

City of Taylor
Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting Minutes
Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street
August 13, 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
Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Cmerek
Council Member Greg Redden
Council Member Shelli Cobb
Council Member Heather Long

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

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Letisha Flores spoke regarding data centers.

Marco Solis spoke regarding fiscal investments in Taylor.

Sarah Winters spoke regarding trust in City Council.

Mark Pratz spoke in support of a data center moratorium and expressed concerns regarding future growth and development.

Jeanette Pratz spoke regarding the size and noise associated with data centers.

Carrie D'Anna addressed City Council.

Mel Gross spoke regarding data centers.

Consent Agenda Items #6 and #7 were pulled for separate consideration.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of the minutes from the July 23, 2026, Regular City Council meeting.**
2. **Consider approval of the minutes from the July 27, 2026, Special Called City Council meeting.**
3. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services with the Williamson County Elections Division for the November 3, 2026, Special Election.**
4. **Consider approval of 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.**
5. **Consider approval of Ordinance No. 2026-25, a request for an Employment Center Plan for property generally located at 3311 W 2nd Street, legally described as approximately 1.698 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.**
6. **Consider approval of Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement by and among the City of Taylor, PDC TP 01 LOT A LLC, and Compal Technology, Inc., a Texas corporation.**
7. **Consider approval of Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement by and between the City of Taylor and Soulbrain TX LLC, a Texas limited liability company.**

8. **Consider approval of the purchase of two (2) Echo Autonomous mowers, related parts, and supplies from Professional Turf Products, L.P.**
9. **Receive 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet.**
10. **Receive Certification of Additional Sales and Use Tax to Pay Debt Services (Comptroller Form 50-882).**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 5 and 8 through 10 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Consider approval of Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement by and among the City of Taylor, PDC TP 01 LOT A LLC, and Compal Technology, Inc., a Texas corporation.**

City Manager Brian LaBorde presented the item. Mr. LaBorde and Ben White, President of the Taylor Economic Development Corporation, were available to answer questions and provide additional information.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to approve the Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Redden. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Consider approval of Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement by and between the City of Taylor and Soulbrain TX LLC, a Texas limited liability company.**

City Manager Brian LaBorde presented the item and was available to answer questions and provide additional information.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Long to approve the Amended and Restated Tax Abatement Agreement as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cobb. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

11. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on amending the November and December 2026 City Council meeting schedule, including the rescheduling or cancellation of regularly scheduled City Council meetings.**

City Clerk Lucy Aldrich presented proposed amendments to the November and December 2026 City Council meeting schedule due to the Texas Municipal League Annual Conference and holiday observances.

The following individual spoke: Carrie D'Anna.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek to cancel the regular City Council meetings scheduled for November 12, November 26, and December 24, 2026, and schedule Council meetings on November 5, November 17, December 3, and December 17, 2026. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Long. Motion carried unanimously.

12. **Discussion, consideration, and possible action on a not-to-exceed proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2027 and to set a date for a public hearing and for adoption of the tax rate.**

Chief Financial Officer Robert Powers presented information regarding the Fiscal Year 2027 proposed tax rate. Staff recommended establishing a not-to-exceed proposed tax rate of \$0.597152 per \$100 valuation and scheduling a public hearing on September 10, 2026. Mr. Powers clarified that the September 10, 2026, public hearing date superseded the August 27, 2026, date reflected in the presentation.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Long to propose a maximum tax rate of \$0.597152 per \$100 valuation and set a public hearing to consider the proposed tax rate on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Taylor City Hall, 400 Porter Street, Taylor, Texas. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cmerek. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilmember Redden in opposition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Buzan read the executive session item and adjourned into closed session at 7:01 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) to consult with the City Attorney regarding:

- a. Potential litigation regarding Chapter 43 development agreements;
- b. Legal issues related to contractor performance; and
- c. Package plant permit regarding the Rummel Tract.

EXECUTIVE SESSION II. The Taylor City Council will convene in closed executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.087 (Economic Development Negotiations) to consult with the City Attorney and deliberate commercial or financial information received from a business prospect and/or deliberate the offer of financial or other incentives to a business prospect regarding:

- a. Big Watt Digital LLC and PH DIGITAL DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT LLC (formerly Project Mustang);
- b. KDC Taylor DC Investments Two LLC (formerly Project Meridian)
- c. Chapter 380 and Development Agreement and Tax Abatement Agreement with iMarket American Inc.

Mayor Buzan reconvened into open session at 9:31 p.m.

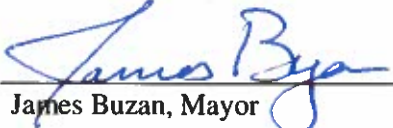
POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION II C. Discussion and possible action regarding matters discussed in executive session, including:

- c. Consider and take any action necessary regarding the Chapter 380 and Development Agreement and Tax Abatement Agreement with iMarket America Inc., including approval of the agreements and authorization for the Mayor to execute the agreements and any related documents necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated therein.

No action was taken on this item or any other items in Executive Session.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Mayor Buzan declared the meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.


James Buzan, Mayor

ATTEST:


Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

