



City of Whitewright
City Council
Called Meeting and Public Hearing
Whitewright Visitors Center
111 W. Grand
September 18, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Agenda

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A CALLED MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT WILL BE HELD ON THE 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020, AT 6:30 P.M. LOCATED AT 111 W. GRAND, WHITEWRIGHT, TEXAS, AT WHICH TIME THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WILL BE DISCUSSED.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL

Jamie Lawrence - Mayor
Rick Magers

Traci Barr
Ruby Howell

Bart Bodine
Jason Summers – Mayor Pro Tem

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS — At this time, any person may address the City Council regarding an item on this meeting agenda that is not scheduled for public hearing. Also, at this time, any person may address the Council regarding an item that is not on this meeting agenda. Each person will be allowed up to three (3) minutes to speak. No discussion or action may be taken at this meeting on items not listed on this agenda, other than to make statements of specific factual information in response to a citizen's inquiry or to recite existing policy in response to the inquiry.

Public Hearings

The City Council for the City of Whitewright, Texas will hold one public hearing on the 2020-2021 Fiscal Budget of the City of Whitewright, Texas (Budget) and one public hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate on Friday, September 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Whitewright Visitors Center located at 111 W. Grand Ave in Whitewright, Texas. The meeting will be held for the purpose of receiving community input on the Budget and Tax Rate, which will cover the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021.

All interested citizens and property owners of the city, as well as other persons of interest, are invited to attend the public hearings and participate in the same. A copy of the proposed Budget is available for viewing during normal business hours at City Hall, 206 W. Grand Ave, Whitewright, Texas and is also located on the City's website at www.whitewright.com.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Consider and approve Whitewright Economic Development (4a) 2020-2021 Budget (amended)
- 6.2 Consider and approve Whitewright Community Development (4b) 2020-2021 Budget

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET

THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR'S BUDGET BY AN AMOUNT OF \$43,615, WHICH IS A 8.26 PERCENT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET. THE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR IS \$25,140.

- a. Citizens Comments
- b. Council Comments
- c. Close Public Hearing for Budget FY 2020-2021

6.3 Consider and adopt Ordinance #555 budget for fiscal year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021

6.4 Consider and adopt Ordinance #556 ratify property tax increase for 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of 0.627856 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.627856 per \$100
NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.606605 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.627856 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$1.155917 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2020 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on September 18, 2020 at 6:30 pm at 111 W. Grand, Whitewright, TX 75491.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:
property tax amount=(tax rate) X (taxable value of your property)/100

The members of the governing body voted on the proposed tax increase as follows:

FOR:

Traci Barr	Bart Bodine
Ruby Howell	Jason Summers

AGAINST:

PRESENT and not voting:

Jamie Lawrence

ABSENT:

Rick Magers

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT this year:

	2019	2020	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.651424	\$0.627856	decrease of -\$0.023568 OR -3.62%
Average homestead taxable value	\$107,290	\$119,779	increase of 11.64%
Tax on average homestead	\$699	\$752	increase of \$53 OR 7.60%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$527,897	\$571,512	increase of \$43,615 OR 8.26%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT at 903.813.4223 or millere@co.grayson.tx.us, or visit www.whitewright.com for more information.

- a. Citizens Comments
- b. Council Comments
- c. Close Public Hearing for Tax Rate Increase

6.5 Consider and adopt Ordinance #557 levying a tax rate for the tax rate year 2021.

7. ADJOURN

CERTIFICATION

Items marked with * are on the consent agenda and will be voted on in one motion unless a council member asks for a separate discussion.

1. City Council may vote and/or act upon each of the action items listed in this Agenda pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.
2. The Council reserves the right to retire in to executive session concerning any of the items listed on this Agenda, whenever it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Vernon's Texas Code Annotated in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.071 — Consultation with attorney, Section 551.072 — Deliberation regarding real property, Section 551.073 — Deliberation regarding prospective gift, Section 551.074 — Personnel matters, Section 551.076 — Deliberation regarding security devices, and Section 551.087 — Deliberation regarding economic development negotiations.
3. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need assistance should contact City Hall at 903-364-2219 two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available.

I certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted on this 15th day of September, 2020 on or before 6:30 p.m. as required by law in accordance with Section 551.043 of the Texas Government Code. This agenda is posted on the City of Whitewright website: www.whitewright.com. and on the window of City Hall.

Gwyn Jordan

Gwyn Jordan – Interim City Secretary