

**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
April 23, 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 6:03 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
Lisa Pepi, Finance Director	David Rainwater, Fire Chief
Cory Owen, Assistant Public Works Director	
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director	

2. Invocation and Pledges

Mayor Ware

3. 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.

Melissa Vossmer, City Manager, introduced Lisa Pepi, Finance Director, and provided information regarding her professional background.

4. Items to be Withdrawn From Consent Agenda

There were no items withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

5. 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 Fenton seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

- A. Consider approval of the minutes from the April 9, 2026, Special-Called City Council Meeting. (City Secretary)
- B. Consider approval of the minutes from the April 9, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting. (City Secretary)
- C. Consider approval of an agreement with Dr. Jeffrey McWilliams for Physician Director Services for the Emergency Medical Services System for a remaining CY 2026 cost of \$13,200. (Fire)

6. Consideration of Items Withdrawn From the Consent Agenda

There were no items withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

8. Resolution

- A. Consider and Act on a Resolution Directing Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026.

Item 8A was taken out of order.

Melissa Vossmer provided a continuation of information from the work session meeting, stating there are three issues being the first year of the CIP, the interim projects for stabilization and the issuance of debt for other projects. The difficulty faced is that, at this time, we are unsure of what the Water Supply and Infrastructure Grants (WSIG) will include. The recommendation is for a \$20 million level of financing. It was noted that the intention to issue debt is not a finalization of debt issued.

Michael Martin, Hilltop Securities, stated a resolution is required for the notice of intent to issue debt and provided a schedule, indicating the sale of debt would be in June 2026.

Melissa Vossmer explained the method of use for the funds. Phase 1 would be \$1.55 million for stabilization, Phase 2 would be \$20 million, to include the reimbursement for WSIG, and \$16 million of projects not included with the WSIG funding from the 2018 water plan.

Councilmember Abraham requested a list of all issues we are facing, with a priority listing and a 5-year plan.

Stan Hayes, Hayes Engineering, provided information regarding the watermain projects and pricing, stating there are 13 projects listed and the WSIG would address items 5–8 on the list.

Council discussed project completion and funding. It was stated that each project could take a couple of years to complete, but depending on funding availability, the projects could be done at the same time and be completed in about five years. There is currently \$10 million assigned for the projects, the WSIG could be an additional \$20 million, and the debt issuance would be for an additional \$20 million. The total of the projects is approximately \$81,350,000, so funding would still be short approximately \$30 million, but 11 and 13 on the list could be replaced after the other items are completed, if they were needed. The pricing for the projects would be bid out, and the cost estimates do factor in future costs.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve a Resolution Directing Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

7. Public Hearing & Ordinance

- A. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of an ordinance to rezone 1603 S Washington Parcel R000030776, a 0.2750 acre lot SUBD: SUNNYSIDE, BLK 3, LOT 2, HSE from R-2 (Single Family Detached) to O (Office). (Development Services)
- Mark Priestner, Halff, introduced the item stating the future land use map shows residential in the area, but transitioning to offices. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the change with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Ware opened the public hearing.

No one came forward to speak.

Mayor Ware closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an ordinance to rezone 1603 S Washington Parcel R000030776, a 0.2750 acre lot SUBD: SUNNYSIDE, BLK 3, LOT 2, HSE from R-2 (Single Family Detached) to O (Office). Councilmember Fenton seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

- B. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of an ordinance to rezone a property on FM 449 Parcel R000013772, a 2.5800 acre lot ABST: 441 H MORGAN, V from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to MH (Mobile Home). (Development Services)

Mark Priestner stated this property is on the west side of town, adjacent to the city limits, and while the area may develop more commercial property, a mobile home is not detrimental. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the change with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Ware opened the public hearing.

No one came forward to speak.

Mayor Ware closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an ordinance to rezone a property on FM 449 Parcel R000013772, a 2.5800 acre lot ABST: 441 H MORGAN, V from A-E (Agriculture & Estate) to MH (Mobile Home). Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

- C. Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of an ordinance to rezone the R-2 section of 315 Buck Sherrod Road Parcel R010096215 of the 5 acre lot ABST: 20 B ROGERS, HSE from R-2 (Single Family Detached) to PD (Planned Development). (Development Services)

Mark Priestner stated this item looks at the potential for development. The requestor wants to create a family compound and, looking at long-term use, the Planned Development (PD) designation can restrict the property to that use. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the change with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Ware opened the public hearing.

Joseph Jenckes, stated he is requesting this change to be able to be close to his parents and he understood he would have to bring the planned development to the council.

Mayor Ware closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve an ordinance to rezone the R-2 section of 315 Buck Sherrod Road Parcel R010096215 of the 5 acre lot ABST: 20 B ROGERS, HSE from R-2 (Single Family Detached) to PD (Planned Development). Councilmember Fenton seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

9. Action Items for City Council Consideration

- A. Consider approval of a Grant Application for Waterline Replacement and Engineering Services. (Public Works)

Melissa Vossmer stated the projects provided to be incorporated into the WSIG application and the next item were part of the discussion during the special meeting.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve a Grant Application for Waterline Replacement and Engineering Services. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

- B. Consider approval of two work orders for the City Engineer of Record, Stan Hayes, to develop the project design and specifications for the Water Supply and Infrastructure Grants (WSIG). (Public Works)
This item was part of the special meeting discussion.

Councilmember Campbell was out during the vote on this item.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve two work orders for the City Engineer of Record, Stan Hayes, to develop the project design and specifications for the Water Supply and Infrastructure Grants (WSIG). Councilmember Fenton seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 6:0.

- C. Consideration and Award of Contract for ERP Software. (Council IT Committee / Support Services / Mike Searight, Consultant)
Mayor Ware thanked staff and council for their work on this project.

Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director, provided background information on this item, stating the committee narrowed the choices down from six vendors to three, then the staff viewed presentations and narrowed it down to two vendors. The committee decided to go with OpenGov. Councilmember Abraham reviewed the contract and highlighted that this is a five-year contract, that OpenGov will continue to support operations of the current software, an extra module was included at no extra cost, upgrades are included, support and onsite training will be provided. There is a yearly fee for additional support that will be used to train any new employees. The cost for the first year breakdown was provided with an amount not to exceed \$393,372.53.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve and award a Contract for ERP Software. Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

Melissa Vossmer stated this item was not on the reader and thanked council for working with staff to create the committee, hire the consultant, incorporate users, and work to bring this item forward.

- D. Consider Approval of the Final Report from the City Council FY27 Budget Planning Session.
Melissa Vossmer stated this item was to wrap up the work of the council and to help staff identify the priorities for FY27.

Ron Cox, Cox Consulting, provided the final report for FY27 Budget Planning highlighting the work done reviewing the vision and mission statements and core values. Ron Cox also provided information regarding the expectations for the position and relationship with the new city manager. The approach for FY 26-27 planning was to review what is better, what can be done better and what's next. The priorities from FY25-26 did not change, but projects were added to the list. The March 4th staff session was also reviewed regarding the plans for the transition to the new city manager, maintaining staff momentum, and the expectations of the new city manager's experience and relationship with staff. Ron Cox stated there was great positive momentum and encouraged a Staff Development Plan utilizing work done in the Strategic Plan.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve the Final Report from the City Council FY27 Budget Planning Session. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

10. Executive Session

Councilmember Campbell made a motion to convene into Executive Session. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0. The time was 7:44 PM.

- A. 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 appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Secretary
- B. An Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code under Section 551.074 Personnel Matters: City Manager Recruitment.

The council reconvened from the Executive Session. The time was 8:23 PM.

11. Action Item Following Executive Session

- A. Consider action regarding discussion from the executive session.
No action was taken.

12. Adjournment

Councilmember Fenton was not present during the adjournment.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Abraham 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

City Secretary