

# HEWITT TEXAS

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

May 18, 2026, at 6:00 PM

Hewitt Public Safety Facility Training Rm, 100 Patriot Ct., Hewitt, TX 76643

### MINUTES

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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 fiber-optic regulation.  
*City Attorney Mike Dixon presented information on Chapter 284 of the Local Government Code, enacted to expand broadband internet connectivity and service throughout Texas. Mr. Dixon explained that, except for certain design standards, cities have limited regulatory authority over network providers' use of public rights-of-way (ROW). He further noted that telecommunications providers are subject to permitting and fee requirements when installing wireless network infrastructure.*
2. Presentation and discussion of a possible automatic aid agreement with the City of Waco. *Fire Chief Jonathan Christian presented the benefits of entering into an automatic aid agreement with the City of Waco, including increased efficiency of fire personnel assigned to each structure fire to meet National Fire Protection Association requirements, and seamless coordination between agencies. A general discussion was held regarding the potential costs of future Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) integration.*

#### WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Council Member Michael Bancale moved to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 6:45 p.m.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bob Potter

**AYES:** Potter, Bancale, 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.*

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S) AND RECOGNITION(S)

3. Presentation on the Hewitt Public Library's upcoming Summer Reading Program.

*Library Director Matthew Glaser presented the summer program theme, objectives, timeline, reading goals and rewards, kickoff event, and planned activities. He also highlighted the special funding received to support program expenses.*

### PUBLIC HEARING(S) AND RELATED ACTION

4. Public hearing and possible action on **Ordinance No. 2026-06**, rezoning property located in the 400 block of Spring Valley Road, from R-1 Single-Family District to C-1 Restricted Commercial District with a variance to Section 2.109 (A, 8), residential dwelling units.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas presented the item. Mayor Fortenberry opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m. and called for comments in favor of and against the rezoning request. No one appeared to speak. The public hearing was closed at 7:14 p.m. Mr. Thomas then read the caption of the ordinance into the record.*

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2026-06**, rezoning property located in the 400 block of Spring Valley Road, known as O'Campo C A-32, a .517-acre tract, Property ID 138847, from R-1 Single-Family District to C-1 Restricted Commercial District with a variance to Section 2.109 (A, 8), residential dwelling units.

**SECOND:** Council Member Michael Bancale

**AYES:** Bancale, Stephens, Turner, Bruce, Potter, 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 public comment statement. The City Secretary reported that no public comment forms were received.*

## REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

5. Approve minutes of the May 4, 2026, City Council Workshop/Regular Meeting.  
**MOTION:** Council Member Brad Turner moved to approve the minutes, but to allow for corrections.  
**SECOND:** Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce  
**AYES:** Stephens, Turner, Bruce, Potter, Bancale, and Fortenberry  
**NAYES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**MOTION PASSED.**
6. Briefing and discussion concerning the Financial Statements ending April 30, 2026.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas advised that the April Financial Statements were sent electronically on May 8, 2026, for review. The Council raised no questions or concerns.*
7. Discussion and possible action on **Ordinance No. 2026-07** adopting prevailing wage rates for public work projects of the City of Hewitt, Texas.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas presented and read the ordinance caption into the record.*  
**MOTION:** Council Member Johnny Stephens moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2026-07**, adopting prevailing wage rates for public works projects of the City of Hewitt, Texas.  
**SECOND:** Council Member Brad Turner  
**AYES:** Turner, Bruce, Potter, Bancale, Stephens, and Fortenberry  
**NAYES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**MOTION PASSED.**
8. Briefing and discussion concerning the Council priorities for budget preparation.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas stated that this item provided an opportunity for the Council to communicate budget priorities. Council Member Brad Turner requested consideration of adequate kennel space for animals. Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce asked whether sufficient time would be provided to discuss budget priorities identified by the Council.*
9. Request for future workshops and/or agenda items.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas stated that the item provided the Council with an opportunity to request future workshop topics or agenda items. No items were presented.*

## ELECTION PROCESS

10. Presentation honoring and recognizing outgoing Council Member Johnny Stephens.  
*City Manager Bo Thomas presented an award recognizing Council Member Johnny Stephens for his years of service on the Council. Mr. Stephens credited the late Charlie Turner for inspiring his service on the Council and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve alongside the Council, staff, and the citizens of Hewitt.*
11. Mayor Steve Fortenberry will present the Certificates of Election for the newly elected Council Members.  
*Mayor Fortenberry presented the Certificates of Election to the newly elected Council Members Brenda Turner and Mike Hamilton.*

12. The City Secretary will administer the Oath of Office to the newly elected Council Members.  
*After the City Secretary administered the oath of office to the newly elected Council Members (Steve Fortenberry, Brenda Turner, and Mike Hamilton), they took their places on the dais.*

### **RECESS REGULAR MEETING TO CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Mayor Steve Fortenberry recessed the Regular meeting to convene the following Executive Session at 7:54 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 Fortenberry reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:17 p.m.*

13. Selection of the 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.

*Mayor Steve Fortenberry stated that the selection of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem would be acted on separately.*

#### **A. SELECTION OF MAYOR**

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved the approval of Steve Fortenberry as Mayor.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bob Potter

**AYES:** Brenda Turner, Bruce, Potter, Bancale, Brad Turner, and Hamilton

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAINED:** Fortenberry

**MOTION PASSED.**

#### **B. SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM**

**MOTION:** Council Member Brad Turner moved the approval of Michael Bancale as Mayor Pro Tem.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bob Potter

**AYES:** Hamilton, Brad Turner, Bruce, Brenda Turner, Potter, and Fortenberry

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAINED:** Bancale

**MOTION PASSED.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Council Member Bob Potter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

**SECOND:** Mayor Pro Tem Michael Bancale

**AYES:** Potter, Bancale, Hamilton, Brenda Turner, Brad Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

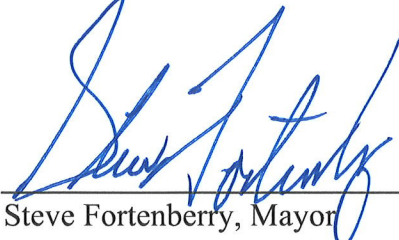
**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT: None**  
**MOTION PASSED.**

Approved: 6/1/2026

ATTEST:

  
Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

  
Steve Fortenberry, Mayor