



MINUTES

City of Taft City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday June 23, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Taft City Hall
230 Green Avenue, Taft, TX 78390

1. Call to order was at 6:30 p.m.
2. The roll call was done and all members were present
3. Pledge of allegiance and Texas pledge was done
4. Invocation was given by Pastor Steve
5. Proclamations, presentations and council and staff announcements: Mayor Pro-Tem Cruz stated she wanted to thank the Public Works, Volunteer Fire Department and all the citizens that volunteered to help with the fallen tree that happened on Sunday. Councilman Molina stated that he wanted to mention that he wanted to congratulate the High School Cheerleaders that had gone to Austin. Mayor Castillo stated that with all the amount of rain that they have gotten, that they are having issued throughout the city with the lift stations. The Public works and wastewater treatment employees are dealing with the lift stations and cleaning out the wipes, tissues and other things that are flushed into the sewer line. It is important that these things don't get flushed down the sewer line and it will create problems for the lift stations.
 1. Jordan Light, Chief Appraiser, with San Patricio County Appraisal District, stated accordingly, for your review, please see the attached copy of the SPCAD budget, preliminary budget allocation, and budget narrative. Please be aware that this is a proposed budget, and that a final budget will not be considered or adopted by the SPCAD Board of Director until after the budget hearing, which is projected for Tuesday, August 11, 2026.
 2. Rebecca Cruz, Grantworks – At this time Interim City Manager, Wendy Pullin, stated that she had called Ms. Cruz several time and was never able to make contact with her.
6. Citizens Communication:
 1. Michael Vasquez, Fire Chief, stated that he just wanted to bring to light Emergency response awareness. In 2017 when Harvey came through, that was a wake-up call for the city, and we still haven't fully recovered from that. The fire department's equipment is not up to date. There are several issues that need to be taken care of, equipment, backhoes to mention a few. The Public Works department is also considered first responders.
7. Consent Agenda – None
8. Staff reports and other discussion items:
 - a. City Manager Updates: Wendy Pullin, Interim City Manager, stated that the police department had hired a new employee. The generator project has been completed. Some of the Harvey grants have been completed. The water park did get an extension from FEMA till August 2027. The question was asked if the Public Works had been given instructions on how to operate the generators. The City Manager stated that she would find out from the Public Works director to see if they were told how to operate the generators. The generators should automatically come on. The Fire Department has received the San Patricio County Subsidy in the amount of \$53, 191.00, which \$20,000.00 is for the pension plan and \$20,000.00 is for operations, that leaves them with over \$13,000.00 to spare. The question was asked about the audits. The Interim City Manager stated that she had started getting bank statements for the auditors. The auditors should start the audit in the middle of July 2026. The position of Public Works Director has been given to Dave Furzer.

9. Action Items:

9.1 Motion was made by Councilwoman Lopez and second by Councilman Molina to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 9, 2026, with the corrections under item #6 the date should be June and not July, also under item #9.4 the date should be June 23, not May 23. Motion carried with a vote of four (4) yes and 1 abstained (Castillo).

9.7 Shawn Cass, President of the EDC and Melanie Cooper, works for the San Patricio County grants. Mr. Cass stated that the San Patricio County is doing a drainage improvement project. EDC has held two public hearings concerning the sale of this property. After some discussion motion was made by Councilwoman Lopez and second by Councilman Molina to approve the sale and conveyance of approximately 7.5518 acres of land from the 103.98-acre tract owned by the City of Taft EDC to San Patricio County for the appraised value of the 7.5518 acres being request for the San Patricio County Channel Drainage Outfall Improvements Project. The sale of property is pursuant to San Patricio County's receipt of HUD funds through the General Land Office Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (GLO CDBG-MIT) Program. Motion carried unanimously.

9.2 Hector Castaneda, with Ardurra Engineers, stated that bids were received on May 15, 2026, for the referenced project. Seven bids were received, and the results are shown on the attached bid tabulation sheet. The low/best bidder on the project is Experts Underground Solutions LLC, 222 River Road, Channelview, Texas with a total base bid amount of \$357,260.00. After some discussion motion was made by Councilman Molina and second by Councilwoman Lopez to award the City of Taft's GLO CDBG-MIT MOD (24-065-121-E963) Sewer Line Improvements Construction Contract to Experts Underground Solutions, LLC for a total base bid in the amount of \$357,620.00 and execute the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

9.3 Mayor Pro-Tem Cruz stated that they will be here for one day only, on August 17, 2026. The location will be at the Alvarado Center, 110 Allende Street, Taft, Texas. After some discussion motion was made by Councilwoman Lopez and second by Councilwoman Moreno to approve the letter of agreement for the Mobile Health Services between the City of Taft and South Texas Family Planning and Health Corp (STFPHC). Motion carried unanimously.

9.4 Fire Chief Vasquez stated that TEDM wants to know how much are they getting from TML insurance at this time. They want to make sure that they are not getting paid twice by the state and federal for the same claim. After some discussion motion was made by Councilman Molina and second by Councilwoman Moreno to approve the use of the fire department budgeted funds in capitol layout account in the amount of \$50,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

9.5 After some discussion motion was made by Councilman Molina and second by Councilwoman Lopez to approve the initial Bill of Materials (BOM) to purchase the materials to start the fire department office project. Motion carried unanimously.

9.6 After some discussion motion was made by Councilwoman Lopez and second by Councilman Molina to approve the written agreement between the City of Taft and Cheniere to provide support for the fire department office project. Motion carried unanimously.

9.8 Councilman Molina stated that he was looking at the EMS contract and the City of Taft has only one unit. After some discussion there was no action taken on this item, it will be discussed at a later date.

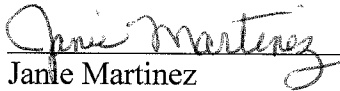
9.9 After some discussion there was no action taken on this item
Executive Session: Council went into executive session at: 7:55 p.m.
Council reconvened from executive session at: 9:14 p.m.
9.10 No action was taken at this time on this item

10.0 Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Molina and second by Councilwoman Moreno that this meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment was at: 9:15 p.m.

Elida Castillo
Mayor
City of Taft

ATTEST:



Jamie Martinez
Interim City Secretary
City of Taft

Approved on: 7-14-2024