

AGENDA

CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS
SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 400 PORTER STREET

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

This meeting has been called pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code, Section 551.045(a)(b), regarding an emergency of urgent public necessity.

In order to assist in maintaining the health of Council Members, staff and the public, this meeting will be conducted by *video conference*.

You may view this meeting as it's happening through the City's website at
<http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/660/Taylor-Videos>

For citizen comments, please contact the City Clerk's office at 512/352-3676 prior to 5:30p.m. Monday, February 22nd for video conferencing instructions.

The agenda packet is available at <http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/calendar>

CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

1. Receive, consider and take any appropriate action on an update on public health related matters and concerns pertaining to the Winter Storm Disaster. (Chief Baum)
2. Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution R21-07, ratifying the Disaster Declaration signed February 15, 2021 and consenting to its continuation for a period of more than seven days. (Brian LaBorde)

ADJOURN

The Council may vote and/or act upon each of the items listed in this Agenda. The Council reserves the right to retire into executive session concerning any of the items listed on this Agenda, whenever it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Open Meetings Act including: Section 551.071 (Consult with attorney); Section 551.072 (Real Property); Section 551.073 (Gifts and Donations); Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters); Section 551.076 (Security Devices); and Section 551.087 (Economic Development). I certify that the notice of meeting was posted in the Taylor City Hall Lobby before 6:00 p.m. on February 19, 2021 and remained posted for at least 72 hours continuously before the scheduled time of said meeting. I further certify that the following news media was notified of this meeting: Taylor Press.

Posted By:


for Dianna Barker, City Clerk

Date

2/19/21

Jeff Jenkins, PCM



City Council Meeting February 22, 2021 Transmittal Letter

STRATEGIC PILLAR

- ☐ Streets/Infrastructure
- ☒ Quality of Life
- ☐ Economic Vitality

Agenda Item #: 1

Agenda Title: Receive, consider, and take any appropriate action on an update on public health related matters pertaining to the Winter Storm Disaster.

Council Action to be taken: Receive report and consider any recommended actions.

Department Submitted: Fire

Staff Contact: Daniel Baum, Fire Chief

1. PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Council with an update on the local response to the winter weather affecting the State of Texas. Local impacts and response activities will be discussed as well as future mitigation efforts.

2. STAFF ANALYSIS / BACKGROUND / PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIONS

The State of Texas has been impacted by a significant winter storm that has had severe impacts on the City of Taylor. This includes, but is not limited to, loss of electricity and water service to the residents of Taylor. The Governor declared a state of disaster on Monday, February 15th, 2020. The Mayor of the City of Taylor declared a local disaster on the same date.

3. PROS and CONS

<u>PROS</u>	<u>CONS</u>
N/A	N/A

4. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends receipt of report and consideration of potential recommended actions.

5. FUNDING SOURCE

N/A

6. TIMELINE

N/A

7. OTHER OPTIONS (In order of preference)
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N/A

8. ATTACHMENTS

1a. Presentation will be provided prior to meeting to ensure current information.



Winter Storm February 2021

February 22, 2021

Winter Storm February 2021

- Nearly the entire State of Texas has experienced numerous rounds of winter weather beginning February 11th.
- Experienced 8 consecutive days where temperatures remained below freezing.
- Experienced various forms of freezing precipitation to include snow, and freezing rain.
- Experienced temperatures down to near zero degrees F.
- Storm has placed great strains on public infrastructure.

City Impacts

- Disruption of water supply
- Power outages
- Dangerous travel conditions
- Emergency services

Water

- City gets its water from Brazos River Authority's East Williamson County Water Treatment Facility located on Granger Lake.
- On Sunday night the City began experiencing loss of water pressure.
- By Monday night there was no water pressure in the City.
- BRA plant lost power and had to rely on back-up generator power. A subsequent generator failure shut the plant down entirely.
- Upon arrival of back-up generator, plant was slow to resume operations due to frozen pipes.
- Now that power is back on-line, we are still working on restoring pressure to the City water system.

Electricity

- On Monday ERCOT ordered electric utilities to begin rolling blackouts across the State.
- Oncor is the electric utility that serves Taylor.
- Rolling blackouts were not consistent across the City as some areas never lost power, and others were out of power for up to five days.
- When the need for rolling blackouts was lifted on Thursday, approximately 2400 Taylor residences and businesses still did not have power.
- By Friday most of Taylor had power restored.

Travel Impacts

- For much of the event nearly all roads in Taylor were impassable without a four-wheel drive vehicle or tire chains.
- Highway 95 overpass over the railroad tracks was shut down.
- TxDOT performed some sanding and snow removal on Highway 79 and Carlos Parker.
- Roadway conditions kept most residents at home and prevented businesses and fuel stations from being restocked.

Emergency Services

- Police, Fire, and Public Works departments up-staffed to respond to the event.
- Many personnel were not able to get to or leave work.
- Fire Stations, the Holiday Inn Express, and the National Guard armory were used to house emergency service employees.
- Demand for Police services was low due to most people being confined at home.
- Surprisingly few traffic accidents.
- Fire Department had extremely high demand for service responding to nearly 200 incidents.

City Response

- Implemented Incident Command System and virtual Emergency Operations Center.
- Responded to all calls for service through the 911 system.
- Ongoing coordination with BRA and Oncor to restore utility services.
- Established warming center in coordination with Taylor ISD.
- Established points of distribution for bottled and non-potable water.
- Assisted with shutting off water to homes and businesses with broken water lines.

City Response

- Will be excluding February from sewer averaging calculation for water bills.
- Will make water bill adjustments upon receipt of burst pipe repair.
- Waste Management will resume this week.
- Utility bills due on 2/18 will be extended to 2/25.
- Will waive plumbing permit fees for emergency repairs.



City Council Meeting February 22, 2021 Transmittal Letter

STRATEGIC PILLAR

- ☐ Streets/Infrastructure
- ☒ Quality of Life
- ☐ Economic Vitality

Agenda Item #: 2

Agenda Title: Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution R21-07, ratifying the Disaster Declaration signed February 15, 2021 and consenting to its continuation for a period of more than seven days

Council Action to be taken: Consider approving Resolution

Department Submitted: City Management

Staff Contact: Brian LaBorde, City Manager

1. PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION

To consider extending the Disaster Declaration signed February 15, 2021 until March 31, 2021 or until the statewide disaster declaration signed by Governor Greg Abbott on February 12, 2021 is terminated, whichever date is later.

2. STAFF ANALYSIS / BACKGROUND / PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIONS

On February 15, 2021 Mayor Rydell declared a local state of disaster for the City due to the severe winter weather conditions experienced by the city.

The Texas Government Code provides that such a declaration of disaster may not be continued for a period of more than seven days without consent from the entire governing body.

Resolution R21-07 will ratify the Disaster Declaration signed February 15, 2021 by Mayor Rydell and provide consent from the Council to continue the declaration through March 31, 2021, or until the statewide disaster declaration signed by Governor Greg Abbott on February 12, 2021, is terminated, whichever date is later. The disaster declaration may also be terminated by the Mayor provided that the Mayor give City Council seventy-two hours notice of the proposed termination.

3. PROS and CONS

<u>PROS</u>	<u>CONS</u>
Continue to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Taylor.	

4. RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution R21-07 extending the disaster declaration through March 31, 2021 or until the statewide disaster declaration signed by Governor Greg Abbott on February 12, 2021 is terminated, whichever date is later.

5. FUNDING SOURCE

N/A

6. TIMELINE

N/A

7. OTHER OPTIONS (In order of preference)
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N/A

8. ATTACHMENTS

2a. [Resolution R21-07](#)

RESOLUTION R21-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, RATIFYING THE DISASTER DECLARATION SIGNED BY THE MAYOR ON FEBRUARY 15, 2021, AND CONSENTING TO ITS CONTINUATION UNTIL MARCH 31, 2021 OR THE STATEWIDE DISASTER DECLARATION SIGNED BY GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT ON FEBRUARY 12, 2021 IS TERMINATED, WHICHEVER DATE IS LATER; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; INCLUDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2021, Mayor Brandt Rydell, acting in accordance with authority granted to him under Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code and the City's Home Rule Charter, declared a local state of disaster for the City due to the severe winter weather conditions experienced by the city, including prolonged freezing temperatures, heavy snow, and freezing rain, and the resulting damage, injury, and/or loss of life and property therefrom; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that such a declaration of disaster may not be continued for a period of more than seven days except with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the conditions necessitating the disaster declaration will continue to exist for a period of more than seven days; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the disaster declaration signed by Mayor Brandt Rydell on February 15, 2021, and consents to its continuation for a period of more than seven days.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this Resolution are hereby found and declared to be true and correct, and are incorporated by reference herein and expressly made a part hereof, as if copied verbatim.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby ratifies the disaster

declaration signed by Mayor Brandt Rydell on February 15, 2021, and consents to its continuation until March 31, 2021, or until the statewide disaster declaration signed by Governor Greg Abbott on February 12, 2021, is terminated, whichever date is later. The disaster declaration may also be terminated by the Mayor provided that the Mayor give City Council seventy-two hours notice of the proposed termination.

SECTION 3. The Mayor is authorized to sign this Resolution and the City Clerk to attest.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall become effective and be in full force and effect upon execution by the Mayor.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS

By: _____
Brandt Rydell,
Mayor, City of Taylor, Texas

ATTEST:

Dianna Barker
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ted W. Hejl
City Attorney