HEWITT
TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

September 15, 2025, at 6:00 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 - 6:00 PM

WORKSHOP DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. Presentation and discussion concerning the city of Hewitt's operating software.
   Assistant City Manager Jim Devlin presented an overview and evaluation process for the city of Hewitt's potential new operating software system. Following the presentation, the Council engaged in a general discussion regarding the anticipated implementation timeline post-selection, proposed site visits to cities currently using the software, and costs. Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce invited staff to share their perspectives on the software under consideration.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
AYES: Potter, Bancale, Bruce, Turner, Stephens, 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 7:06 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. Presentation by Library Director Matthew Glaser on the following:
    - Summer Reading Program
    - Grants

City Manager Bo Thomas invited Library Director Matthew Glaser to present an update on the 2025 Summer Reading program and the FY 2026 Grant Projects.
Director Glaser outlined the following key items:
SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Program goals focused on promoting literacy and community engagement.
Presented statistics on participation across age groups.
Shared feedback from attendees regarding program impact and areas for improvement.

FY 2026 GRANT PROJECTS

<u>Texas Reads Grant — $8,392</u>
Funding will be allocated to install a Storywalk Trail in Warren Park, scheduled for January 2026.
<u>Library Infrastructure Grant — $122,350</u>
Expand access to broadband-enabled devices for work, education, and telehealth.
Increase private, secure access to critical online services.
Build user confidence through guided digital access and support.
All activities will begin after January 1, 2026.
The Mayor and Council commended Library Director Matthew Glaser for seeking grant funding and programs.

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 Steve Fortenberry read the preceding statement and inquired whether any public comment forms had been submitted to the City Secretary. The City Secretary confirmed receipt of one public comment form. Ms. Joann Price, residing at 532 Connie Drive, appeared before the Council to express concerns regarding code enforcement issues affecting her neighborhood.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

3. Approve minutes of the August 18, 2025, City Council Workshop/Regular Meeting.

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

AYES: Bancale, Bruce, Turner, Stephens, Potter, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

4. Presentation of the 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 and responded to Council questions.

5. Briefing and discussion concerning the Financial Statements ending August 31, 2025.
   City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the August 31, 2025, Financial Statements electronically on September 6, 2025, for review. The Council raised no questions or concerns.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford F450 for use in the General Services Department.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
   MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford F450 XL Reg Cab 2wd Chassis from Bird Kultgen Ford for the amount of $65,873.09.
   SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
   AYES: Bruce, Turner, Stephens, Potter, Bancale, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding surplus inventory.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
   MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved approval of the surplus items listed for release to auction.
   SECOND: Council Member Brad Turner
   AYES: Turner, Stephens, Potter, Bancale, Bruce, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

8. Discussion and possible action on amendments to the FY 2024-2025 General Fund Budget.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented the item and explained that the proposed amendments to the current fiscal year's budget were sufficiently material to warrant revision for both audit and legislative purposes.
   MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved approval of the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget.
   SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
   AYES: Stephens, Potter, Bancale, Bruce, Turner, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

9. Discussion and possible action on **Resolution No. 2025-07,** approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and the Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Texas Division, regarding the Company's 2025 Rate Review Mechanism Filing.
   City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
   MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner moved to approve **Resolution No. 2025-07**, which approves a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and the Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division, regarding the Company's 2025 Rate Review Mechanism Filing.
   SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
   AYES: Potter, Bancale, Bruce, Turner, Stephens, and Fortenberry
   NAYES: None
   ABSENT: None
   MOTION PASSED.

10. Discussion and possible action on **Resolution No. 2025-08,** submitting a candidate nomination for the McLennan Central Appraisal District Board of Directors for the year 2026.
    City Manager Bo Thomas presented and recommended that this item be brought back on October 6, 2025. **No action taken.**

11. Requests for future workshops and/or agenda items.
    Council Member Bob Potter asked for an update on the code enforcement issue.

RECESS REGULAR MEETING TO CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSION
Mayor Steve Fortenberry recessed the Regular Meeting to convene the following Executive Session at 8:07 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. (Associate Judge)

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING
Mayor Steve Fortenberry reconvened the Regular Meeting at 9:02 p.m.

12. Discussion and possible action on the selection of an Associate Judge, if needed.
    No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 9:03 p.m.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Turner, Stephens, Potter, Bancale, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 10-06-2025

ATTEST:

Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

Steve Fortenberry, Mayor