

City of Taylor
Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes
Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street
March 12, 2026, 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 Greg Redden
Council Member Shelli Cobb
Council Member Heather Long
Mayor Dwayne Ariola

Brian LaBorde, City Manager
Tyler Bybee, Assistant City Manager
Mark Schroeder, City Attorney
Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Cheyenne Gradwell signed up to speak before the meeting but was not in attendance.

Consent Agenda items #3 and #6 were pulled for separate consideration.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of the minutes from the February 23, 2026, Special Called City Council Workshop meeting.**
2. **Consider approval of the minutes from the February 26, 2026, Regular City Council meeting.**
3. **Consider appointment of Stacy Stork to the Charter Review Commission to fill a vacancy. (ITEM #4 CONSIDERED SEPARATELY)**
4. **Concur with Monthly Financial Report for January 2026.**
5. **Consider approval of resolution R26-07 adopting the 2025 Taylor-Thrall-Lower Brushy Creek Water Control Improvement District (LBCWCID) Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.**
6. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2026-10, a Place Type Amendment from P2: Rural to P2C: Rural Commercial for property generally located at 600 Potomac St, legally described as Washington Heights, Part of Block 52 and part of Block 58, consisting of approximately 2.5 acres of land, more particularly described by Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R018516, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas. (ITEM #6 CONSIDERED SEPARATELY)**
7. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2026-11, a Special Use Permit to allow 326 multifamily residential dwellings for a Planned Development referred to as Gateway, generally located at 505 Carlos G Parker Blvd SW, legally described as approximately 38.099 acres of land situated in the G.M. Reese Survey, Abstract No. 533, more particularly described by Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel's R019657, R020063 and R331030, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.**
8. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2026-12, regarding a request for a Place Type Amendment from P4:Mix to P3M:Manufactured Housing for property generally located at 1025 Scott Street, legally described as approximately 0.15 acres of land situated in the P. Coursey Survey, Abstract 131, Block 317, Tract 12, more particularly described by Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R018962, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve Consent Agenda items 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consider appointment of Stacy Stork to the Charter Review Commission to fill a vacancy.

Councilmember Redden advised that Ms. Stacy Stork is unable to serve and he is amending his recommendation to appoint Angelina Shelton to the Charter Review Commission.

Councilman Redden nominated Angelina Shelton to serve on the Charter Review Commission. With unanimous approval by the City Council, the nomination carried.

6. Consider approval of Ordinance 2026-10, a Place Type Amendment from P2: Rural to P2C: Rural Commercial for property generally located at 600 Potomac St, legally described as Washington Heights, Part of Block 52 and part of Block 58, consisting of approximately 2.5 acres of land, more particularly described by Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R018516, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.

Director of Development Services, Martin Griggs was available to answer questions and provide additional information. The applicant for 600 Potomac Street provided staff an updated site plan removing the driveway from Potomac Street following coordination with the neighboring property owner.

Motion was made by Councilman Redden to approve Ordinance 2026-10 as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

9. Receive and accept the Annual Racial Profiling Report.

Joseph Branson, Interim Police Chief – presented the annual racial profiling report.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to accept the annual racial profiling report as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on Resolution R26-08 expressing the City's concerns regarding the proposed Oncor 345-kilovolt Transmission Line Project and authorizing the Mayor to transmit a letter to Members of Congress and other State Officials requesting assistance in advocating for routing alternatives that avoid the City of Taylor.

City Manager Brian LaBorde presented a resolution expressing concerns regarding the proposed Oncor 345-kV transmission line and requested authorization for the Mayor, Council, and City Manager to send a letter seeking routing alternatives that avoid the City of Taylor. Following discussion, City Council directed staff to amend the draft letter and add photos to reflect the personal impacts of the transmission line on Taylor residents.

Motion was made by Councilman Redden to approve Resolution R26-08 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Long. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on the release of a Request for Proposal - Depository and Banking Services.

Chief Financial Officer Robert Powers - presented the proposed RFP for banking services, noting state law requires solicitation at least every five years and the current contract has expired.

Motion was made by Councilman Redden to approve the release of a Request for Proposal for Depository and Banking Services as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerok. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on awarding the 2025 Curb Replacement Project.

Public Works Director Jim Gray and Conor Stuart with HDR presented the project background, bid results, and recommended award to Lone Star Energy Consultants for \$132,827.20 with a 25% contingency for additional curb work.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Long to approve awarding the 2025 Curb Replacement Project to Lone Star Energy Consultants as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Ariola read the executive session item and adjourned into closed session at 6:29 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION I. The Taylor City Council will convene in closed executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and to deliberate regarding the following matters:

1. Possible acquisition of a utility easement across property commonly known as the Tammi Lane property, including discussion of negotiations with the property owner and possible acquisition by purchase, settlement, or condemnation.
2. City of Taylor, Texas v. Ubiquity DFW, LP; Balsas Directional Drilling, LLC; and Mears Group, Inc., Cause No. 25-0472-C368, in the 368th Judicial District Court of Williamson County, Texas – pending litigation.
3. Robert Marek, et al. v. City of Taylor, et al., Cause No. 24-0447-C425, in the 425th Judicial District Court of Williamson County, Texas – pending litigation and possible settlement.
4. Possible acquisition of a drainage easement from the Schmidt property for the 1st Street and Royal Street Drainage Improvement Project, including discussion of negotiations and possible acquisition by purchase or eminent domain, consisting of approximately 0.0841 acres (3,663 square feet) out of Lots 7 and 8, Block 4 of the Baker Addition, a subdivision of record in Cabinet A, Slide 176 of the Plat Records of Williamson County, Texas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION II. The Taylor City Council will convene in closed executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and to deliberate regarding the following matters:

1. Project Spear.

Mayor Ariola reconvened into open session at 7:20 p.m. Councilwoman Long recused herself from discussions on Executive Session I, Item #2.

POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION I. Discussion and possible action regarding matters discussed in executive session, including:

1. Approval of a settlement agreement or other acquisition documents for the acquisition of a utility easement across the Tammi Lane property and authorization for the Mayor or City Manager to execute all documents necessary to close the transaction, satisfy title company requirements, and pay the agreed purchase amount.

Councilwoman Long made the following motion: "I move that the City Council approve the settlement for the acquisition of the 1703 Tammi Lane easement as discussed in Executive Session and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to finalize and execute the documents necessary to complete the acquisition." Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of a settlement agreement or other resolution of the litigation in Robert Marek, et al. v. City of Taylor, et al., Cause No. 24-0447-C425, and authorization for appropriate City officials to execute documents necessary to resolve the litigation.

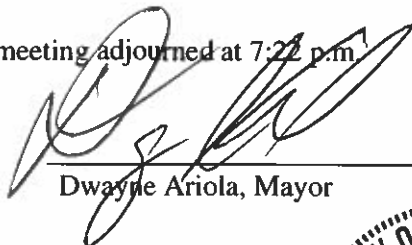
Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek made the following motion: "I move that the City Council approve the settlement of a litigation style Robert Marek, et al. v. City of Taylor, et al., Cause No. 24-0447-C425 on the general terms presented to the City Council and authorize the Mayor or City Manager with review and approval as to form by the City Attorney to finalize negotiations and execute any settlement agreement or other documents necessary to resolve a litigation." Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Resolution R26-09 authorizing the use of the power of eminent domain to acquire a drainage easement consisting of approximately 0.0841 acres (3,663 square feet) out of Lots 7 and 8, Block 4 of the Baker Addition for the 1st Street and Royal Street Drainage Improvement Project; and
4. Such other action, if any, as may be necessary regarding the pending litigation matters discussed in executive session.

No other action was taken on the other Executive Session I items nor the Executive Session II item.


ADJOURN

With no further business Mayor Ariola declared the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.



Dwayne Ariola, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

