

HEWITT TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING

January 20, 2026, 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 on Storm Water/Drainage Update — Castleman Creek.
General Services Director Scott Coleman presented the most recent upgrades to the Castleman Creek drainage system.
2. Presentation and discussion on proposed amendments to the Building and Fire codes, including information on third-party code compliance for Fire Protection Systems.
Community Development Director Tracy Lankford and Fire Chief Jonathan Christian advised that the International Building and Fire codes need to be amended. They noted that staff would be bringing the proposed amendments to Council for action. Fire Chief Jonathan Christian presented information on a third-party web-based code-compliance system to assist with tracking and documenting compliance with the Fire codes.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 6:45 p.m.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

SPECIAL MEETING - 7:00 PM

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Special 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 public comment statement. The City Secretary reported that no public comment forms were received.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

3. Approve the minutes of the January 5, 2026, City Council Workshop/Regular Meeting.
MOTION: Council Member Brad Turner moved to approve the minutes as presented, but to allow for corrections.
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
AYES: Bancale, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, Potter, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

4. Discussion and possible action on an appointment to the Library Board.
City Manager Bo Thomas noted the current vacancy on the Library Board and advised Council that an application for board service was received from Lorrie Ann Culver. Ms. Culver briefly introduced herself.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve the appointment of Lorrie Ann Culver to the Library Board for a two-year term ending in December 2027.
SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

5. Presentation of the report from the 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's questions.

6. Briefing and discussion concerning the Financial Statements ending December 31, 2025.
City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the December Financial Statements electronically on January 8, 2026, for review. The Council raised no questions or concerns.
7. Discussion and possible action on approving the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2025.
City Manager Bo Thomas presented the Quarterly Investment Report ending December 31, 2025.
MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending December 31, 2025.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Turner, Bruce, Potter, Bancale, Stephens, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
8. Discussion and possible action on the use of Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) reimbursement funds for the purchase of wildland equipment, personal protective clothing, and training.
City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to authorize up to \$15,000 of TIFMAS reimbursement funds for the purchase of wildland equipment, protective clothing, and training.
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce
AYES: Bruce, Potter, Bancale, Stephens, Turner, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
9. Request for future workshops and/or agenda items.
Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce — Update on City of Hewitt's Operating System Software/mobile app implementation.

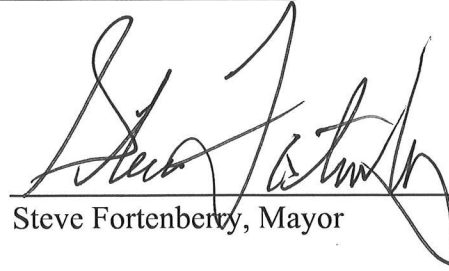
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:23 p.m.
SECOND: Council Member Brad Turner
AYES: Potter, Bancale, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 02-09-2026

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Steve Fortenberry, Mayor