



Leo Corona

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The majority of the concerns reflected in these records relate to **procedural clarity, communication practices, transparency, and public access to information**—areas where enhanced documentation and clearer processes can help residents better follow municipal governance.

All material presented here is quoted **exactly as recorded** in the official minutes, without alteration, interpretation, or editorial modification. Any emphasis on procedural matters is intended to support informed civic engagement and does not constitute an allegation of misconduct.

### Key Topic Summary

- **Citizen access & communication with council:** Repeated requests to improve how residents can contact councilmembers (posting contact information/ward map; using official city email accounts), and to make communication more direct than routing through City Hall.
- **Agenda transparency & clarity:** Ongoing concern that agenda wording and supporting information are not detailed enough for citizens to understand why items require action; request for clearer, more transparent agenda descriptions and better public-facing background materials (including access to agenda packets).
- **HOT Fund accountability:** Multiple comments calling for stronger procedures and public reporting for Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds—requiring recipients to provide expenditure documentation and outcome metrics (attendance/economic impact), and posting final reports/results online (including follow-up on consultant deliverables).
- **Budget, oversight, and project reporting:** Requests for budgets and major initiatives to include clearer objectives, scope, checks/balances, and follow-up reporting to council and the public; desire for progress reports tied to rate increases and major projects (including restoration of monthly permit reporting).

- **Infrastructure and public safety (Main Street sidewalks):** Concern about utility lines located in/near sidewalks creating unsafe or unusable pedestrian access; request for clarity on responsibility for resolving the issue.
- **Utilities, rates, and resident impact:** Questions and feedback related to water/sewer rate increases, expectations for upgrades funded by those increases, and interest in preventing further rate hikes through prioritization decisions.
- **Economic development / Retail Coach initiative:** Discussion of expectations, coordination, deliverables, and evaluation of the City’s Retail Coach contract (workshop planning, outreach to businesses, and assessing whether the investment meets council expectations).
- **Civic ideas & community improvements:** Suggestions including a voluntary utility-bill “round up” donation option to support city departments, repurposing surplus lighting for parks, and creating a veterans list from cemetery survey updates to support memorial activities.
- **Open meetings / process concerns:** Comments emphasizing accountability and adherence to open-meetings requirements (e.g., concern that zoning-related changes should be handled in open session rather than closed session).
- **Appointments and governance actions noted in minutes:** Excerpts also document formal council actions such as board votes (e.g., appraisal district), municipal agreements (TxDOT maintenance), plan review (Comprehensive Plan chapters), appointments, and corrections/amendments to prior minutes to reflect statements accurately.

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>official City Minute excerpts from the Gatesville City Council</b>
<b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 24, 2026 5:30 P.M.</b>	CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS FORUM: Leo Corona, 409 State School Road, came forward to suggest a voluntary utility program where citizens can opt into donating small amounts or rounding their bill up to contribute funding to the city departments such as the animal shelter or volunteer fire department. Mr. Corona requested this subject be considered for a future agenda item for discussion.
<b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2025 5:30 P.M.</b>	15. Discussion and possible action to cast a vote for a candidate to the Board of Directors of the Coryell Central Appraisal District.  Leo Corona came forward and requested that resumes should be part of the ballot.  Mayor Chumley stated it is up to the County Appraisal District to provide those resumes.
<b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2025 5:30 P.M.</b>	17. Discussion and possible action regarding authorization for City Manager to Sign a Municipal Maintenance Agreement with TxDOT on behalf of the City of Gatesville.  Leo Corona came forward and asked who was responsible for moving the utility lines in the middle of the sidewalks along Main Street. These sidewalks are unsafe and are in some instances unusable.  Mayor Chumley stated there is no good answer to that.

<p><b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING</b> <b>NOVEMBER 18, 2025</b> <b>5:30 P.M.</b></p>	<p>18. Review and Discuss Proposed Changes to Chapters 2 and 3 of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan.</p> <p>Brad Hunt presented Chapters 2 and 3 of the Comprehensive Plan to Council. Council did not make any changes to the draft of Chapters 2 and 3 of the Comprehensive Plan.</p> <p>Leo Corona came forward to discuss the retail coach report.</p>
<p><b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING</b> <b>SEPTEMBER 23, 2025</b> <b>5:30 P.M.</b></p> <p>(Agenda Item clarity remains a concern since first mentioned to council in JANUARY 10, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M. )</p>	<p><b>11) Discussion and possible action to amend the Fee Schedule, Chapter 18.</b></p> <p>Leo Corona came forward. Mr. Corona would like progress reports on the upgrades due to the water and sewer rate increase as they happen. Mayor Chumley stated Council is updated regularly on major projects through the monthly City Manager Report.</p> <p><b>Leo Corona requested more transparent language on the agenda when describing each item.</b></p> <p><i>(For the 14 Oct 2025 Council Meeting language is now specific)</i></p> <p><b>5. Discussion and possible action to amend the Fee Schedule, Chapter 18 adjusting the water and sewer rates.</b></p>
<p><b>CITY COUNCIL MEETING</b> <b>JULY 22, 2025</b> <b>5:30 P.M.</b></p>	<p>Agenda item 8) City Manager's Report.</p> <p>Brad Hunt updated Council on city departments for the month of July.</p> <p>Leo Corona believes that feedback from HOT Funds recipients regarding their events, (i.e., attendance, sales tax, etc.) should be part of the procedures. Mr. Hunt agreed.</p>
<p><b>SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING</b> <b>SEPTEMBER 3, 2024</b> <b>5:30P.M.</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Leo Corona, of 409 State School Road, provided reading material to the Council and spoke to the Council regarding Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund accountability.</b> Mr. Corona referenced the December 2023 Council Meeting regarding the \$4,500.00 plus contract with Prycer Consulting that Council I approved for planning, services for the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center. The contract stated that a report was to be completed within four (4) months of start date with a 6-month and I-year follow-up. Mr. Corona said he does not believe that these documents have been posted on the website and expressed that providing citizens with information of how taxpayer money is encumbered as well as the outcome of any outcomes from those expenditures is very important. Additionally, <b>Mr. Corona asked the</b></p>

	<p><b>Council to consider adopting a policy that would require a final report delineating how the allotted money was spent and post results on the website.</b> Mayor Chumley said that with the recent administration changes he has not seen the report yet but will look into it and locate the report as well as the findings of the strategic plan.</p>
<p><b>AUGUST 27, 2024 5:30P.M.</b></p>	<p><b>Resident, Leo Corona, of 409 State School Road, spoke to the Council in reference to Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds. When organizations request HOT funds, the request generally states what the intended purpose is for and how the funds will be used. In addition, it should be demanded on approval of funds that the organization is required to return an expenditure of funds and inform the public or council body of the outcome of the funds that were granted to them.</b></p>
<p>JULY 23, 2024 5:30P.M.</p>	<p>Leo Corona, of 409 State School Road, spoke to the Council in reference to the cemetery surveys that were mentioned in previous Council meetings. Mr. Corona suggested that as city staff' is updating and confirming cemetery information that it might be a good idea to make a list recognizing the veterans and which cemetery they in as there are many veterans interred here in Gatesville; as Mr. Corona discovered when he was researching veteran information at the Coryell Museum. If there was a current list available, it would be helpful to organizations such as the Disabled American Veterans when they would wish to put out the small memorial flags on certain holidays to honor the veterans.</p>
<p>JUNE 11, 2024 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>Councilmember Burrow requested Resolution 2024-61 be pulled from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.</p> <p>Councilmember Burrow recommended correction be made to the minutes regarding Leo Corona's comments during Citizen's Forum when he spoke at the May 28th meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Burrow said that are review of the transcript of the minutes, she and Mr. Corona felt his words needed to be revised to reflect exactly as he delivered his written prepared remarks at the meeting.</p> <p>Motion by Barbara Burrow, seconded by Aaron Smith, to approve the amended transcription of the May 28, 2024 minutes regarding Resolution 2024-61 to the following: "At the March 26, council meeting agenda Item 9 made on May 28. Coryell County requested a contribution of \$58,810.18 for unplanned expenses not included in the county budget to cover jail expenses. A determination was not made by the council; discussion was left for a</p>

	<p>future discussion. Since it was brought forth in front of the council during a council meeting. Mr. Corona said that he hoped discussion on whether to approve or disapprove of the contribution will be before the people at a future meeting. " All four voting "Aye", motion passed.</p> <p>11) DISCUSSION REGARDING FY24 MID-YEAR BUDGET UPDATE</p> <p>Citizen, Leo Corona, spoke on the budget and referenced from the Texas Municipal League Handbook for Mayors and Councilmembers regarding expenditures and what may have an effect on the budget and keeping citizens informed. Budget should contain a summary of the city financial conditions for the prior year. <b>Should establish the scope and direction of the municipal services and checks and balances regarding objectives that have approved by the council and then brought back and briefed to council to show has stayed within the scope of the objective.</b> An example highlighted was the implementation of the budget management software that council approved.</p> <p>Mayor Chumley said that going forward different projects and objectives will be reported to the Council and public. Council also requested to start getting the monthly permit information that used to be provided in the City Manager Report.</p> <p>Interim Deputy City Manager Halsema, pointed out that anyone can go to the city website and go to the Financial tab and see ClearGov Inc. information through March. There are a few projects with updates available as well.</p>
<p>MAY 28,2024 5:30P.M.</p>	<p>Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council on two topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At the March 26, 2024 council meeting the Council was asked by Coryell County Commissioners to be reimbursed for expenses that the County spent for an unplanned sewer line replacement during the County Jail Expansion project. It was indicated at that time that it would be decided at a future council meeting during the budget process since this expense was not included in the current city budget. Mr. Corona hoped that the future' discussion to approve or disapprove reimbursement will be discussed in an open meeting. (*corrections to this statement above, submitted through council member Burrow)</li> <li>2. Asked the Council to kindly keep an open mind regarding his</li> </ol>

	<p>comments as his intentions are purely intended to assist our city. Mr. Corona said that he created a presentation for the Council to consider for a future work session. The presentation is from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) senior advisor representative, Kevin C. Duggan, and is regarding an effective City Council and City Manager relationship. Mr. Corona suggested that this presentation would assist the council and give them guidance in hiring a City Manager.</p>
<p>MARCH 26, 2024 5:30P.M. (Revisited on May 28,2024 And June 11<sup>th</sup> ,2024 for corrections) Audio recording of comments File citizens forum 28 May 2024 relationship council and manage</p>	<p>9. Discussion and possible action regarding contribution from City of Gatesville to Coryell County to assist with the sewer line installation for the County's new jail project in the amount of \$58,810.15. (Scott Weddle &amp; Ryan Basham)</p> <p>Coryell County Precinct 2 Commissioner, Scott Weddle, introduced himself and Precinct 3 Commissioner Ryan Basham and said that they are the project managers for the ongoing construction projects which includes the County Jail Expansion project. There are always change orders with any project regarding unplanned issues when construction is underway. The sewer infrastructure became a issue when the sewer line crumbled as the construction crew attempted to hook onto the city's sewer. Local contractor, TTG Utilities, potholed the line and determined that it was clay tile and that 119 feet of existing sanitary sewer line need to be replaced, which included an additional manhole and tying back in three (3) existing users onto the sewer line.</p> <p>Commissioner Weddle said that since the County didn't budget for this unexpected expense, they had to use some reserve contingent funds to move forward and get this pipe replaced. Commissioner Weddle respectfully asked for any kind of financial help that the City could provide to pay for this unexpected expense.</p> <p><b>Following a brief discussion with Commissioners Weddle and Basham, the Mayor indicated that Council would not take action during this meeting but would discuss during the upcoming budget season to consider contribution towards this project.</b></p> <p>It was noted by City Manager Albert that although this wasn't in the budget, it is clay tile that would have eventually needed to be replaced. A new sewer line and a second manhole does provide benefits to the capacity, operation, and maintenance of the City's sewer collection system.</p>

	<p>Commissioner Weddle noted that an occupancy inspection is scheduled to happen with the Commission on Jail Standards this Thursday with the possibility of opening the jail on Friday.</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 27, 2024 5:30P.M.</p>	<p>BRIEFING REGARDING THE RETAIL COACH WORKSHOP SCHEDULED ON MARCH 5, 2024 FOR CURRENT BUSINESSES, FUTURE OWNERS, AND NON-PROFIT BUSINESSES</p> <p>(LEO CORONA)</p> <p>Leo Corona reminded the Council that in July of 2023 the City Council approved the services of the Retail Coach to assist in identifying retailers and developers that can be recruited to recognize Gatesville as suitable locations for their next businesses and to also assist existing business owners to use the data available to develop strategies to support their businesses. Mr. Corona said that the presentation/workshop scheduled for March 5th will focus on Gatesville's existing business owners with the Retail Coach sharing the market analysis that they performed for Gatesville along with any other data that they believe will help out local businesses to better understand how to better deliver their services to the area.</p> <p>The Chamber of Commerce has coordinated with the Retail Coach to conduct this workshop and the Chamber of Commerce will also be present at the workshop to speak as to what services they provide the city of Gatesville. The Retail Coach associate present at the meeting will be available to answer questions regarding data and strategies for the business owners or provide them another point of contact to answer any other questions. Gatesville will first be provided to the City Manage! Mayor Chumley and the Council thanked Mr. Corona for volunteering for his services and time for this workshop. The Retail Coach will have a dedicated website which will provide all the data and analytics they have processed and evaluated. Interested businesses will be able to contact the Retail Coach until August of 2024 when the contract expires. The contract can be renewed and extended if Council would wish to do so. The Chamber of Commerce has posted the flyer on their website and also provided the workshop information to their Chamber Members so hopefully there will be many members in attendance. There have been 62 flyers delivered to many businesses in town including the downtown area. The meeting &amp; workshop information has been posted on the city's website also. Mr. Corona encouraged the Council to attend the workshop so they can hear what business owners are concerned about and if the \$35,000.00</p>

	<p>that the City invested meets the expectations of the Council and then can be considered when the contract renewal option is presented in August. Mr. Corona said that the focus of the March 5th workshop is mainly for existing businesses. The second aspect of the Retail Coach initiative in regards to identifying future retailers to be recruited to come to Gatesville will first be provided to the City Manager.</p> <p>Mayor Chumley and the Council thanked Mr. Corona for volunteering his services and time for this workshop.</p>
FEBRUARY 27, 2024 5:30P.M.	HANDOUTIFLYER- BRIEFING REGARDING THE RETAIL COACH WORKSHOP SCHEDULED ON MARCH 5, 2024 FOR CURRENT BUSINESSES, FUTURE OWNERS, AND NON-PROFIT BUSINESSES. (LEO CORONA)
JANUARY 9, 2024 5:30P.M.	Leo Corona asked a few question regarding Veteran rentals and tax exemptions.
DECEMBER 12,2023 5:30P.M.	Leo Corona of 409 State School Road thanked the Council for considering the bartering system with TIG Utilities regarding disposal of the Civic Center sign, poles & some of the light fixtures. Mr. Corona asked the Council to consider installing some of the surplus light fixtures in city parks to provide additional lighting when there are big events instead of selling the excess light fixtures on Gov Deals. Following Mr. Corona's suggestion there was a discussion regarding the surplus light fixtures and possibly utilizing in the parks. City Manager Albert said that staff could hold off on selling the fixtures on Gov Deals and research the light fixture suggestion and other alternative uses and see how much it would cost to supply power for additional lighting.
NOVEMBER 14,2023 5:30P.M.	<b>Leo Corona of 409 State School Road provided handouts to the councilmembers and spoke of a concern that he brought up at a previous meeting in regards to citizens contacting councilmembers. Mr. Corona encouraged the Council to place and discuss on a future agenda the 'benefits of city council members having official city email accounts.'</b>
OCTOBER 24, 2023 5:30P.M.	Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council regarding two subjects. The first topic was concerning the Retail Coach firm that was approved by the Council about three (3) months ago for \$35,000.00. Mr. Corona said that he checked with the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, and they have not been contacted by the Retail Coach as was indicated at the meeting. No other local businesses, that Mr. Corona was aware of, had been contacted either and thinks this needs to be looked into.

	<p>The second topic <b>Mr. Corona spoke of concerned the closed session that the Council was about to recess into. Mr. Corona said that a proposed change of the zoning ordinance needs to be done during an open meeting per State of Texas rules and regulations.</b></p>
<p><b>JULY 25, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M</b></p>	<p>Leo Corona, of 409 State School Road, addressed the Council about the new proposed City Park and the need for a new Water Plant that was discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Corona said he realizes that city staff has put in a lot of time and effort in the new park plans; but questioned if it would be more beneficial regarding time and money to just invest it all in the new water plant. <b>Mr. Corona said that if that change of plans would happen residents would probably appreciate that decision so water rates and garbage rates would not go up again. Mr. Corona asked the Council to keep that in mind as they make future decisions.</b></p>
<p>MAY 9, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p><b>Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council regarding concerns he had about Council procedures that occurred at the last Council meeting.</b> Mr. Corona said that he read the Texas Municipal League Handbook for Mayors and Councilmembers, looked over the city code book/charter and completed the Open Meetings Act Training and wanted to bring his concerns to the Council's attention and remind them that they are accountable to the residents of Gatesville</p>
<p>APRIL 25, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M</p> <p>P&amp;Z Appointment</p> <p>3 Minute Closed Meeting Councilmember appointment</p> <p>Apr 2023-Nov 2024</p> <p>By City Charter allowed</p> <p>Appointment of a council</p>	<p><b>RESOLUTION 2023-46:</b> Appointment Re-Appointment of members to the Planning and Zoning Commission (P &amp; Z) <b>Motion by John Westbrook</b>, seconded by Claude Williams, to approve the Consent Agenda: Minutes from Regular City Council Meeting April 11, 2023 and Re-appointment of Teresa Johnson to Place 1, Charles Ament to Place 3, John Clawson to Place 5, Bob Brown to Place 4, and <b>the Appointment of John Westbrook to Place 6 as members to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Gatesville;</b> all four voting "Aye", motion passed.</p> <p>10) RECESS REGULAR MEETING AND CALL AN EXECUTWE SESSION - CLOSED MEETING AT <b>6:16 P.M.</b> THIS CLOSED MEETING IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074- PERSONNEL MATTERS- TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCILMEMBER TO WARD 2, PLACE 4, UNEXPIRED TERM</p> <p>11) END CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENE OPEN <b>MEETING AT 6:19 P.M.</b>----- -----</p>

<p>member is of public importance</p> <p><b><i>*As a note at the end of Mr. Patterson's appointment he ran for election in 2024</i></b></p>	<p>12) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCILMEMBER TO WARD 2. PLACE 4 UNEXPIRED TERM</p> <p><b>Mayor Chumley asked if there was a motion as a result of the Closed Session.</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION 2023-52: Motion by John Westbrook; seconded by Greg Casey; to appoint</b> Joe Patterson to fill the unexpired term of Billy Sinyard as Councilmember to Ward 2, Place 4; all four voting "Aye," motion passed.</p> <p>Councilmember <b>John Westbrook</b> departed the Council Meeting at <b>6:20 p.m.</b></p>
<p>APRIL 11, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M</p>	<p><b>Councilmember Billy Sinyard submitted his letter of resignation from the City Council:</b></p> <p><b>Dear Mayor Chumley and City Council, I am hereby providing notice of my immediate resignation from my elected position as a member of the Gatesville City Council. I am tendering my resignation as a result of moving out of the city limits. I have enjoyed serving my community and serving alongside you all for the past couple of years .</b></p>
<p>JANUARY 10, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>“Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council regarding communication to citizens of the City of Gatesville. Mr. Corona said that communication is key to make a community successful and noted that there is not a Councilmember Ward Map on the city website and no Councilmember contact information on the website. City Manager Parry said that Councilmembers are elected to individual places in two (2) Wards but are elected from the City at large so a citizen can speak to any councilmember about any concerns. <b><i>Mr. Corona thought that contact information for the councilmembers is something that is needed and suggested that it be posted on the website.</i></b> Mayor Chumley said that the process to contact councilmembers has been to contact City Hall and then <b><i>staff would provide the citizen's phone number to the councilmember that the citizen wished to speak to.</i></b></p> <p>Mr. Corona said that a citizen having the ability to contact a councilmember would be easier and might be able to find the answer to a question quicker instead of coming to a Council meeting and wasting Mayor and Councilmembers time during a meeting. Mayor Chumley noted Mr. Corona's request and said that the current process to contact a councilmember has worked fine for many years”.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 5</p>	<p><b>Mr. Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council and said that the current format of agendas fails to provide references and</b></p>

<p>(as a result, Citizens were given access to Agenda Packet via website) (Agenda Item clarity remains a concern)</p>	<p><b>information as to why action is needed or why it is on the agenda. Citizens are struggling to follow City business</b> and Mr. Corona asked the Mayor and Council to look into a process that would more inform citizens what is being brought before the Council for approval.</p>
<p>NOVEMBER 15, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p><b>“Leo Corona of 409 State School Road spoke to the Council about Council Member communication with citizens of Gatesville and requested a way that residents could contact Council Members in their Ward to be able to discuss any issues or concerns as not everyone can attend a council meeting. Mr. Corona said that there needs to be a way for citizens to reach out to Council Members by -way-of telephone or email”.</b></p>
<p>Presentation May 2026</p>	<p><a href="https://copilot.microsoft.com/shares/artifacts/2R8kEGNDZvwd6bSyE9MCi">https://copilot.microsoft.com/shares/artifacts/2R8kEGNDZvwd6bSyE9MCi</a></p>