

Special Meeting
Ladonia City Council
Monday, May 16, 2022
7:00 p.m. at Ladonia City Hall

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and a quorum was established.
- II. Roll Call/Members present: Russell Duckworth, Discha Threlkeld, Todd Akers Shakemala Aubrey, and Patricia Harrod
- III. The invocation was given by Todd Akers and the pledges recited by all present.
- IV. Canvass votes of May 7, 2022 Election
 - A. Discuss, Consider, Action/ Canvassing the votes of the May 7, 2022 Election by Adoption of Resolution 2022-05-16 listing the total number of votes cast and the total number of votes received by each candidate; naming the elected Councilmen and the details of the vote at this meeting.

Precinct Report – Official – Fannin County – May 7, 2022 Absentee, Early, and Election

Ladonia Mayoral Two-Year Term

Candidate

Jan Cooper	53
Patricia Harrod	71

Ladonia City Alderman (Councilman) Two-Year Term

Candidate

Todd Akers	48
Deborah Barkheimer	57
Jimmy Lapin	19
Greg Morris	73

Motion was made by Russell Duckworth and seconded by Discha Threlkeld to accept the canvassing of the votes or May 7, 2022 election and approve Resolution 2022-05-16.

VOTE 5-0

- V. Installation of new members of the governing body
 - A. Statements of Officer were received from the elected councilmen by City Secretary, Dana Burkett
 - B. The Oaths of Office were administered by Notary Dana Burkett.
 - C. Newly elected councilmen were presented Certificates of Election for the City of Ladonia. Mayor Patricia Harrod, Councilman Deborah Barkheimer, Councilman Greg Morris assumed the duties of the office to which they were elected.

D. Elect Mayor Pro Tem

Motion was made by Russell Duckworth and seconded by Shakemala Aubrey to elect Discha Threlkeld as Mayor Pro Tem.

VOTE 4-0-1

Discha Threlkeld Abstained

VI. Citizens Comments

Tammy Biggar, Fannin County Clerk addressed the Council about the Elections for the City of Ladonia. When putting in the data from the combination forms from voters that came in to vote, as you know, you sign the long yellow combination form. My deputies are charged with inputting that data into the Secretary of State system. When one of the deputies was putting that information in she came across 12 names that she did not recognize from the voter registration rolls so she brought that information to me. Instead of doing due diligence and verifying that information she brought it to me. I did not do my due diligence and double check her work. I called the Secretary of State because if we had 12 votes of voters that were not eligible to vote that is sufficient to change your election results. So I was advised at that time to notify the City, who would then contact the City Attorney and to notify the candidates and office holders that there may be a reason to contest the results. During this process I started to double check and received a call from an interested party who asked if we could compare the addresses and the mapping is insufficient and my voter registration rolls are insufficient. So when we went back down through the names and I verified with the City, it was determined there were 4 voters that were not eligible to vote. Part of the initial break down happened here at this location with my county worker that I asked to come work this election, she should have called my office that day so that we could start the investigation on election day not after the votes had been cast. So what we did was we put you into turmoil and I apologize for that. That was our mistake, a series of mistakes. It was nobody among your candidates or office holders that initiated this, this started from my office. I pledge to you to do better in the future and we will continue to work on your voter registration rolls because we still have 8 people that are not listed on the rolls correctly. Those are the steps we are going to take and I am here to answer any questions you may have.

I think everyone that had any questions already called my office. And we are always available for that, we serve at your good pleasure.

If you are done with me I am going to go ahead and leave. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

VII. Convene in Executive Session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Open Meetings

No closed session

VIII. Reconvene in Open Session

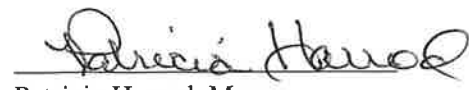
No closed Session

IX. Adjourn

Motion made by Russell Duckworth and seconded by Shakemala Aubrey that the meeting adjourn at 7:15 PM.

VOTE 5-0


Dana Burkett, City Secretary


Patricia Harrod, Mayor