City of Taylor

Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes
Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street
June 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Ariola declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor Pro-Tem Kelly Cmerek
Council Member Robert Garcia
Council Member Shelli Cobb
Council Member Greg Redden
Mayor Dwayne Ariola

Brian LaBorde, City Manager
Carly Pearson, Assistant City Manager
Mark Schroeder, City Attorney
Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- Proclamation – Governor Dan Moody Month
  Mayor Ariola read the proclamation and presented it to Susan Komandosky, and Joe Burgess with the Governor Dan Moody – Friends of the Moody Museum – Moody Museum Advisory Board.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Queen Lola provided comments regarding the homeless community.
Taylor Jackson with the Home Builders Association spoke on Consent Agenda Item #3.
Gail Samuels spoke on Consent Agenda Item #3.
Jay Ward provided comments regarding the upcoming mayoral vote.
Em Garcia provided comments regarding recognitions and proclamations.
Chris Gillar provided comments regarding the procedure for approving or rejecting proclamations.
Andy Doran provided comments regarding mayoral proclamations.
Sarah Winters provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.
Leon Chiang provided comments regarding Taylor Pride.
Jose Orta provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.
Terra Anders provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.
Denise Rodgers provided comments regarding Taylor Pride.
Daniel Bradley provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.
Melanie Gross provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation and the Taylor Pride Festival.
Ken Flippin provided comments regarding mayor proclamations.
Marie Bloemer provided comments regarding proclamations.
Councilmember Garcia stepped down from the dais at 6:47 p.m.
Shane Allen provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.
Jeff Sciarretta provided comments regarding proclamation standards.
Councilmember Garcia returned to the dais at 6:49 p.m.
Councilmember Garcia stepped down from the dais at 6:51 p.m.
Damon Howze provided comments regarding Taylor Pride.
Ernest Ariola, Jr., provided comments regarding the recent request for a pride proclamation.

Mayor Ariola called for a recess at 7:02 p.m.
Mayor Ariola reconvened the meeting at 7:07 p.m. Councilmember Garcia returned to the dais when the meeting was reconvened.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of the minutes from the May 22, 2025, regularly scheduled City Council meeting.**
2. **Consider approval of an agreement for Phase 2 Fiber Internet Services with Astound Business Solutions and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.**
3. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2025-15 regarding revisions to the Land Development Code creating allowances for Special Use Permits for the following uses: Multifamily, Mixed-Use with Multifamily Component, and Recreational Vehicle Parks.**
4. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2025-07 regarding a proposed Voluntary Annexation of approximately 52.226 acres, generally located at 650 County Road 403, in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Taylor, more particularly described by the Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcels R019335 and R019991, and the Official Public Records of Williamson County, Texas, Document No. 2021166275, part of and out of the H.G. Johnson Survey, Abstract No. 348, and the James C. Eaves Survey, Abstract No. 214, Taylor Extraterritorial Jurisdiction, Williamson County, Texas.**
5. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2025-09 regarding a request for an Employment Center Plan referred to as Forterra Mixed Use, generally located at 650 County Road 403, consisting of approximately 52.501 acres of land situated in the H.G. Johnson Survey, Abstract No. 348, and the James C. Eaves Survey, Abstract No. 214, more particularly described by the Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R019991 and R019335, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.**

   Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

6. **Consideration with possible action on Resolution R25-11 supporting the City of Taylor's applications to the Texas Department of Transportation's 2025 Transportation Alternatives set-aside (TA) call for projects; and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to act as the authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the transportation alternatives set-aside program**
   Tyler Bybee, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced Leslie Pollack with HDR who presented the item – City Council approved submitting the preliminary application at the February 13, 2025, council meeting. This resolution is for submission of the detailed final application for the two projects: Cross Town Connector, and FM 3349 Shared-Use Path. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.
   Chuck Farr spoke on the agenda item.

   Motion was made by Councilmember Redden to approve Resolution R25-11 as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Consideration with possible action on Resolution R25-13 supporting the City of Taylor's applications to the Department of Transportation's FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grants; and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to act as the authorized**

representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Safe Streets and Roads for All funding and project program.
Tyler Bybee, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced Leslie Pollack with HDR who presented the item – this agenda item is to consider applying for a grant for two projects: 2nd Street medians (or another safety feature option) from Carlos G. Parker to Sloan Street, and N. Main Street sidewalk connecting the N. Main Street sidewalk to the Carlos G. Parker Blvd sidewalk at the traffic signal. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve Resolution R25-13 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Consideration with possible action on a first amendment to the Tax Abatement Agreement between Samsung Austin Semiconductor, LLC and the City of Taylor.**
City Manager Brian LaBorde – this amendment revises definitions and milestones from within the existing agreement. New definitions clearly defining occupiable and non-occupiable improvements are introduced versus from the original that allowed for all improvements to be considered. Also, annual square footage milestones are deleted to allow Samsung an end date of December 31, 2028 to have completed all occupiable and non-occupiable improvements.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Cobb to approve the amendment to the Tax Abatement Agreement between Samsung and the City of Taylor as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Consideration with possible action on Change Proposal Request 01 for the Electrical Improvements Project.**
Conor Stuart with HDR – presented an update of the electrical project that will provide the infrastructure to plug in backup generators for emergency power to the city's facilities in the event of a power grid disturbance. The project has been successful in all facilities except City Hall. It was discovered that field conditions did not match expected conditions and a circuit breaker would need to be added to facilitate the use of the back up generator connection. There are two options going forward: Option one: approve the change proposal request 01 in the amount of $57,440 to add the required circuit breaker to run a generator; or, option two: to use the project contingency to purchase an additional mobile backup generator increasing the City's current supply of generators from three to four, allowing more facilities to be backed up concurrently in the event of a power grid disturbance. The estimated cost for a mobile generator is estimated to be $45,000.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to approve moving forward with option 2, purchasing a mobile generator as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Consideration with possible action on Resolution R25-12 to apply for FY 2024 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program through the Department of Homeland Security – FEMA.**
Fire Chief Daniel Baum – requested approval to submit a grant application for a federal grant program that provides funding to municipalities to hire firefighters with the intent of meeting National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for minimum staffing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution R25-12 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

11. **Receive an update on Development Services.**
Assistant City Manager Carly Pearson – gave a general update on the current initiatives and improvements in the Development Services Department, including staff changes, ongoing process audits, facility enhancements, and upcoming outreach efforts.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to receive the report as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

12. **Consideration with possible action on the prioritization of Parks 2024 Bond Capital Improvement Projects.**
Director of Parks and Recreation Tyler Bybee – presented a revised list of Parks Capital Improvement Projects recommended for funding with the remaining 2024 Certificate of Obligation bond funds. The list, reorganized to fit the available budget of approximately $1.3 million, was approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and includes restroom renovations, ADA improvements, turf upgrades, and planning/design efforts. Staff recommends approval of the project list as presented.

Motion was made by Councilmember Redden to approve the project list as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

13. **Consideration with possible action relating to capital projects and funding amounts pursuant to Resolution R25-08, a resolution authorizing proceeding with the issuance of Certificates of Obligation and directing publication of Notice of Intent to issue Combination Tax & Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025, previously approved on April 24, 2025.**
Chief Financial Officer Robert Powers and Jacob Walker, HDR/City Engineering services – presented a recommendation to set the final dollar amount for the 2025 Certificates of Obligation issuance, subject to the previously approved $15 million maximum. Mr. Walker reviewed projects that could be funded with the issuance of up to $13 million, with at least $5 million of that allocated to utility projects.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve proceeding with a Certificate of Obligation in an amount not to exceed $13,000,000, as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Redden. Motion carried 4 to 0 with Councilmember Garcia abstaining from the vote.

Mayor Ariola read the executive session items and adjourned into closed session at 9:14 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council may vote and/or act upon each of the items listed in this Agenda. The Council reserves the right to retire into executive session concerning any of the items listed on this Agenda, whenever it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Open Meetings Act including Section 551.071 (Consult with attorney); Section 551.072 (Real Property); Section 551.073 (Gifts and Donations); Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters); Section 551.076 (Security Devices); and Section 551.087 (Economic Development).

a. Section 551.072, Real Estate Exception, Project Spear.
b. Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney regarding Kristopher Kibodeaux and Jamie Kibodeaux v. City of Taylor et al. Cause No. 24-1746-C425.

Mayor Ariola reconvened into open session at 9:41 p.m., and announced that Councilmember Garcia left the Council meeting at 9:14 p.m. and did not attend executive session

No action was taken in Executive Session on item b.

Executive Session item a:
Motion was made by Councilmember Redden to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a purchase contract for the acquisition of the real property located at 205 S. Edmond Street, Taylor, Texas, for use as a public works facility, on terms the City Manager deems reasonable and in the best interest of the City, subject to final legal review. He further moved to authorize the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to complete the closing of the purchase. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried 4 to 0 with Councilmember Garcia no longer in attendance.

ADJOURN
With no further business Mayor Ariola declared the meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Dwayne Ariola, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk