

**City of Taylor**  
**Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street**  
**April 23, 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 Heather Long  
Council Member Shelli Cobb  
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**

Kenneth Hawthorn, Hayley's Grains – spoke as a new business owner and shared his perspective on City of Taylor operations.

Justin Bilicki, Taylor Professional Firefighters 419 – thanked City Council for the addition of firefighter positions.

Carrie D'Anna – spoke on concerns regarding a lack of representation from the City Council in relation resources.

Essie Bass – spoke on the need for a recreation center for the youth of Taylor.

Julie Downs, Greater Taylor Community Foundation – thanked the City for the collaboration with the foundation regarding the upcoming Spring Clean-Up event.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Consider approval of the minutes from the April 9, 2026, Regular City Council meeting.**
2. **Consider approval of the minutes from the April 13, 2026, Special Called City Council Workshop meeting.**
3. **Concur with Monthly Financial Report for March 2026.**
4. **Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Taylor and Taylor Independent School District pertaining to the Donna Channel Improvement Project**
5. **Consider approval of Ordinance 2026-16, City Right of Way abandonment on portion of East Second Street from Elliott to Washburn Street.**
6. **Consider approval of Resolution R26-11, a resolution appointing members to the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee in accordance with Chapter 395 of the Texas Local Government Code and affirming the City's Boards and Commissions Handbook as the procedural rules governing the Committee.**
7. **Consider approval of amendments to the City of Taylor Federal and State Grant Procurement Policy by adding Addendum No. 1, Federal Grant Cost Allowability and Compliance Procedures and Addendum No. 2, Labor Standards Officer Oversight Policy and Procedures.**

*Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with a correction to Item #4 (MOU with the ISD) to reflect the start date of April 1, 2026 and end date*

*of February 28, 2028. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.*

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES**

8. **Hold a public hearing and introduce Ordinance 2026-18, a Special Use Permit to allow drive-through services for a restaurant, generally located at 103 NW Carlos G Parker Blvd, legally described as approximately 1.274 acres of land in the Wal-Mart Supercenter Addition, Lot 4, more particularly described by the Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R454458, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.**

Development Services Director Martin Griggs – the applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit (SUP) to redevelop the former Applebee’s site at 103 NW Carlos G Parker Boulevard as a restaurant with drive-through services, including associated deviations from P5 (Urban Center) development standards. The request is generally consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and surrounding commercial uses. Ten (10) public notices were mailed, and no responses were received. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval (6-0).

Mayor Ariola opened the public hearing at 6:21 p.m. With no one appearing, the public hearing was closed at 6:21 p.m.

The City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2026-18**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR DRIVE-THROUGH SERVICES GENERALLY LOCATED 103 NW CARLOS G PARKER BLVD, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY THE WILLIAMSON CENTRAL DISTRICT PARCEL R454458, TAYLOR, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, TO SHOW THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPROVED HEREIN; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

The ordinance was introduced. No action was taken.

### **REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION**

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Friends of the Parks Foundation for the Murphy Park miniature golf course.**

Betsy Schultz, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation - the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Friends of the Parks Foundation is intended to support fundraising and improvements to the Murphy Park miniature golf course. The course was recently refurbished and reopened as a free public amenity. The MOU establishes a framework for cooperation, with the City retaining ownership and maintenance responsibilities. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board expressed support for the initiative.

Mr. Jesse Ancira provided an overview of the foundation and was available to answer questions and provide additional information.

*Motion was made by Councilman Redden to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Friends of the Parks Foundation as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.*

**10. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on Downtown Initiatives.**

Niecy Baum, Director of Downtown and Ruby Fisher, Special Events Coordinator, Downtown – presented Downtown Initiatives developed from a February 10, 2026, stakeholder workshop to guide implementation of the Downtown Master Plan for FY 2025–2027. The initiatives reflect priorities from adopted City plans and stakeholder input and focus on downtown improvements, identity/tourism, and business retention and revitalization. Discussions regarding Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) uses occurred, and City Council encouraged staff to utilize HOT funds as allowed by law for both downtown initiatives and the Taylor Regional Park Complex.

The following individuals spoke: John McDonald, Regina Carlson

*Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve the initiatives as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Long. Motion carried unanimously.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Ariola read the executive session items and adjourned into closed session at 7:04 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION I.** The Taylor City Council will conduct a closed executive meeting under Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, regarding personnel matters: Municipal Judge evaluation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION II.** The Taylor City Council will conduct a closed executive meeting under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, to consult with City Attorney regarding: Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity and Discharge Permit.

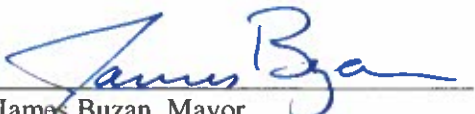
Mayor Ariola reconvened into open session at 8:39 p.m., **Executive Session I** – Consider and take possible action on Resolution R26-10, reappointing the Municipal Court Judge for a two-year term.

*Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve Resolution R26-10, reappointing Judge Wilson for a two-year term. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Long. Motion carried unanimously.*

No action was taken on **Executive Session II**.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business Mayor Ariola declared the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

  
James Buzan, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

