City of Taylor

Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes
Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street
July 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Jim Buzan	Brian LaBorde, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Cmerek	Tyler Bybee, Assistant City Manager
Council Member Greg Redden	LaShon Gros, Assistant City Manager
Council Member Shelli Cobb	Mark Schroeder, City Attorney
Council Member Heather Long	Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Jose Orta addressed the City Council regarding Executive Session Item IV.
Sunshine Kapus spoke on behalf of the Greater Taylor Foundation regarding affordable housing.
Sarah Winter expressed concerns regarding the Mayor's absence at the July 19, 2026 meeting.
Carrie D'Anna addressed the City Council regarding Executive Session Item IV.
Pamela Griffin addressed the City Council regarding her continued advocacy for residents of south Taylor and spoke about the challenges and personal impact of her year-long efforts.
Essie Bass addressed the City Council regarding disparities between areas of the community and the need for clearer communication from the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of the minutes from the July 9, 2026, Regular City Council meeting.**
2. **Consider approval of Resolution R26-18 Expressing Official Intent to Reimburse for Certain Costs Related to the City's Water and Wastewater System and Other Related Items.**
3. **Concur with Monthly Financial Report for June 2026.**
4. **Consider acceptance (with conditions noted) of subdivision infrastructure for the Park 79 Subdivision.**
   Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 4 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES

5. **Discuss and introduce Ordinance No. 2026-24 ordering a special election on November 3, 2026, for the submission of proposed amendments to the City Charter, as set forth in the propositions attached thereto; providing for the conduct of the election; and providing related provisions.**
   City Clerk Lucy Aldrich presented Ordinance No. 2026-24 ordering a Charter Amendment Election on November 3, 2026. City Attorney Mark Schroeder was available to answer questions and provide additional information. During discussion, City Council directed staff to revise Measure F as discussed.

The City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-24

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, ORDERING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026; SUBMITTING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACTS AS REQUIRED BY LAW; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The ordinance was introduced. No action was taken.

6. **Hold a public hearing and introduce Ordinance 2026-25, a request for an Employment Center Plan for property generally located at 3311 W 2nd Street, legally described as approximately 3.698 acres of land in the H.G. Johnson Survey, Abstract No. 348, more particularly described by the Williamson Central Appraisal District Parcel R432726, Taylor, Williamson County, Texas.**
Development Services Director Martin Griggs presented the request. The applicant is seeking approval of an Employment Center Plan for approximately 3.698 acres located at 3311 W. 2nd Street to establish development standards for the existing Employment Center-zoned property, allow expansion of on-site storage, and continue small and highway commercial building types. The applicant is requesting two (2) warrants from the Land Development Code for civic space allocation and fence height. Eight (8) notices were sent to property owners within 200 feet, and staff received no responses in favor of or in opposition to the request. The request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and Employment: Special Zone future land use designation and is compatible with surrounding employment and commercial uses. Planning and Zoning voted 7-0 recommending approval of the request.

The applicant Shea Willard addressed Council and was available to answer questions and provide additional information.

Mayor Buzan opened the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

The following individuals spoke: Essie Bass, and Jose Orta.

The public hearing was closed at 6:39 p.m.

The City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-25

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN EMPLOYMENT CENTER PLAN GENERALLY LOCATED AT 3311 W 2ND STREET, CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 3.698 ACRES OF LAND IN THE H.G. JOHNSON SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 348, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY THE WILLIAMSON CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT PARCEL R432726, TAYLOR, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, TO SHOW THE ZONING CHANGE ADOPTED HEREIN; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

The ordinance was introduced. No action was taken.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

7. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on a new Axon Taser Agreement for the Taylor Police Department and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the agreement.**
Commander Branson presented the proposed Axon Taser Agreement for the Taylor Police Department. The agreement would increase the department's inventory from 12 to 31 Tasers, providing each officer with an assigned less-lethal device and related training and support services. Staff recommended approval of the agreement and authorization for the City Manager to negotiate and execute the agreement.

   The following individual spoke: Carrie D'Anna.

   Motion was made by Councilwoman Long to approve a new Axon Taser Agreement and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on the award of RFP #2026-8 for bank depository services to Regions Bank and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute any and all necessary contracts.**
Chief Financial Officer Robert Powers presented the results of RFP #2026-8 for bank depository services. Five (5) proposals were received, and after evaluation of services, pricing, earnings potential, experience, and financial stability, Regions Bank was determined to offer the best overall value to the City. Staff recommended awarding the bank depository services contract to Regions Bank and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the necessary contracts.

   Team members from Regions Bank were available to answer questions and provide additional information.

   Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to award RFP 2026-8 to Regions Bank and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute any and all necessary contracts. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Long. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilwoman Cobb in opposition.

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on Boards and Commissions Handbook.**
Assistant City Manager LaShon Gros presented the proposed Boards and Commissions Handbook. The proposed revisions incorporate Council direction provided on June 11, 2026, and are intended to promote consistency and transparency across all boards and commissions. Staff recommended approval of the handbook. During discussion, City Council directed staff to continue working on the handbook and look into the following items for inclusion in the handbook draft: requiring voting members to be Taylor residents; service on multiple boards and commissions; establishing a waiting period between service on City Council and service on a board or commission; and providing a clear board selection process.

   The following individuals spoke: Carrie D'Anna, and Scott Gibbs.

   No action was taken.

10. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on expanding the membership of the Comprehensive Plan and Development Code Advisory Committee by appointing four additional members.**
City Clerk Lucy Aldrich presented the request. The item would expand the membership of the Comprehensive Plan and Development Code Advisory Committee by four additional members to provide equal representation among council districts and enhance community participation in the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code update process. The proposed appointees are Brian Heeke and Joseph Salazar for District 1, and Christopher Gonzales and Gerry Sutton for District 2. Staff recommended appointing the additional members to the committee.

The following individuals spoke: Carrie D'Anna, Sarah Winter, and Scott Gibbs

Motion was made by Councilwoman Cobb to expand the membership of the Comprehensive Plan and Development Code Advisory Committee by appointing the following four members: Brian Heeke from District 1, Joseph Salazar from District 1, Christopher Gonzales from District 2, and Gerry Sutton from District 2. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Buzan read the executive session item and adjourned into closed session at 8:04 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:

a. Possible acquisition of a utility easement across property located along Kent Street, for the Tammi Lane Sewer Replacement Project, including discussion of negotiations with the property owner and possible acquisition by purchase, settlement, or condemnation.
b. Possible acquisition of drainage and temporary construction easements from the Schmidt property for the Bull Branch Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project, including discussion of negotiations and possible acquisition by purchase or eminent domain, including temporary construction easements across the same tract of land, including (1) a variable width temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.0592 acres (2,580 square feet), (2) an east temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.0859 acres (3,741 square feet), (3) a center temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.1051 acres (4,578 square feet), and (4) a west temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.287 acres (10,398 square feet), also located in the Parthinia Coursey Survey, Abstract No. 131, 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) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney on the following matters:

a. Contractor performance and contractual remedies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION III. The Taylor City Council will convene in closed executive session pursuant to Texas Government Codes 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney and to deliberate regarding the following matters:

a. Project Mustang and Project Meridian.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IV. The Taylor City Council will convene in closed executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice from the City Attorney regarding the following matter:

a. Potential litigation regarding data center petition.

Mayor Buzan reconvened into open session at 10:18 p.m.

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

a. Approval of a settlement agreement or other acquisition documents for the acquisition of a utility easement across property located along Kent Street, for the Tammi Lane Sewer Replacement Project, 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 to approve this settlement agreement and all related acquisition documents for the acquisition of a utility easement across the Kent Street property for the Tammi Lane Sewer replacement project and to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute all documents necessary to complete the transaction, satisfy title company requirements, and pay the agreed purchase price." Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Approval of Resolution R26-17 authorizing the use of the power of eminent domain to acquire drainage and temporary construction easements from the Schmidt property for the Bull Branch Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project, including temporary construction easements consisting of (1) a variable width temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.0592 acres (2,580 square feet), (2) an east temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.0859 acres (3,741 square feet), (3) a center temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.1051 acres (4,578 square feet), and (4) a west temporary construction easement containing approximately 0.287 acres (10,398 square feet), also located in the Parthinia Coursey Survey, Abstract No. 131, Williamson County, Texas.

Councilwoman Long made the following motion: "I move to adopt Resolution R26-17 authorizing the use of the power of eminent domain to acquire the drainage easement and temporary construction easement from the Schmidt property for the Bull Branch Sanitary Sewer improvement project as described in the Resolution and to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, and special counsel to execute all documents and take all actions necessary to *complete the acquisition including the filing and prosecution of condemnation proceedings if necessary." Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.*

No action was taken on the Executive Session II, III, or IV items.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Mayor Buzan declared the meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

James Buzan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

CITY OF TAYLOR
TEXAS
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON