

Elida Castillo, Mayor
Esmeralda "Mimi" Cruz-Molina, Mayor Pro Tem
Lucy S. Lopez, Alderman Ward 1
Alonzo Molina, Alderman Ward 2
Mariah Moreno, Alderwoman Ward 2



230 Green Avenue
Taft, TX 78390
Phone (361)528-3512

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF TAFT CITY COUNCIL
TAFT CITY HALL, 230 GREEN AVE., TAFT, TEXAS
February 10, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL AND CERTIFY A QUORUM**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE**
- 4. INVOCATION**

5. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND COUNCIL AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

This item will also include any announcements of community interest and/or upcoming events.

6. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

The public is invited to address the City Council on any matter of City business. Please note that all comments should be made at this time. Unless an agenda item is listed as a "public hearing," comments will not be taken elsewhere. Also, Council members cannot respond to comments if the topic is not on this agenda. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes. If you wish to speak, please sign up with the City Secretary before the meeting begins. Citizens are to refrain from any personal attacks on the council or any member of the staff. Failure to abide by these policies could result in a charge of disorderly conduct.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

No discussion is anticipated on any of the items in this section because they are routine business, were included in the budget adoption process, or have been previously discussed as a staff report or discussion item. These items will be considered collectively by a single vote, unless a council member requests an item be removed from the consent agenda.

8. STAFF REPORTS AND OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Items in this section are not expected to require action by City council and are generally for information only. However, all items in this section may become action items on request of any Council Member, and City Council may take action on any item listed in this section without further notice.

- a. City Manager Updates
- b. Financial Report
- c. Departmental Updates
- d. Discussion on City vehicle and Municipal property damage and repair needs resulting from the November hail storm, including repair estimates, insurance considerations, and authorization for necessary remedial actions.
- e. Discuss the monthly vendor's market and exploring a cooperative partnership with the Taft Chamber of Commerce.

9. ACTION ITEMS

City council will discuss, consider, and take any action deemed necessary on items listed in this section, including the adoption of a minute order, a resolution or an ordinance.

- 9.1.** Discuss, Consider, and Act on a Resolution authorizing the City of Taft to submit an application for the Taft PD R-R Body Armor Project under the FY2027 Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant Program to the Office of the Governor. The resolution designates the City Manager as the authorized official to manage the grant and the Director of Finance as the financial officer. Approval authorizes the City to apply for the grant, accept funds if awarded, and comply with all program requirements, including the return of funds in the event of loss or misuse.
- 9.2.** Discuss, Consider, and Act on a Resolution authorizing the City of Taft to submit an application for the Taft PD NIJ Compliant Body Armor Project under the FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program to the Office of the Governor. The resolution designates the City Manager as the authorized official to manage the grant and the Director of Finance as the financial officer. Approval authorizes the City to apply for the grant, accept funds if awarded, and comply with all program requirements, including the return of funds in the event of loss or misuse.

- 9.3. Discuss, Consider, and Act on rescinding all prior Ordinances and or Resolutions delegating any and all powers previously granted to the Taft City Manager and reverting back to the Statutory Provisions of the Texas Local Government Code related to the powers and duties to the Mayor and Council with exception of prior Federal Court ruling in the Southern District of Texas that expands the role of the Mayor.
- 9.4. Discuss, Consider, and Act on Resolution establishing a City Manager expenditure authorization limit of \$15,000.00 without prior City Council approval, with an emergency exception for public health, safety and security needs.
- 9.5. Discuss, Consider, and Act on rescinding the Ordinances for Agenda submission deadline.
- 9.6. Discuss, Consider, and Act on dissolving Building and Standards Commission.
- 9.7. Discuss, Consider, and Act on a Strategic Planning workshop with EDC, TQIC, and community.
- 9.8. Discuss, Consider, and Act on a report related to water billing issues and water meter installation issues.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

All items listed in this section will be deliberated in a closed session. Members of the public are not generally permitted to attend a closed session. Executive session items may be considered as an action item at the discretion of the Mayor: however, City Council will not take any action in closed session.

- 10.1. Section 551.074, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee, including the annual performance evaluation of City Manager Ryan Smith.

11. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Council will reconvene in open session and may take action on any item listed in the Executive Session action of this agenda.

- 11.1. Section 551.074, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee, including the annual performance evaluation of City Manager Ryan Smith.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council of the City of Taft reserves the right to convene in Executive Session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code: Section 551.071 (Consultations with Attorney), Section 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), Section 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), or Section 551.087 (Deliberations Regarding Economic Development Negotiations) on any of the above items.

A quorum of the city council will be present at 230 Green Ave., Taft, Texas ("City Council Chambers"), and the city intends to have a quorum present at that location. The Presiding officer of the meeting will be present at City Council chambers, and that location will be open to the public. Other city council members may participate in this meeting by video conference, so long as their faces are visible, and their voice audible to members of the public in attendance at City Council Chambers while that member is speaking.

Special Accommodations

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's office at (361) 528-3512 or FAX (361) 528-3515 or email secretary@tafttx.gov for further information. Braille is not available.

Certification

The above notice was posted at the City of Taft City Hall located at 230 Green Avenue, Taft, Texas on February 4, 2026, by 6 p.m.