HEWITT
TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025, at 6:15 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 - 6:15 PM

WORKSHOP DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m., announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. Presentation by Samco Capital, the City's Financial Advisor, on potential debt issuance to fund future projects, including the impacts of proposed legislation.
   City Manager Bo Thomas introduced Managing Director Andrew Friedman from Samco Capital Markets, Inc. Mr. Friedman presented information on the City's ability to finance and fund future projects through bond issuance and the possibility of refunding bonds to save money. He also presented a Tax Rate Analysis. After the discussion, the Council directed staff to proceed.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 6:57 p.m.
SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
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 7:00 p.m., announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S) AND RECOGNITION(S)

2. Certificate of Election issued by Mayor Steve Fortenberry
   Mayor Steve Fortenberry issued Certificates of Election to the incoming Council.

3. City Secretary to administer the Oath of Office for Brad Turner, Bob Potter, Erica Bruce, and Michael Bancale.
   The City Secretary administered the Oath of Office for Council Members Brad Turner, Bob Potter, Erica Bruce, and Michael Bancale.

4. Presentation on the Hewitt Public Library's upcoming Summer Reading Program.
   Library Director Matthew Glaser presented information on the Library's upcoming Summer Reading Program.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

5. Approve minutes of the May 5, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting.
   MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to approve the minutes as presented, but to allow for corrections.
   SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
   AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

6. Briefing and discussion concerning Financial Statements ending April 30, 2025.
   City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the April Financial Statements electronically on May 8, 2025, for review. The Council raised no questions or concerns.

7. Discussion and possible action on the bid award to construct a drive approach at Lift Station #1.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented an overview of the agreement with Teton Pass Investments, LLC, to fund the drive approach. Mr. Thomas also noted that this was not a budgeted project, so funding would have to come from unrestricted funds.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve the bid award to Barnett Contracting, Inc., for $40,500.00
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

8. Discussion and possible action on the extension of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P., as the city's auditors for the audit years ending 2025 and 2026.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
   MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner moved to approve the extension of the agreement with Pattillo, Brown, & Hill, L.L.P., as the city's auditors for the audit years ending 2025 and 2026.
   SECOND: Council Member Johnny Stephens
   AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

9. Discussion and possible action on **Ordinance No. 2025-11**, adopting a speed zone of 40 miles per hour on Enterprise Blvd. (Southbound I-35 Frontage Road) from the northern city limits to Farm to Market Road 2063 (Sun Valley Blvd.).
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented and read the ordinance caption into the record.
   MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2025-11**, adopting a speed zone of 40 miles per hour on Enterprise Blvd. (Southbound I-35 Frontage Road) from the northern city limits to Farm to Market Road 2063 (Sun Valley Blvd.).
   SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
   AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

10. Briefing and discussion concerning Council priorities for budget preparation.
    City Manager Bo Thomas stated that this item allowed the Council to communicate any budget priorities. Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce noted that in her discussions with Representative Pat Curry's office, the only two items included in H.B. 5267 regarding transparency, the Budget Summary and the Taxpayer Impact Statement, would remain. She suggested that the Taxpayer Impact Statement be included in the Budget.

RECESS REGULAR MEETING TO CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSION
Mayor Steve Fortenberry recessed the Regular Meeting to convene the Executive Session at 7:29 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Notice is given that a closed meeting will be held pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (V.T.C.A.) so that the Council may discuss personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee **(Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem)**.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING
Mayor Steve Fortenberry reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

11. Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.
    a. Discussion and possible action on the selection of the Mayor.
    b. Discussion and possible action on the selection of the Mayor Pro Tem.

    MOTION ON THE SELECTION OF MAYOR
    MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce nominated Steve Fortenberry as Mayor.
    SECOND: Council Member Johnny Stephens
    AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, and Bruce
    NAYES: None
    ABSTAINED: Fortenberry
    ABSENT: None
    MOTION PASSED.

    MOTION ON THE SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM
    MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner nominated Erica Bruce as Mayor Pro Tem.
    SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
    AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, and Fortenberry
    NAYES: None
    ABSTAINED: Bruce
    ABSENT: None
    MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:42 p.m.
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 06-02-2025

ATTEST:

Lydia Lopez

Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

Steve Fortenberry

Steve Fortenberry, Mayor