

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2025 IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 200 NORTH FIFTH IN THE CITY OF CROCKETT, HOUSTON COUNTY TEXAS AT 9:00 A.M.

THE COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: DENNIS IVEY, NATRENIA HICKS, ELBERT JOHNSON & MIKE MARSH. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN ANGERSTEIN, CITY SECRETARY MITZI STEFKA, ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR LEE STANDLEY, CITY ATTORNEY DONNA GORDON, POLICE CHIEF CLAYTON SMITH, FIRE CHIEF JASON FRIZZELL AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS GERALD COLTER. IANTHIA FISHER AND CHRISTOPHER PRICE WERE ABSENT.

#### OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh called the formal session open and Council member Ivey gave the invocation. All joined in the pledge.

#### RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh recognized all visitors present.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE OR COUNCIL *(At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on City-related matters only; no personnel matters or matters under litigation will be allowed. The length of time may not exceed three minutes. NO Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.)*

- Council member Hicks – Comments on Freedom over Crockett fireworks show.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### 1. REGULAR SESSION: JUNE 16, 2025

Council member Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2025 regular session. Council member Ivey seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

#### BUSINESS

##### 2. CONSIDER AND APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CROCKETT AND GRAPELAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF WELDING STATIONS

Mr. Angerstein explained that Grapeland ISD had expressed interest in acquiring the six (6) surplus welding stations from the tech center building. Council member Ivey made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement between the City of Crockett and Grapeland Independent School District for the conveyance of the welding stations. Council member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF CROCKETT (“CITY”) SUSPENDING ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC’S PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE OF JULY 31, 2025, FOR NINETY DAYS IN CONNECTION WITH ONCOR’S STATEMENT OF INTENT TO INCREASE RATES FILED ON OR ABOUT JUNE 26, 2025; REQUIRING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF MUNICIPAL RATE CASE EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE COALITION OF SIMILARLY SITUATED CITIES; 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

Mr. Angerstein informed the council that Oncor is going through a process with the Public Utilities Commission to increase electric delivery rates. This resolution would allow the City of Crockett to join the Alliance of Oncor Cities (AOC) and be represented in the appeal process by their legal counsel to negotiate and oppose the increase. Council member Ivey made a motion to approve a resolution by the City of Crockett (“City”) suspending Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC’s proposed effective date of July 31, 2025, for ninety days in connection with Oncor’s Statement of Intent to Increase Rates files on or about June 26, 2025; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing participation in the coalition of similarly situated cities; 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. Council member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

4. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN EXTENSION OF 30-DAY CURE PERIOD FOR LINCOLN LUMBER TAX ABATEMENT AND INCENTIVES AGREEMENT

Mr. Angerstein informed council that Lincoln Lumber had requested a 30-day extension to the enforcement of default actions on their tax abatement and incentives agreement and asked to address council in an upcoming meeting. After some discussion, council member Johnson made a motion to approve an extension of the 30-day cure period for Lincoln Lumber tax abatement and incentives agreement. Council member Ivey seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

5. FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Angerstein explained that initial budget discussions would use projections and estimated revenues based upon information from the last few years as final revenue figures will not be available until the Houston County Appraisal District certifies property values later in the summer. He said he expects sales tax revenue to remain relatively flat and revenue from franchise fees are trending down approximately 5% per year. He also asked them to consider the use of remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for capital requests or other priorities as they see fit.

Department heads presented the following capital requests for council to consider:

Administration:

- 5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all city employees - \$191,000  
or
- 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all city employees - \$115,163
- Refurbish City Council Chamber and replace seating - \$25,900
- Replace toilets and faucets at Ag Arena - \$21,000
- Install security cameras at Civic Center and Fire Dept - \$20,730
- Interior repairs/painting at Civic Center - \$92,000
- Purchase used SUV/Truck for Asst. City Administrator - \$30,000

Public Works:

- Purchase padfoot roller for street department - \$70,000
- Rehabilitate wastewater lift station - \$80,000

Fire Department:

- Add new firefighter position and related gear - \$78,500

Police Department:

- Build new police station - \$1,500,000  
or
- Expand & refurbish current police station - \$637,500
- Purchase new radio equipment - \$100,000 to \$200,000 (depending on options)
- Increase officer salary and certificate pay - \$ Varies
- New patrol vehicles - \$72,000 - \$82,000

Additionally, Mr. Angerstein informed council that Houston County WCID #1 has voted to increase water rates by 2% for the upcoming fiscal year.

After lengthy discussions on these topics, Mr. Angerstein asked the council members to consider the requests and come back to him with their recommendations and concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mayor Pro Tem Marsh adjourned the meeting at 12:02 P.M.

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Dr. Ianthia Fisher, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mitzi Stefka, City Secretary