

**Jean Birmingham Council  
Chambers, City Hall**  
401 South Alamo  
Marshall, TX 75670  
903-935-4421



**Members**  
Amy Ware, District 4 - Mayor  
Risa Jordan-Anderson, District 1  
Leo Morris, District 2  
Dathaniel Campbell, District 3  
Reba Godfrey, District 5  
Amanda Abraham, District 6  
Micah Fenton, District 7

**MINUTES**  
**PLEASE SILENCE ALL DEVICES**  
**SPECIAL-CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 15, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Mayor Amy Ware called the Special-Called meeting to order in the Council Chambers, City Hall at 6:01 PM.

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor and Council Members:**

Mayor Amy Ware  
Councilmember Leo Morris  
Councilmember Reba Godfrey  
Councilmember Amanda Abraham  
Councilmember Dathaniel Campbell  
Councilmember Risa Jordan-Anderson

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Micah Fenton **Motion to Excuse: Councilmember Jordan-Anderson Second: Councilmember Abraham Vote: 6:0**

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Melissa Vossmer, City Manager  
Scott Rectenwald, City Attorney  
Doug Box, Interim Public Works Director  
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director  
Reggie Cooper, Facilities and Code Director  
Rebecca Roseberry, Interim Finance Director  
Tom Forrest, Interim Planning & Development Director  
Alex Agnor, Asst. City Manager/Econ. Dev. & Strat. Init. Director  
Cliff Carruth, Police Chief  
Nikki Smith, City Secretary

**2. Invocation and Pledges**

Mayor Ware

**3. Presentations & Proclamations**

- A. Presentation of the Employee of the 4th Quarter 2025 and Employee of the Year 2025. (Employee Engagement Committee)  
Aleena Sepulvado, Employee Engagement Committee, presented the Employee of the 4th Quarter 2025 and Employee of the Year 2025, Nathan Harris, Facilities. The

sponsor for the Employee of the 4th Quarter is Kim Jeans Realty and the sponsors for the Employee of the Year are Steve and Penny Carlile. Nathan Harris thanked everyone for this recognition and said it is a pleasure to work for the City of Marshall.

**4. Citizen Comments**

Texas Government Code, Sec. 551.007 requires that a governmental body must allow each member of the public who desires to address the body regarding an item on the agenda the opportunity to do so before or during the body's consideration of the item. The "Citizens Comments" portion of the meeting meets the requirements of this law and is the public's opportunity to speak on any item on the agenda. Those who wish to speak are requested to fill out a public comment form and will have three (3) minutes to speak unless additional time has been requested.

There were no citizen comments.

**5. Items to be Withdrawn From Consent Agenda**

There were no items withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

**6. Consent Agenda**

The items on the Consent Agenda require little or no deliberation by the Council. Approval of the Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager or his designee to proceed with conclusion of each in accordance with staff recommendations, a copy of which is filed with the minutes of the meeting. A Councilmember may remove items from the Consent Agenda by making such request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

- A. Consider approval of the minutes from the October 23, 2025, Special-Called City Council Work Session. (City Secretary)
- B. Consider approval of the minutes from the October 23, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting. (City Secretary)
- C. Consider approval of the minutes from the November 20, 2025, Special-Called City Council Meeting. (City Secretary)
- D. Consider approval of a contract for Chief Wastewater Plant Operator (\$75,000). (Public Works)
- E. Consider approval of the purchase of 1 new 18" control valve for the Raw Water Pump Station (\$88,252.69). (Public Works)
- F. Consider approval of the completed project and release of retainage for electrical and plumbing work at the City Arena to LFA4 Enterprises, LLC (TIPS Contract 24010402), not to exceed \$6,113.60. (Facilities)

**7. Consideration of Items Withdrawn From the Consent Agenda**

There were no items withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

## 8. Public Hearing & Ordinance

- A. Conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval of an ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 0-87-13 to rezone Block 1, an approximately 5.07 acre portion of Parcel ID R22674, an approximately 11.060 acre tract of land, Blk 1-3, Subd Davidson, SHED, in the 2500 block of Lake Street from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to C-3 (General Business).  
(Planning)

Tom Forrest, Interim Planning & Development Director, stated the applicant, Mr. Pilkington, is requesting to rezone Block 1 in the 2500 Block of Lake Street from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to C-3 (General Business). The Planning and Zoning Commission met on December 8, 2025, and approved the rezone with a unanimous vote. The applicant intends to build an office and storage building, with no customer traffic and will include a privacy fence.

Mayor Ware opened the Public Hearing.

Randy Pilkington, 3591 US Hwy 59 N, provided a copy of the survey, information about his business and the reasoning for the rezone request.

Councilmember Abraham asked if Mr. Pilkington owned all the blocks, which he does, and they're not being rezoned at this time. It was mentioned that Block 4 is owned by someone else, but the intended building would be in line with what is there.

Mayor Ware closed the Public Hearing.

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0-87-13, to rezone Block 1, an approximately 5.07 acre portion of Parcel ID R22674, an approximately 11.060 acre tract of land, Blk 1-3, Subd Davidson, SHED, in the 2500 block of Lake Street from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to C-3 (General Business). Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

## 9. Ordinance

- A. Consider approval of an ordinance amending Chapter 14, Garbage, Trash, and Weeds of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Marshall, Texas, repealing and amending certain sections regarding garbage and increasing the solid waste collection and disposal fees; finding that the meeting at which this ordinance was passed was conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith; and establishing an effective date of February 1, 2026. Alex Agnor, Asst. City Manager/Economic Development & Strategic Initiatives Director, stated the solid waste contract extension/renewal was approved on September 11, 2025. This item is regarding rates for customers that will go into effect on February 1, 2026.

Councilmember Godfrey asked what the ordinance number was. It was explained the number would be assigned after the ordinance was approved.

**Councilmember Campbell made a motion to approve an ordinance amending**

**Chapter 14, Garbage, Trash, and Weeds of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Marshall, Texas, repealing and amending certain sections regarding garbage and increasing the solid waste collection and disposal fees; finding that the meeting at which this ordinance was passed was conducted in strict compliance with the Texas open meetings act; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith; and establishing an effective date of February 1, 2026. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

## **10. Resolution**

- A. Consider approval of a resolution designating an official newspaper for the City of Marshall for Fiscal Year 2026. (City Secretary)  
Nikki Smith, City Secretary, stated this item is for the annual approval of the designation of an official newspaper per the Texas Local Government Code Section 52.004. Nikki Smith asked for approval of the resolution.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve a resolution designating an official newspaper for the City of Marshall for Fiscal Year 2026. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

- B. Consider approval of a resolution denying Southwestern Electric Power Company's request for approval of its proposed "electric service – large load contract" tariff; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing participation in the coalition of similarly situated cities and authorizing intervention and participation in related rate proceedings; authorizing the retention of special counsel; finding that the meeting complies with the open meetings act; making other findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an effective date. (City Attorney)  
Scott Rectenwald, City Attorney, stated SWEPCO filed a petition for a tariff with reasons listed in the information provided in the resolution. This resolution gives council the opportunity to participate in the proceedings by engaging the Herrera Law Firm with other Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) cities. The effective date would be February 2, 2026. To avoid an approval by operation of law, this resolution will need to be passed.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve a resolution denying Southwestern Electric Power Company's request for approval of its proposed "electric service – large load contract" tariff; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing participation in the coalition of similarly situated cities and authorizing intervention and participation in related rate proceedings; authorizing the retention of special counsel; finding that the meeting complies with the open meetings act; making other findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an effective date. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

## **11. Action Items for City Council Consideration**

- A. Consider approval of an invoice in the amount of \$69,900 to Foster & Foster for actuarial support provided for the discussions with the Fire Pension Board in the

development of the Joint Funding Plan as approved by Council on 12-12-25.  
(Administration)

Melissa Vossmer, City Manager, stated staff has been working for the last several months with Foster & Foster to develop a Joint Funding Plan. The original appointment of Foster & Foster was at the June 12, 2025 meeting, and at that time it was unclear what the amount for their services would be. There will be two (2) invoices, the one currently on the agenda for \$69,900, and the second in the near future. Melissa Vossmer stated that Brad Henrich played a vital role in the establishment of the plan, and it could not have been done without him as it was a huge undertaking.

Mayor Ware reiterated that Brad Henrich played a vital role in the establishment of the plan, and it could not have been done without him as it was a huge undertaking. Mayor Ware also thanked Melissa Vossmer for her role in the establishment of the plan.

Councilmember Godfrey thanked Mayor Ware for her efforts in the establishment of the plan as well.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an invoice in the amount of \$69,900 to Foster & Foster for actuarial support provided for the discussions with the Fire Pension Board in the development of the Joint Funding Plan as approved by Council on 12-12-25. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

## **12. Discussion and Reports for City Council Consideration and Direction**

### **A. Presentation of the City of Marshall Investment Report First, Second and Third Quarters of 2025. (Finance)**

Melissa Vossmer provided introductory comments regarding the challenges with producing reports due to software and having staff without municipal experience. Melissa Vossmer provided a summary of the investment report for the first, second and third quarters of 2025 and the financial report through November 30, 20205.

Becky Roseberry, Interim Finance Director, stated the information provided was in the required format, and addressed a question that was asked during briefings about what LOGIC is, which is an investment tool used by Hilltop. Becky Roseberry also stated the interest earned was at \$.5 million.

Councilmember Campbell inquired if the interest earned was shown, should the interest cost also be shown. Becky Roseberry stated she would make a note on the interest.

Melissa Vossmer stated the notices of bids are being published and draw-downs will be seen in about four (4) months.

Councilmember Abraham stated the audits were not being reconciled timely. Many of the accounts are now current. Becky Roseberry stated at the end of the audit 95% will be cleared.

### **B. Presentation of the City of Marshall Financial Report through November 30, 2025. (Finance)**

Melissa Vossmer informed the council that in the packet the spreadsheet was picked up instead of the report.

Becky Roseberry stated the directors are doing well at staying within their budgets. With help from Jimmie Rambo, Support Services Assistant Director, Becky Roseberry was able to generate a report for the directors. Only a few departments have gone over their budgets, but the overages were expected and can be explained. There will be some carryovers and budget amendments to be brought to council in February.

C. Discussion and Direction on the review of proposals received for the management of the recruitment of the new City Manager for the City of Marshall.

Melissa Vossmer shared the schedule of recruitment firms. The bid closed and six (6) companies submitted proposals. Melissa Vossmer stated there are three options: 1. staff reviews and makes recommendations, 2. a council committee is formed and reviews and makes recommendations, or 3. the full council review and makes a determination.

Mayor Ware stated she would prefer this to be an agenda item for the full council. Melissa Vossmer stated she could distribute the proposals Monday and set a timeline.

Councilmember Jordan-Anderson asked if the proposals should be reviewed by the council and community members. Melissa Vossmer stated that would be up to the council. Councilmember Abraham said that would not be necessary and would hold up the process.

Councilmember Abraham asked to have the packet sent to council for them to narrow it down to their top three and make a decision at the next meeting.

Mayor Ware asked staff to make the packets available to council and then council will submit their choices by the end of the day Tuesday.

D. Report concerning the Hwy. 80 Cave-in, Repairs and Schedule. (Public Works)

Doug Box, Interim Public Works Director, stated that Highway 80 is open, the barricades are gone, and the lanes are open. Lee Street will be completed in about two and a half weeks. Doug Box provided photos of the work done to clean up and replace the area. The first pay request has been received, and it will be reviewed. The local company that was used was very professional and safe.

Councilmember Abraham asked what the name of the company was, which Doug Box stated was Williams Road and Bridge LLC. Councilmember Abraham thanked Doug Box for how fast the project was done.

Mayor Ware stated that people sometimes forget how old the city is and how resourceful people were with repurposing items.

Councilmember Campbell stated he would like to have the stats of how much pipe was laid, loads of dirt, etc.

### 13. Executive Session

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to convene into Executive Session. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0. The time was 7:02 PM.**

- A. An executive session pursuant to Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations) (1) to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City Council has received from a business prospect that the City Council seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the City and with which the City Council is conducting economic development negotiations; or (2) to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described above; concerning Project 2400.

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session. Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0. The time was 7:25 PM.**

**14. Action Item Following Executive Session**

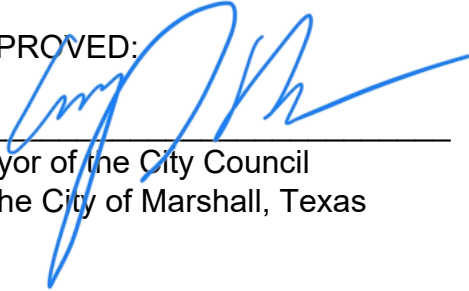
- A. Consider approval of a Letter of Intent and Performance Agreement incentives for Project 2400. (Marshall EDC)

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve the letter of intent for the performance agreement as discussed in executive session. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

**15. Adjournment**

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City Council  
of the City of Marshall, Texas

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary