

**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**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
February 26, 2026  
6:00 PM

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

Mayor Amy Ware called the Regular meeting to order in the Council Chambers, City Hall at 6:12 PM.

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor and Council Members:**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Melissa Vossmer, City Manager	Cliff Carruth, Police Chief
Scott Rectenwald, City Attorney	Nikki Smith, City Secretary
David Rainwater, Fire Chief	
Doug Box, Interim Public Works Director	
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director	
Cheryl Carpenter, Community Engagement	
Rebecca Roseberry, Interim Finance Director	
Alex Agnor, Asst. City Manager/Econ. Dev. & Strat. Init. Director	
Tom Forrest, Interim Planning and Development Services Director	

**2. Invocation and Pledges**

Mayor Ware

**3. Presentations & Proclamations**

**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.

Richie Arnold, 2490 Garden Oaks, stated he is the broker for 3610 Elysian Fields Avenue, a contract is on the lot to be sold and he is available if there are any questions.

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 Items to be Withdrawn From Consent Agenda**

Item 6E was withdrawn.

## **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 Abraham made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**Councilmember Morris seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

- A. Consider approval of the minutes from the January 15, 2026, Special-Called City Council Meeting. (City Secretary)
- B. Consider approval of the first of four (1 of 4) annual renewal options of the contract with Ferguson Waterworks for FY2026 Water and Sewer Pipe Supplies. (Public Works)
- C. Consider approval of the first of four (1 of 4) annual renewals of the contract with Ferguson Waterworks for FY2026 Parts and Supplies. (Public Works)
- D. Presentation of the City of Marshall Investment Report for the Fourth Quarter of 2025. (Finance)

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 Consideration of Items Withdrawn From the Consent Agenda**

- E. Consider approval of a 3-year contract for retail recruitment services between Marshall EDC and Retail Strategies, LLC, with a recurring payment of \$50,000 per year, totaling \$150,000. (Marshall EDC)

Councilmember Jordan-Anderson asked what the expectations were for the contract and what could be brought to the City.

Rush Harris, Marshall EDC Director, stated the contract is for three years, consulting with the EDC to look at sites for companies, look at zoning and target areas for companies.

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve a 3-year contract for retail**

**recruitment services between Marshall EDC and Retail Strategies, LLC, with a recurring payment of \$50,000 per year, totaling \$150,000. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

## **8. Public Hearing & Ordinance**

- A. Conduct a public hearing to consider an application to change the street name from Rodgers to Rogers in Marshall. (Planning)

Tom Forrest, Interim Planning and Development Services Director, stated this item is being presented to council regarding a name change of a street from Rodgers to Rogers. The property owners, HCAD, post office and others all thought the street was named Rogers. Only the original plat from 1949 shows Rodgers. A petition from the property owners was presented to staff to begin the name change process. The Planning & Zoning Commission met and approved the change by a vote of 5:0. The cost of the sign to change the name will be approximately \$300.

Mayor Ware opened the Public Hearing.

LaTonya Carter, 2102 Rogers Street, spoke in support of removing the letter "d" from the name of the street.

Mayor Ware closed the Public Hearing.

Tom Forrest stated Kayla Moore, Sign Technician, researched and worked with the citizens to bring this request forward to the council.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an application to change the street name from Rodgers to Rogers in Marshall. Councilmember Morris seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

- B. Conduct a public hearing to consider approval of an ordinance for an application to rezone 3600 Rosborough Springs Rd, Parcel ID R1625, a 5.5 acre lot, Subdivision 747 A Whetstone from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to MF (Multifamily). (Planning)

Tom Forrest stated an application was received to rezone 3600 Rosborough Springs Road from A-E (Agriculture and Estate) to MF (Multifamily). The Planning and Zoning Commission met and denied the rezoning request by a vote of 5:0. The owner desires to build mid-high duplexes. After reviewing the future land use map, staff does not recommend the zoning change.

Mayor Ware opened the Public Hearing.

Kim Henderson, 3402 Rosborough Springs Road, stated a redi-pump was put in and caused problems. She is concerned this rezoning would cause issues too.

Brayton Grogan, 3718 Rosborough Springs Road, stated he is the landowner and does not want mid-high duplexes, that he is trying for 10 buildings with a maximum of 20 units. He wants to build something nice with separate driveways, yards, etc.

Mayor Ware closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmembers asked questions and engaged in discussion. This discussion included the definition of Multifamily and whether the area was in a flood zone, which not all the area is considered to be. The landowner explained that the intention was not for mid-high duplexes but for mid-to-high-end buildings and when asked if he would be willing to submit a planned development, he said he would. The current zoning process of land that is annexed is being zoned as A-E was discussed. Tom Forrest explained what the future lap use map indicated, and stated council could decide to deny, table or approve the item.

**Councilmember Campbell made a motion to table the ordinance for an application to rezone 3600 Rosborough Springs Rd from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to MF (Multifamily). Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

Alex Agnor, Assistant City Manager, stated staff would work with the property owner to bring back a planned development.

## 9. Ordinance

- A. Consider approval of an ordinance correcting Marshall City Charter Section 3.06 Prohibitions, Section 6.11 Independent Audit, Section 10.02 Power of Referendum, and Section 11.07 Penalties and Remedies Concerning Public Utilities for Clerical Amendments; Providing for Findings of Fact, Enactment, Publication, Severability, Repealer, Proper Notice and Meeting; and providing an effective date. (Charter Committee / City Attorney / City Secretary)  
Councilmember Abraham stated this item is a follow-up from the charter review discussions.

Scott Rectenwald, City Attorney, stated these items were identified by the Charter Counsel as non-substantive items that can be amended by ordinance.

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an ordinance correcting Marshall City Charter Section 3.06 Prohibitions, Section 6.11 Independent Audit, Section 10.02 Power of Referendum, and Section 11.07 Penalties and Remedies Concerning Public Utilities for Clerical Amendments; Providing for Findings of Fact, Enactment, Publication, Severability, Repealer, Proper Notice and Meeting; and providing an effective date. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

## 10. Resolution

- A. Consider approval of a resolution adopting the City of Marshall Investment Policy. (Finance)  
Becky Roseberry, Interim Finance Director, stated the investment policy is reviewed and approved every year. Becky Roseberry stated that the council could change the investments, and she made the changes to allow for a CPA firm to audit every even year and drop the EDC.

Councilmembers engaged in discussion including why the EDC should be dropped,

which was because they have their own policy; who the investment officer is for the city and if the City Manager should be designated as said officer. The investments for a city were explained as they are different from other investment styles and accounts.

**Councilmember Morris was not present during the vote.**

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve a resolution adopting the City of Marshall Investment Policy. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

## 11. Action Items for City Council Consideration

- A. Consider approval to award a contract for the I-20 Utility Relocation Project (\$6,062,316.00). (Public Works)  
Doug Box, Interim Public Works Director, introduced Brian Pritchett, KSA Engineering, who stated that 11 bids were received and, after evaluation, determined that Canary Construction, Inc. submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid. KSA Engineering recommended awarding the contract to Canary Construction, Inc. of Lewisville, Texas, in the amount of \$6,062,316.00.

Councilmembers engaged in discussion about whether this is the part of the relocation that will be reimbursed, which was said it is, and the submittals will be sent to the Finance Department for reimbursement requests. It was also discussed that not all three (3) sections have been bid out yet for the utility relocation.

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve awarding a contract for the I-20 Utility Relocation Project to Canary Construction, Inc. at a cost of \$6,062,316.00. Mayor Ware seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

- B. Consider and deliberate the offer to purchase that 1.25 acre lot owned by the City of Marshall at 3610 Elysian Fields Ave. by The Turbolaters Rentals, LLC pursuant to Texas Government Code §253.014. (City Attorney / City Manager)  
Scott Recctenwald stated this item was similar to the sale of the ETBU property, contracted with a broker and received an offer for \$18,000. It was determined that the lot was smaller than shown on HCAD and the plans are to build a house on the property.

Richie Arnold stated the listing agreement is for two (2) lots and this item only has one. Councilmember Abraham stated both lots were listed, and a discussion was held regarding the correction to the contract and updating the dates. It was determined the contract is for both lots, but the numbers aren't adding up because the legal description is not always accurate, and a survey will be done.

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve the offer to purchase that lot owned by the City of Marshall at 3610 Elysian Fields Ave. by The Turbolaters Rentals, LLC pursuant to Texas Government Code §253.014. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.**

- C. Consider approval to award a contract for CDBG Smith Park Improvements to the lowest bidder, Casey Slone Construction, in the total amount of \$174,239.00, and

authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary contract documents. (Assistant City Manager)

Stan Hayes provided background information regarding this item, stating that carry-over funds from 2024 were being used. Eleven (11) bids were received to remove the court and fence, build a new full-sized court and fence and a walking/jogging trail. Casey Slone Construction was the low bidder at a cost of \$174,239.

Councilmembers engaged in discussion about previous issues with Smith Park and issues with the recommended company, which Stan Hayes stated he was familiar with but did not anticipate any issues at this time. Further discussion regarding whether a lawsuit was filed or not was held, it was stated no claim was filed against the City.

**Councilmember Jordan-Anderson made a motion to table. The motion died due to lack of a second.**

**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve awarding a contract for CDBG Smith Park Improvements to the lowest bidder, Casey Slone Construction, in the total amount of \$174,239.00, and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary contract documents. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed with the following vote:**

**Ayes:6, Mayor Ware, Councilmembers Abraham, Godfrey, Morris, Campbell and Fenton**

**Noes:1, Councilmember Jordan-Anderson**

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

- A. Marshall Police Department 2025 Annual Report. (Police)  
Cliff Carruth, Police Chief, provided the 2025 Annual Report for the Marshall Police Department. This report highlighted various areas of the police department, including accomplishments, accreditation, future challenges, technology enhancements, drone program expansion, technology improvements, training and compliance, the 2025 Racial Profiling Report, traffic stop data, arrests and outcomes (of traffic stops), operational data (number of arrests, calls, reports, crashes, etc.), Mass Casualty Bag Incentive (one kit per shift and one at the police department), inter-agency cooperation, and the Community Policing Program.
- B. Marshall Fire Department 2025 Annual Report. (Fire)  
David Rainwater, Fire Chief, stated the public safety group is amazing, and the citizens are in good hands. The fire department will be celebrating 150 years in June and will be hosting a celebration. David Rainwater provided the 2025 Annual Report for the Marshall Fire Department. This report highlighted various areas of the fire department, including statistics for incidents, response time, inspections, TCFP compliance, policy overhaul, fleet turnaround, medal of valor recipients, training, community partnership, and looking ahead for strategic planning.
- C. Overview of the Information Campaign on Water & Sewer Rates. (Community Engagement)  
Cheryl Carpenter, Community Engagement, provided information regarding where our water comes from and how it is treated. A three-part video series that has been created

and placed on the website, social media and YouTube with information for the public.

Melissa Vossmer, City Manager, stated Cheryel Carpenter came in to help get the information out to answer questions about the water and sewer rates and to visually document how we get our water and where it goes after being used.

D. Discussion Concerning Council Communications with City Staff and Among Councilmembers.

Scott Rectenwald stated he was tasked with researching other cities and how they communicate through a Government Policy or Ethics Policy. Scott Rectenwald stated his findings indicate that all communication flows through the City Manager, TML has a template and the City of Austin provided some information. Some options for communication are a direct link or a searchable message board. There are exemptions available in the Government Code.

Councilmembers engaged in a discussion which included developing a further understanding of how council communicates or examples of good ideas. There was concern that an Ethics Policy wouldn't address how communications are disseminated, and a message board could create a walking quorum. Further discussion was held regarding sending of or forwarding of emails; best practices for ways to communicate; and a policy to make someone an appointee on council to be the one to give direction.

The Council gave a consensus to bring this item back at a future work session.

### 13. Executive Session

**Councilmember Fenton was not present for the vote.**

**Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to convene into Executive Session. Mayor Ware seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0. The time was 8:32 PM.**

**Councilmember Fenton joined the Executive Session remotely.**

- 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.
- B. 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 Lyfi.
- C. 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 Paramount.

- D. An Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code under Section 551.074 Personnel Matters: Discuss or deliberate the process of appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Attorney.
- E. An Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code under Section 551.074 Personnel Matters: Discuss or deliberate the process of appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Secretary.  
**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0. The time was 9:15 PM.**

#### 14. Action Item Following Executive Session

- A. Consider approval of EDC Incentives & Performance Agreement for Project 2400, as discussed in Executive Session.  
**Councilmember Fenton did not rejoin the meeting following the Executive Sessions.**  
**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve Rush Harris and the Mayor to enter into a Performance Agreement for Project 2400, as discussed in Executive Session. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**
- B. Consider approval of EDC Incentives & Performance Agreement for Project Lyfi, as discussed in Executive Session.  
**Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve Rush Harris and the Mayor to enter into a Performance Agreement for Lyfi, as discussed in Executive Session. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.**

LyteFiber representatives thanked the Council for their approval. Rush Harris stated the regional headquarters will be located in Marshall, Texas.

#### 15. Adjournment

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

APPROVED:



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

ATTEST:



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