

HEWITT TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

March 3, 2025, at 6:30 PM

Hewitt City Hall, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, TX 76643

MINUTES

Steve Fortenberry, Mayor: Ward 3, – **Erica Bruce**, Mayor Pro Tem: Ward 3
Michael S. Bancale, Council Member: At-Large – **Johnny Stephens**, Council Member: Ward 1
Bob Potter, Council Member: Ward 2 – **Brad Turner**, Council Member: Ward 1
Vacant Seat, Council Member: Ward 2

WORKSHOP MEETING - 6:30 PM

WORKSHOP DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. Briefing and discussion concerning the Police Department Computer-Aided Dispatch and Records Management System.
City Manager Bo Thomas introduced the discussion. Police Chief John McGrath presented an overview of the current system and the need for an updated CAD/RMS System. The Council discussed potential funding options for purchase of the upgrade.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner moved to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 7:03 p.m.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 PM

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m., announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S) AND RECOGNITION(S)

2. Special presentation to the Hewitt Public Library - 2024 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented the award to Library Director Matthew Glaser.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) AND RELATED ACTION

3. Public hearing and possible action on **Ordinance No. 2025-05** granting a request for a variance to the sign ordinance for a sign located at 1151 Enterprise Blvd., as prescribed in Chapter 58 Sign Regulations.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented and read the ordinance caption into the record. Mayor Steve Fortenberry opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m. and called for those wishing to speak in favor and those wishing to speak in opposition. No one appeared, and the hearing was closed at 7:13 p.m.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2025-05**, granting a variance to the sign ordinance at 1151 Enterprise Blvd. for a fifty-foot-tall pylon sign, as presented.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council invites citizens to speak on any topic not already scheduled for a public hearing. The Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Council from discussing, responding to, or acting on any comments or items not posted on the agenda. (Note: Citizens who wish to speak must complete a "Public Comment Form" and present it to the City Secretary before the meeting.)

Mayor Fortenberry read the statement above and inquired if the City Secretary had received any public comment forms. The City Secretary did not receive any public comment forms.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4. Approve the minutes of the February 3, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to approve the minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

5. Presentation of the City Engineer's Report by City Engineer Miles Whitney, P.E.
Update on pending utility projects.
Update on pending street projects.
Update on pending drainage projects.
City Engineer Miles Whitney, P.E., reviewed the listed projects.
6. Briefing and discussion concerning the Financial Statements ending January 31, 2025.
City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the January 31, 2025, Financial Statements electronically on February 7, 2024, for review. The Council raised no questions or concerns.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding the electronic audio/visual updating of two Police Department interview rooms using forfeiture funds.
City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to approve the purchase of Motorola audio and visual equipment to update the two Police Department interview rooms through a combination of forfeiture funds for \$8,050.00 and a budget line item transfer from the Sigma account for \$7,999.51.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
8. Discussion or possible action to authorize the purchase of roof repairs for the City of Hewitt Community Services building.
City Manager Bo Thomas asked that this item be removed from the agenda.
9. Discussion and possible action regarding the repair and replacement of the bay doors at the fire station.
City Manager Bo Thomas presented. The Council was provided two options to repair/replace the front fire bay doors and authorized the City Manager to proceed with repairs/replacement for an amount not to exceed of \$28,198.00. Council discussed the need to upgrade the rear fire bay doors and requested that staff bring a bid for the rear doors. Fire Chief Jonathan Christian responded to Council's questions.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to authorize the City Manager to proceed with repairs/replacement of the fire station bay doors as presented.
SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

10. Discussion and possible action on **Ordinance No. 2025-06** declaring unopposed candidates elected to office and canceling the May 3, 2025, General Election as prescribed in the Texas Election Code.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented and read the ordinance caption into the record. Council member Brad Turner noted a correction on page 2 of the ordinance. Mr. Thomas advised that an ordinance canceling the Special Election would be on the next agenda.

MOTION: Council Member Johnny Stephens moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2025-06**, declaring unopposed candidates elected to office and canceling the May 3, 2025, General Election.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

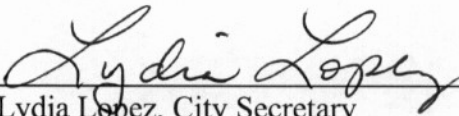
NAYES: None

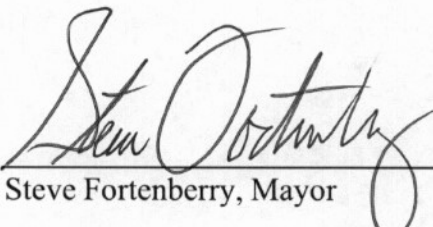
ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 03-17-2025

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Steve Fortenberry, Mayor