

THE CITY OF EASTLAND  
CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING

August 4, 2021

EASTLAND, TEXAS §

EASTLAND, COUNTY §

The City Commission of the City of Eastland, Texas, met in Open Session at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours prior to the meeting.

CITY COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioner	Cecil Funderburgh
Chairman	Larry Vernon
Commissioner	Richard Rossander
Commissioner	Ben McNabb
Commissioner	Zac Darr

PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Finance Director	Leslie Zander
City Manager (Incoming)	J. J. Oznick
City Secretary	Roma Holley

Guests: Bekah Johnson, Lorna Neal, Jerry Maston, Jose Reyes, Ara Taber, Carol Gordon, Bruce Harbin, Robin Hayes, Ruth York, Margie Maddux, Tabitha Holden, Pam White, Mark Lee Dickson

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Larry Vernon called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Ben McNabb offered the invocation and City Manager J.J. Oznick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SUBJECT NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA  
(Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

See Agenda Item 1

IV. The Board of City Commissioners May Discuss and Take Action on the  
Following Agenda Items

1. Discussion and Consideration of Second Reading of **Ordinance 21-870**

*AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EASTLAND OUTLAWING ABORTION WITHIN THE CITY OF EASTLAND, DECLARING EASTLAND A SANCTUARY CITY FOR THE UNBORN, MAKING VARIOUS PROVISIONS AND FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.*

Jerry Maston: Thank you for supporting this and we affirm that we value you very much.

Jose Reyes: Thank you for considering this ordinance. Let's remember that the job is not finished. It has just started. They (the Commission) have done their part. Now it's up to the adults (addressing the audience) to educate our young on what is morally right. Emphasize the consequences of what happens if we do not follow those guidelines. And if it happens, because we are not perfect, then we need to be a great support to those young women who do become pregnant, and for the baby. It is a great joy to be a parent and

grandparent to children you did not give birth to. Children you adopt. Our work has just begun.

Ruth York: We celebrate the passage of this ordinance today. By passing this ordinance today, you have declared that this City values the next generation and that you will fight for its right to exist; that you are a thriving community. On behalf of the Texas Family Defense Committee, I would like to present to the City of Eastland, a statue titled "Sanctuary" to commemorate your dedication to life and a healthy future for this town. This was sculpted by a San Antonio sculptor: Del Satterfield and it was cast in Ranger, Texas by Quality Statue Crafters.

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh made a motion, seconded by Richard Rossander, to approve **Ordinance 21-870**, outlawing Abortion with the City Limits of Eastland

Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: None

## 2. Discuss Tax Rate and Take Record Vote

Chairman Larry Vernon announced this agenda item and stated that we will not be taking a Record Vote at this time. Chairman Vernon turned the discussion over to City Manager J.J. Oznick who introduced the proposed tax rate information and recommendations as follows:

Based on this year's figures, the No New Revenue Tax Rate (formerly known as effective tax rate) determined by the Tax Appraisal District is .612191, the Voter Approval Tax (formerly known as Rollback Tax) rate is .615386 and the current tax rate is .6070. After careful analysis, City Manager Oznick is proposing a tax rate of .61538 for the 2021 Tax Rate. Mr. Oznick provided budgeting and tax base information for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 supporting the proposed rate. He reminded the City Commission this decision is a proposed tax rate and can be adjusted before the hearings and adoption of a tax rate by ordinance, which will take place as previously scheduled in the budgeting process

There was discussion and questions by all commissioners. Finance Director Leslie Zander and City Manager J.J. Oznick provided answers. Commissioner Zac made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander, to accept the proposed tax rate of .61538. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Funderburgh, Darr, Rossander, McNabb,  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: None

## V. Budget Workshop to Discuss Budget Draft for FY 2021 - 2022

City Manager J.J. Oznick stated that the first thing they figured is a 3% pay raise to all employees. He stated our employees go above and beyond to make sure our city runs smoothly.

Oznick also outlined the matching grants that we are responsible for this budget cycle.

He then talked about the purchase of the Durapatcher which will be used for many years to improve our streets. Although it will be bought this year, we will not see the payment until the 2022 budget due to the method we are using to payoff debt.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Zac Darr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander, to adjourn at 12:29 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST

APPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roma Holley  
City Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Vernon, Chairman  
Board of