



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

Council Meeting ended due to  
Councilmember Barr leaving at  
6:48. Could not continue meeting  
due to lack of quorum.

The city council of Whitewright met for a called meeting and workshop on Friday, September 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Whitewright Visitor Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

<b>Mayor</b>	<b>Jamie Lawrence</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Traci Barr</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Bart Bodine</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Ruby Howell</b>
<b>Councilmember</b>	<b>Jason Summers</b>

*Others present: James Shiplet, John Simon, Olivia Hutchison, Sergeant West, Officer Bell, Gwyn Jordan, Brandon Latimer*

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:36 pm.
2. INVOCATION – Given by Jason Summers
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Given
4. ROLL CALL

Jamie Lawrence Mayor-Present	Traci Barr - Present	Bart Bodine - Present
Rick Magers - Absent	Ruby Howell - Present	Jason Summers – Mayor Pro Tem-Present

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.

*None*

#### 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](http://www.whitewright.com).

#### 6. ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Consider and approve Whitewright Economic Development (4a) 2020-2021 Budget (amended)  
*Councilmember Howell made a motion to approve*  
*Councilmember Bodine second*  
*Motion passed 4-0*
- 6.2 Consider and approve Whitewright Community Development (4b) 2020-2021 Budget  
*Councilmember Summers made a motion to approve*  
*Councilmember Barr second*  
*Motion passed 4-0*

#### 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 *None*
- b. Council Comments *Councilmember Barr walked out of meeting breaking the quorum, had to end meeting at 6:48 p.m.*
- 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 30, 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:

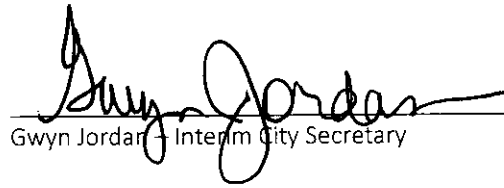
	2019	2020	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.651424	\$0.627856	decrease of -\$0.023568 OR -3.62%
Average homestead taxable value	\$107,290	\$119,779	increase of 11.64%
Tax on average homestead	\$699	\$752	increase of \$53 OR 7.60%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$527,897	\$571,512	increase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

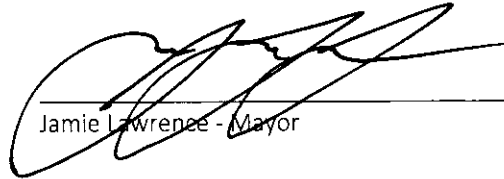
For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT at 903.813.4223 or millere@co.grayson.tx.us, or visit [www.whitewright.com](http://www.whitewright.com) for more information.

- Citizens Comments
- Council Comments
- Close Public Hearing for Tax Rate Increase

7. ADJOURN Meeting ended at 6:48 when Councilmember Barr left meeting breaking the quorum. No further business could be conducted

Attest:

  
Gwyn Jordan - Interim City Secretary

  
Jamie Lawrence - Mayor