in the budget and send a revision with comparisons to the last two years budgeted and actuals. Councilmember Fenner asked for clarification on the difference between the effective and rollback rate. Shiplet explained the effective rate would bring in the same amount of money as the previous year, the rollback rate is the highest amount it can be raised by law. The tax rate is going down, but more properties have been added to the tax rolls, which in turn will increase the overall taxes raised.

**c. Close Hearing**

Public hearing closed at 6:48 p.m.

6. **MAYOR REPORT**

**6.1 Report from Mayor – Jamie Lawrence**

The Mayor gave reminder that school has started and to be more attentive to children walking, more traffic during school start and release times, and school speed zones. There will be weekly administration meetings on Thursday mornings at City Hall. Thursday office hours will change to close from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Nursing Home is up for auction, and if it is purchased, the new owner will still be liable for expenses incurred by the City regarding the building. The Police Department is in the process of moving back to 507 W Grand, after receiving an inspection regarding occupation of the building.

The budget and tax rate hearings have started with the proposed budget and tax rate being published. All other dates for budget and tax hearings have been established and we are on target to get all approved and passed. The past two audits are in progress and we will be ready to start the current audit on time.

Whitewright Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament to be held on September 17<sup>th</sup> at Tanglewood Golf Course. Wednesday evening youth groups at churches will be meeting, please be attentive to children walking to these events. Walnut Street will be blocked on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 to 9:00 for the safety of the children. Staff to observe Labor Day, Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

7. **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.)*

- 7.1 **\*To approve bills paid in July, 2018**
- 7.2 **\*To review Ad Volorum taxes received for the month of June**
- 7.3 **\*Approve Minutes**
  - \*a. May 29, 2018
  - \*b. June 5, 2018
  - \*c. June 12, 2018
  - \*d. June 18, 2018
  - \*e. July 3, 2018

Councilmember Magers moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Bodine seconded the motion. Councilmember Owen said she had minor amendments to the minutes and would email those to Shiplet if everyone agreed. Councilmember Fenner made the motion to accept the amendments, Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Fenner made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the minutes corrections. Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

8. **ACTION ITEMS**

- 8.1 **Select Engineering firm for the Water Project**
  - a. KSA Engineering
  - b. Hayter Engineering
  - c. EST Engineering

Councilmember Owen made the motion to select KSA Engineering. Councilmember Fenner seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**Item 8.5 taken out of order, see below.**

- 8.2 **Approve Whitewright Economic Development (4a) Budget**

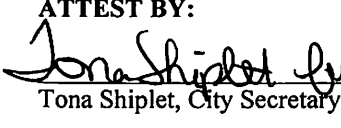
Councilmember Magers made the motion to approve the budget. Councilmember Fenner seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.3 **Approve Whitewright Community Development (4b) Budget**

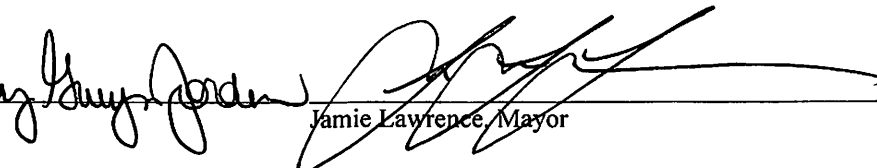
Councilmember Bodine made the motion to approve the budget. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.4 **Accept Memorandum of Understanding between Whitewright Police Department and Whitewright ISD**

Councilmember Fenner made the motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Whitewright Police Department and Whitewright ISD. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

- 8.5 Consider and act on approval of extending Revolving Loan Grant through Whitewright Economic Development to Mike and Edwina Lane for the purchase of the Odeum Theater.**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to deny approval. Motion died due to lack of a second. Councilmember Owen made the motion to discuss the item. Councilmember Fenner seconded.
- Councilmember Owen stated she felt there wasn't enough financial and other information provided by the potential purchasers. Furthermore, she stated that unless it was approved by the USDA for the loan, there's no point in the City approval. After further discussion and Type A Board member Gwyn Jordan stating that city council approval was required to send the loan to USDA for review and approval, Councilmember Fenner made the motion to approve, contingent upon approval by the USDA, and the Type A Board having TML review for compliance as well as City Attorney James Tidwell if approved by USDA before issuance. Councilmember Magers seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.6 Consider and approve the purchase of fire hose with budgeted money that was reserved for bunker gear that will now be purchased with a grant.**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to approve the purchase of fire hose. Councilmember Magers seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.7 Approve nomination of Sam Kyburz as new Whitewright Community Development Board Member**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to approve the nomination of Sam Kyburz as new Whitewright Community Development Board Member. Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.8 Approve Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for Fire Services**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to approve the Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for Fire Services. Councilmember Fenner seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.9 Approve Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for EMS Services**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to approve the Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for EMS Services. Councilmember Magers seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.10 Approve Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for Library Services**  
Councilmember Fenner made the motion to postpone the Interlocal Agreements with Grayson County for Library Services until receipt of information from the County. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 8.11 Consider and discuss to have two regular council meetings a month. Proposed Resolution to be presented in September.**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to maintain monthly meetings, adding a quarterly budget/departmental review with department heads and to move monthly departmental reports to the consent agenda. If council has questions, they will email the City Secretary to get clarification. Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
- 9. Workshop**
- 9.1 Consider and discuss 2018-2019 Budget.**  
Council discussed 2018-2019 Budget before presentation for a vote at a later date. It was decided to move the estimated \$48,000 in additional tax revenue to \$40,000 to streets and the other \$8000 to Water.
- 10. ADJOURN**  
Councilmember Owen made the motion to adjourn Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

ATTEST BY:

  
Tona Shiplet, City Secretary

  
Jamie Lawrence, Mayor