CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 14, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas met in Regular Session on August 14, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 555 Walnut St. Mayor Weldon Hurt was present and presiding, along with Mayor Pro-tem Brian Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Blaise Regan, and Councilmembers Shane Price, Lynn Beard, Miguel Espinoza and Travis Craver. Also present were City Manager Emily Crawford, City Attorney Stanley Smith, and City Secretary Shawna Atkinson.

Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Blaise Regan led the invocation.

Will Lewis, first grader at TLCA, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the State of Texas Flag.

PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of items 2-17. No items were pulled for individual consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Hurt opened the public comment period. The following addressed the City Council:

- Eddie Pugh
- Diane Bradley & Nikki Appel

With no other speakers coming forward, the public comment period was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Price moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Craver seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

Councilmember Beard had a conflict of interest on item 3 and abstained from voting on that item. A Conflict of Interest Affidavit was filled out before the meeting and filed with the City Secretary's office. The vote for item 3 alone was:

AYES (6): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None
ABSTAIN (1): Councilmember Beard

2. Minutes: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving the Minutes from the Special Called Budget Meeting Held on July 21, 2025, the Special Called Budget Meeting Held on July 22, 2025 and the Regular Meeting Held on July 24, 2025

3. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action to Accept the FY25 FAA Airport Improvement Program Grant
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 139-2025]

4. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the Purchase of Two (2) 2026 International MV607 Flatbed Stake Trucks with CM 14ft body from Roberts Truck Center, Abilene TX for Water Distribution and Solid Waste
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 140-2025]

5. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the Purchase of Two (2) 2026 Freightliner M2-106 Ledwell 5-6 Yard Dump Trucks from Houston Freightliner, Houston TX for Water Distribution
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 141-2025]

6. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving a Pricing Amendment for the Purchase of Two (2) PPV Pickups for the Marshal's Division Authorized in Resolution 077-2025
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 142-2025]

7. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the purchase of One (1) One-Ton Utility Truck for Water Distribution from Lawrence Hall Chevrolet of Abilene, TX through CB-2546
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 143-2025]

8. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the purchase of Two (2) 2026 Chevrolet CK31003 Utility Trucks with Valve Turning Machines for Water Distribution from Lawrence Hall Chevrolet of Abilene, TX through CB-2547
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 144-2025]

9. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving a Professional Services Agreement with West Texas Health PLLC for Abilene Police Department Health & Wellness Exams
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 145-2025]

10. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving an Amendment to the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau FY 2025 Budget
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 146-2025]

11. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving Change Order No. 2 to the Contract with Dowtech Specialty Contractors for the Sodium Hydroxide Bulk Storage and Dry Polymer Feed Improvements at the Northeast Water Treatment Plant
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 147-2025]

12. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Awarding the Bid for the Hargesheimer Water Treatment Plant Backwash Pipe Replacement Project (CB-2545) to Dowtech Specialty Contractors
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 148-2025]

13. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving a Professional Services Contract with Enprotec / Hibbs & Todd, Inc. for the Hamby Blower VFD Replacement Project
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 149-2025]

14. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving a Professional Services Contract with Signature Automation, LLC for SCADA System Restoration Phase 1
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 150-2025]

15. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Purchase of a Replacement Bar Screen Compactor Unit from Vision Equipment for the Buck Creek Pump
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 151-2025]

16. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Designating Signature Authority for Utility Relocation Documents Required by TXDOT for the IH-20 Relocation Project
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 152-2025]

17. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the Approval of the Acquisition of Professional Services to Assist in the Recovery and Deployment of Technologies from Delbert Dee Lott
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 153-2025]

REGULAR AGENDA

18. Presentation: Receive a Report and Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing on Emergency Preparedness

Vincent Cantu, Emergency Management Officer, presented the item. Mr. Cantu gave an overview of the operations and procedures for the Emergency Preparedness Department, incident overview from the Kerr County flooding recently, the local focus on hazard mitigation and how they coordinate their processes and procedures with stakeholders and other community emergency management teams. Warning systems were discussed, including Code Red alerts. Council had questions regarding current staff levels, working with other cities in emergencies and grants and funding opportunities.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

This item was for presentation only. No votes or action were taken at this time.

19. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Approving the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, FY 2025-2026 Action Plan, and Proposed Use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Funds
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 154-2025]

Tim Littlejohn, Director of Planning & Development Services, introduced Mary Itz from Baker Tilley, who presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan, FY 2025-2026 Action Plan, and Proposed Use of Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Program Funds. These funds will assist the community with home repairs and the first-time homebuyer program. Leticia Reeves, Division Manager of Neighborhood Services, also went over the HOME repair program.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Craver moved to approve the item as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Yates seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

20. Ordinance (Final Reading) CUP-2025-13: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on A Request From The Owner To Apply A Conditional Use Permit To Allow A Freight Container Within Planned Development District 52 (PDD-52). Located At 4338 Rio Mesa Drive. **[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 57-2025]**

Tim Littlejohn, Director of Planning & Development Services, presented the item. Adoption of the item would apply a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) at the above referenced location, to allow for a freight storage container.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Beard moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Price seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

21. Ordinance (Final Reading) CUP-2025-14: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on A Request From The Owner, To Apply A Conditional Use Permit To Allow A Freight Container Within General Commercial (GC). Located At 358 East South 11th Street **[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 58-2025]**

Tim Littlejohn, Director of Planning & Development Services, presented the item. Adoption of the item would apply a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to the above referenced location, to allow for a freight shipping container.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro-tem Yates moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Beard seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

22. Ordinance (Final Reading) Z-2025-19: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on A Request From The Owner To Rezone Approximately 21.22 Acres From General Retail (GR) To Multi Family (MF). Located Along Memorial Drive **[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 59-2025]**

Tim Littlejohn, Director of Planning & Development Services, presented the item. Adoption of the item would rezone the above referenced location from General Retail (GR) to Multi Family (MF).

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. The following spoke in support of the item:

- Clayton Farrow, agent for developer

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Craver moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Espinoza seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

Stanley Smith, City Attorney, presented items 23 and 25 together, with one public hearing, as they are alternate options.

23. (Remove from Table) Ordinance (First Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Amending Chapter 17, "Miscellaneous Provisions," Code of Ordinance by Approving a Permit Requirement for Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB) Establishments **[DENIED]**

Councilmember Price moved to remove the item from the table. Councilmember Beard seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

Adoption of item 23 would amend Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances, establishing a Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB) Permit. Mr. Smith went through the changes from the last meeting on that option.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. The following spoke on the item:

- Tammy Fogle

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Price moved to deny this item. Councilmember Beard seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

25. Ordinance (First Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Amending Chapter 20, "Offenses," Article VII, "Alcoholic Beverages," Code of Ordinances to regulate the hours of operation of Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB) Establishments

Adoption of item 25 would amend Chapter 20 of the Code Of Ordinances, by regulating hours of operations for BYOB establishments.

Councilmember Price moved approve the item as presented. Councilmember Craver seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

24. (Remove from Table) Ordinance (First Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Amending the Fee Schedule Ordinance to Add a BYOB Permit Fee

Mayor Pro-tem Yates moved to remove the item from the table. Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

Stanley Smith, City Attorney, recommended denying this item since Council decided against the BYOB permit option presented in item 23.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Beard moved to deny this item. Councilmember Price seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

26. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Approving a Nomination for an Application for Texas Enterprise Zone Program (EZP) for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 155-2025]

Emily Crawford, City Manager, presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve an application from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas for a Texas Enterprise Zone Program (EZP).

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. The following spoke in opposition to the item:

- Tammy Fogle

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Espinoza moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Craver seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hurt recessed into Executive Session at 9:44 a.m., pursuant to the following of the Open Meetings Act, with the following issues discussed during this session, as listed on the agenda and authorized by the noted Texas Government Code Section:

27.A.551.072 (Consultation with Attorney)
1. The Woodlands Pride et al v. Ken Paxton AG of Texas
2. Tracey Freeman v. City of Abilene, Case No 13596-D
3. Bronson Joseph Serasio v. C Davis, City of Abilene Police Department, Case No 25sc-11643J11
4. Victor Lynn Lee v. Erin Stamey, et al., Case No 5:25-cv-00590-XR
5. Listing of Pending Lawsuits on the Agenda
6. Municipal Court Judge Applicants

27.B.551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property)
1. 1002 S 32nd Street

27.D.551.074 (Personnel Matters)
1. Municipal Court Judge Applicants

27.F.551.087 (Business Prospects/Economic Development)
1. Project Surf
2. Lancium Project

The Executive Session ended at 11:33 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session. Mayor Hurt reported no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

REGULAR AGENDA – END

28. Ordinance (Final Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Approving the Revised 2024-2025 Budget
[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 60-2025]

Marjorie Knight, Director of Finance, presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve the revised fiscal year 2024-2025 budget. Ms. Knight went over the changes in the budget from the first reading.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. The following spoke on the item:

- Chad Carter
- Tammy Fogle

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro-tem Yates moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Espinoza seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (0): None

Councilmember Beard had conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the Aviation Fund and the Self-Insurance Fund only. A Conflict of Interest Affidavit was filled out before the meeting and filed with the City Secretary's office.

29. Ordinance (Final Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Approving the Proposed 2025-2026 Budget
[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 61-2025]

Marjorie Knight, Director of Finance, presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 budget.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Price moved to approve and adopt the FY 2025-2026 Budget of $371,450,844 for all Operating Funds. Councilmember Beard seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (1): Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan

Councilmember Price moved that this budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by $5,220,630 or 7.5%, and of that amount $4,806,043 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. Councilmember Beard seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (1): Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan

Councilmember Beard had conflicts of interest and abstained from voting on the Aviation Fund and the Self-Insurance Fund only. A Conflict of Interest Affidavit was filled out before the meeting and filed with the City Secretary's office.

30. Ordinance (Final Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Setting the Tax Levy
[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 62-2025]

Marjorie Knight, Director of Finance, presented the item. Adoption of the item would set the tax levy for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Mayor Hurt opened the public hearing. The following spoke on the item:

- Tammy Fogle

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro-tem Yates moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of $.7506 per $100, which is effectively a 1.8% increase in the tax rate. Councilmember Price seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Hurt, Mayor Pro-tem Yates, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (1): Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan

Mayor Hurt left the meeting at this time. Mayor Pro-tem Yates presided over the remainder of the meeting.

31. Ordinance (Final Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Adopting Fees and Charges for FY 2025-2026
[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 63-2025]

Marjorie Knight, Director of Finance, presented the item. Adoption of the item would adopt the fees and charges for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Mayor Pro-tem Yates opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Espinoza moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Craver seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (5): Mayor Pro-tem Yates, and Councilmembers Price, Beard, Espinoza and Craver
NAYS (1): Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Regan
ABSENT (1): Mayor Hurt

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Shawna Atkinson
City Secretary

Weldon Hurt
Mayor

Minutes approved on: August 28, 2025