

BURLESON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2026
DRAFT MINUTES

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Victoria Johnson
Phil Anderson
Alexa Boedeker
Chris Fletcher
Larry Scott
Dan McClendon
Adam Russell

COUNCIL ABSENT:

Staff present

Tommy Ludwig, City Manager
Eric Oscarson, Deputy City Manager
Harlan Jefferson, Deputy City Manager
Amanda Campos, City Secretary
Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary
Matt Ribitzki, Deputy City Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Fletcher called the meeting to order. **Time: 5:31 p.m.**

2. CITIZEN APPEARANCES

- None.

3. BUDGET

A. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff direction on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget and related items. (*Staff Contact: Tommy Ludwig, City Manager*)

City Manager Tommy Ludwig presented Items 3A-3C as one presentation on the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget, including operating funds, supplemental requests, fee changes, five-year fund forecasts, and the five-year Capital Improvement Program. The budget was developed in alignment with the City Council's strategic priorities, maintaining strong fund balances, conservative revenue projections, and consideration of resident priorities. The proposed budget includes restoring employee merit and public safety step increases to October 1, market adjustments for certain positions, and recommended supplemental requests including two firefighters, a training captain, a full-time Police Records Coordinator, and third-party engineering review. Staff also reviewed various operational, technology, street, traffic, facility, and public safety supplemental requests.

Council discussed adding two police positions, including a training lieutenant and patrol officer, in connection with the City's anticipated TCOLE training provider status. Staff and the Police Department explained that providing training in-house could reduce travel, overtime, and training costs and could generate registration revenue. Council also discussed the cost of additional police positions, with a fully burdened officer and vehicle estimated at approximately \$181,000 annually, plus approximately \$135,000 in one-time vehicle, equipment, and outfitting costs. Council discussed the impact of additional recurring personnel costs on the five-year forecast, future supplemental requests, and staffing needs for Fire Station 4. Staff advised that the additional positions could be accommodated while maintaining the Council's fund balance policy, but future supplemental capacity may need to be adjusted as needed. Council expressed the importance of maintaining sufficient future capacity rather than reducing the budget to the minimum. Council requested that staff provide an updated five-year forecast showing the financial impact of the additional police positions and related adjustments. Staff agreed to provide the information in advance of and during the first budget reading and indicated that future supplemental assumptions would be adjusted as necessary to maintain a healthy fund balance.

The five-year CIP was also reviewed, including changes to water and sewer rehabilitation funding, facility improvements, the Russell Farm fireplace, BRiCk alarm system, library restroom renovations, and an additional EV grant for the Police Station. Staff noted that capital improvements for the Golf Course and Russell Farm would be evaluated following completion of their respective master plans. Staff reviewed the proposed tax rate and Finance Committee recommendations. The City Manager's filed budget proposed a rate of \$0.7218, while the no-new-revenue rate was \$0.7298. Finance Committee discussion supported preserving Council's flexibility to consider up to the no-new-revenue rate, with staff recommending proceeding with the proposed rate while advertising the higher no-new-revenue rate as the maximum amount that could be considered.

Council also discussed Hotel Occupancy Tax funding and public art. Staff explained that the previously identified \$45,000 public art amount had been included in the budget but was not programmed or expended after legal review determined that setting aside the annual amount did not meet the applicable statutory requirements. Overall, Council provided direction for staff to continue refining the proposed budget, incorporate the requested staffing scenarios and five-year financial impacts, and return with the information for the first reading of the FY 2026-2027 budget.

Nelda-Cunneff-Asenberg, 1565 Lazy Lane, came forward with concerns on the water and wastewater rates.

B. CSO#6215-08-2026, resolution proposing a tax rate for the 2026 tax year with a record vote. (Staff Contact: Kevin Hennessy, Director of Finance)

Kevin Hennessy, Finance Director, explained the purpose of the resolution to the city council.

Motion made by Adam Russell and seconded by Alexa Boedeker to approve the resolution to give notice of a proposed no new revenue tax rate for 2026 tax year of \$0.7298 dollars per \$100 value.

A record vote was taken with the following results:

For: Chris Fletcher, Mayor
Victoria Johnson, Place 1
Phil Anderson, Place 2
Alexa Boedeker, Place 3
Larry Scott, Place 4
Dan McClendon, Place 5
Adam Russell, Place 6

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Motion passed 7-0.

- C. CSO#6216-08-2026, minute order setting the date and time of the public hearings on the proposed 2026 tax rate and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget to occur during the regular City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. (Staff Contact: Kevin Hennessey, Director of Finance)**

Motion made by Victoria Johnson and seconded by Phil Anderson to approve a minute order setting the public hearings on the proposed 2026 tax rate and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. to occur in the City Council Chambers of Burleson City Hall.

Motion passed 7-0.

4. RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene in Executive Session in the City Council Workroom in City Hall to conduct a closed meeting to discuss any item listed on this Agenda. The City Council may reconvene into open session and take action on posted items.

A. Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code

- No executive session was needed.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Adam Russell and seconded by Alexa Boedeker to adjourn.

Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting.

Time: 7:25 p.m.

Monica Solko
Deputy City Secretary