



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 08, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Hall – 520 East Ocean Blvd. Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<https://cityoflosfresnos.com/meetings>

NOTICE OF SAID MEETING IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TITLE 5 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Flores called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Alejandro Flores

Place 1 Alberto Escobedo

Place 2 Andrew Gonzales

Place 3 Juan Munoz

Place 4 Luis Gonzalez

Place 5 Leonel Casanova Jr.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Flores gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. VISITORS REMARKS

To speak, you must sign in with the City Secretary prior to the meeting. You have a limit of 5 minutes to speak.

Manuel Abrego addressed the council and commended the City's recognition of employees, describing City staff as one of Los Fresnos' greatest assets. He expressed appreciation for the dedication and professionalism of City employees, including police officers, public works staff, library personnel, emergency service providers, and senior citizen program volunteers. He highlighted the contributions of Senior Citizen Manager Lupita Garcia and the volunteers who assist with meal delivery services. Mr. Abrego encouraged community members to become more involved and aware of the services provided by City employees and thanked the Mayor, Council, and staff for recognizing employee contributions and service to the community.

Rogelio Nunez with the Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts center invited the City Council to attend the 33rd Annual Narciso Martinez Conjunto Festival on October 2-3 at Memorial Park and highlighted the festival's cultural significance and partnership with the City of Los Fresnos. Blanca Davis provided an update on festival promotional efforts, including the festival magazine, advertising, and regional media outreach. She thanked the City and staff for their support and encouraged attendance at the festival.

Barbara Rodriguez spoke in support of the Senior Citizen Center and recognized Lupita Garcia for her dedication and care for local seniors. She praised Ms. Garcia's commitment to the program, her personal attention to participants, meal services, activities, and outreach efforts, stating that the center provides an important social and community resource for senior residents. Ms. Rodriguez thanked the City for recognizing Ms. Garcia and encouraged continued support for the Senior Citizen Center.

Diana Lehman expressed concerns regarding dust generated by the Falcon's Landing development, stating that it has negatively affected nearby residents through property impacts and health concerns. She reported the matter to City staff and regulatory agencies, acknowledged some improvement following meetings with the developer, and requested increased communication and a meeting between the City, the developer, and affected residents to address ongoing concerns and prevent future issues.

Dave Floodman representing the Falcon's Landing development, responded to concerns regarding construction-related dust. He stated that efforts are being made to control dust and comply with environmental requirements, noting that weather conditions had contributed to the issue. Mr. Fruhman apologized for the inconvenience, emphasized the developer's commitment to being a good neighbor, and encouraged residents to contact him directly with concerns as construction progresses.

D. PRESENTATION

1. Presentation recognizing the partnership between the City of Los Fresnos and Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District in support of the Career and Technical Education Program. The partnership provides local students with valuable work-based learning, mentorship, career exploration, and real-world experience in public service through internship and training opportunities.

City Manager, Roberto Baez, highlighted the ongoing partnership between the City and the school districts Career and Technology Education (CTE) Program, which provides students with internship, mentorship, and career exploration opportunities.

Ms. Quiroz and Mr. Banda with the CTE Program emphasized the value of hands-on learning experiences and thanked the City and other local partners for supporting student development through workplace training and exposure to careers in business management and criminal justice. The Council expressed its appreciation for the partnership and its benefits to local students.

2. Presentation of Years of Service Awards recognizing employees for their dedication, commitment, and valuable contributions to the City. Employees reaching milestone years of service will be acknowledged and honored for their continued service to the organization and the community.

The City Council recognized employees for their years of dedicated service to the City of Los Fresnos. City Manager Robert Baez expressed appreciation for the employees' commitment and highlighted the value of their long-term service to the organization and community.

The following employees were recognized: Carlos Salazar who was unable to attend. Present were Javier Garcia, Jose Rodarte, Lupita Garcia, Juan Rodriguez, Angie Lugo, Jose Troncoso and Esmeralda Macias.

Council members congratulated the employees and expressed their appreciation for the dedication, professionalism, and contributions of all City staff. The Council also affirmed its commitment to continuing annual employee service recognition programs.

E. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the City Council. The item may subsequently be removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve the minutes from August 11, 2026 and August 18, 2026.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from August 11, 2026 and August 18, 2026.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

2. Consideration and ACTION to approve a Proclamation designating October 4-10, 2026 as Fire Prevention Week.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a Proclamation designating October 4-10, 2026 as Fire Prevention Week.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the final plat of Valle Alto East Commercial Subdivision IV.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the final plat of Valle Alto East Commercial Subdivision IV.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

4. Consideration and ACTION to approve the preliminary plat for Valle Alto East Subdivision Phase VII & VIII.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the preliminary plat for Valle Alto East Subdivision Phase VII & VIII.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

5. Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Marcos Huerta from the August 3, 2026 CDC meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to excuse the absence of Marcos Huerta from the August 3, 2026 CDC meeting.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

6. Consideration and ACTION to approve the Quarterly Investment Portfolio Report ended as of June 30, 2026.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Quarterly Investment Portfolio Report ended as of June 30, 2026.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

7. Consideration and ACTION to approve the second reading of Ordinance 586 adopting the budget for fiscal year 2026-2027.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the second reading of Ordinance 586 adopting the budget for fiscal year 2026-2027.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

8. Consideration and ACTION to approve the second reading of Ordinance 587 approving the 2026 tax roll and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the use, benefit and support of the City directing the assessment and collection thereof.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the second reading of Ordinance 587 approving the 2026 tax roll and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the use, benefit and support of the City directing the assessment and collection thereof.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

9. Consideration and ACTION to approve a Resolution authorizing the submission of grant applications to the Texas Office of the Governor for the 2026 and 2027 Operation Lone Star Grant Program (Grant Nos. 5549101 and 5549102), designating Roberto Baez, City Manager, as the Authorized Official and Pablo A. Garza, Director of Finance, as the Financial Officer, and authorizing the City to provide any required matching funds and comply with all grant requirements.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a Resolution authorizing the submission of grant applications to the Texas Office of the Governor for the 2026 and 2027 Operation Lone Star Grant Program (Grant Nos. 5549101 and 5549102), designating Roberto Baez, City Manager, as the Authorized Official and Pablo A. Garza, Director of Finance, as the Financial Officer, and authorizing the City to provide any required matching funds and comply with all grant requirements.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

F. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve a service agreement with the Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce.

Los Fresnos Chamber representatives David Armendariz and Val Champion provided and overview of the organization's activities membership, and efforts to promote local businesses and community events. City officials expressed appreciation for the Chamber's work and ongoing partnership with the City.

Mr. Baez recommended approval of the agreement, including funding in the amount of \$45,000, and noted plans to review reporting metrics and budget information for supported agencies

Motion was made and seconded to approve a service agreement with the Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 2 Gonzales.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

2. Approval or rejection to approve the following Service Agreements:

A. Los Fresnos Volunteer Fire Department

B. Los Fresnos Ambulance Service

C. Los Fresnos Educational & Recreation Club

Mr. Baez noted that the funding amounts had previously been discussed during budget workshops and recommended approval of the agreements, including \$237,000 for the Volunteer Fire Department, \$214,000 for Ambulance Service, and \$80,000 for the Education and Recreation Club.

Council Member Andrew Gonzales announced a conflict of interest due to family relationships

and his active membership in the Volunteer Fire Department and abstained from discussion and voting on the item.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the following service agreements: Los Fresnos Volunteer Fire Department, Los Fresnos Ambulance Service, Los Fresnos Educational & Recreation Club.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 3 Munoz.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

Voting Abstaining: Place 2 Gonzales

3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the bids received for the following:

A. Official Newspaper

B. Vehicle Tire Maintenance

C. Chemicals

Mr. Baez reported that one bid was received for official newspaper services and recommended the San Benito News for a one-year term.

He also recommended approval of the vehicle tire maintenance bid from La Hormiga No. 3 Tire Shop and the chemical supply bids from the respective vendors for a one-year term.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the bids received and award the respective contracts as follows: San Benito News for Official Newspaper; La Hormiga #3 Tire Shop for Vehicle Tire Maintenance; and AmChem, Inc., PVS DX, Inc., Chemtrade Chemicals US LLC, and Pencco, Inc. for Chemicals, in accordance with their respective bids.

Motion made by Place 2 Gonzales, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

4. Consideration and ACTION to approve a petition to be released from the Los Fresnos Extraterritorial Jurisdiction by a landowner with property located on FM 1575.

City Attorney, Enrique Juarez advised that the request is governed by Chapter 42 of the Texas Local Government Code and requested additional time to review the petitions and verify that all statutory requirements had been met. The City Attorney noted that, if necessary, a special meeting could be called to address the petitions within the applicable deadlines.

Council members expressed support for obtaining additional legal clarification before taking action.

Motion was made and seconded to table the approval of a petition to be released from the Los Fresnos Extraterritorial Jurisdiction by a landowner with property located on FM 1575.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 3 Munoz.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

5. Consideration and ACTION to approve the first and second reading of an ordinance releasing property from the city's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.

Motion was made and seconded to table the first and second reading of an ordinance releasing property from the city's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 3 Munoz.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

6. Consideration and ACTION to approve a resolution awarding the selected grant management firm for grant pre-application, application, and implementation services for the City of Los Fresnos 2027 Texas Community Development Grant Fund Program as administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. If applicable, city's designated representative is authorized to negotiate and agree to a final fee on behalf of city.

Mr. Baez reported that two proposals were received and evaluated by a review committee consisting of City staff and a Council Member Leo Casanova Jr. using an established scoring process. Following the evaluation, GrantWorks received the highest score and was recommended for award of the contract.

Mayor Flores noted that the selection process was conducted independently to ensure fairness and transparency in the evaluation of proposals.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a resolution awarding GrantWorks management firm for grant pre-application, application, and implementation services for the City of Los Fresnos 2027 Texas Community Development Grant Fund Program as administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. If applicable, city's designated representative is authorized to negotiate and agree to a final fee on behalf of city.

Motion made by Place 5 Casanova Jr., Seconded by Place 2 Gonzales.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

7. Consideration and ACTION to approve a resolution awarding the selected grant management firm for grant pre-application, application, and implementation services for the City of Los Fresnos 2028 Texas Community Development Grant Fund Program as administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. If applicable, city's designated representative is authorized to negotiate and agree to a final fee on behalf of city.

Mr. Baez reported that GrantWorks was the only firm to submit a proposal and recommended awarding the contract to the firm for grant pre-application, application, and implementation services.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a resolution awarding GrantWorks management firm for grant pre-application, application, and implementation services for the City of Los Fresnos 2028 Texas Community Development Grant Fund Program as administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. If applicable, city's designated representative is authorized to negotiate and agree to a final fee on behalf of city.

Motion made by Place 5 Casanova Jr., Seconded by Place 4 Gonzalez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

8. Consideration and ACTION to deem the City Manager transition complete and discontinue the temporary pay increase previously approved for the City Secretary in connection with additional duties performed during the transition period.

Mr. Baez recognized Jacqueline Moya for her significant assistance and support throughout the transition process and recommended ending the temporary assignment and associated compensation effective September 30, 2026.

Council members expressed their appreciation for Ms. Moya's dedication, professionalism and willingness to assume additional responsibilities during the transition, acknowledging that her contributions greatly assisted City operations.

Motion was made and seconded to deem the City Manager transition complete and discontinue the temporary pay increase previously approved for the City Secretary in connection with additional duties performed during the transition period effective September 30, 2026.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

Voting Abstaining: Mayor Flores

G. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. City Manager Report

A. Council Priorities

B. Organizational Leadership

C. Policy & Governance

D. Finance & Budget

E. Strategic Initiatives

F. Intergovernmental & Regional Relations

G. Grants & External Funding

H. Community & Stakeholder Engagement

I. Looking Ahead

J. Projects Update: Wastewater Treatment Plant & Wastewater Collection System, Water Treatment Plant & Water Distribution System, Street Projects, Drainage

Mr. Baez provided updates on several organizational and operational initiatives, including the creation of a dedicated Human Resources office, policy reviews, employee evaluation procedures, financial planning efforts, and grant development opportunities. He also reported on meetings with regional partners, elected officials, utility providers, and economic development organizations to strengthen collaboration and secure future resources.

He also provided updates that included efforts to improve infrastructure planning through GIS mapping, utility inventory management, preventive maintenance programs, cybersecurity enhancements, and exploration of investment strategies for City funds. Staff also reported that sales tax revenues increased approximately 10.98% compared to the prior year.

Council members commended Mr. Baez's progress and initiatives.

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the City Manager's Report.

Motion made by Place 3 Munoz, Seconded by Place 2 Gonzales.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

H. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

No discussion was held.

1. Financial Report July 2026 1. Monthly 2. Year to Date 3. Sales Tax

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Financial Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

2. Public Works Report July 2026 1. Water and Wastewater Activity 2. Calls for Service 3. Building Permits 4. Recycling 5. Waste Water Treatment Plant Discharge Monitoring Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Public Works Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

3. Police Department July 2026 1. Calls-By Type 2. Calls-By Date & Time 3. Incidents-By Violation 4. Arrests-By Type 5. Accidents-By Streets & Intersection 6. Magistrates 7. Index Crimes by Zone

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Police Department Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

4. Municipal Court July 2026 1. City Monthly Report 2. Linebarger Monthly Report.

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Municipal Court Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

5. Library Report July 2026 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Library Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

6. Fire Marshal's Report July 2026 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Fire Marshal's Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

7. Fire Department Report July 2026 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Fire Department Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

8. Senior Citizen Program Report July 2026 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Senior Citizen Program Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

9. Community Development Corporation July 2026 1. Minutes 2. CDC Consultant Report.

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Community Development Corporation report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

10. Planning & Zoning Commission Report July 2026 1. Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Planning & Zoning Commission Report.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

I. CLOSED SESSION

1. Closed Session - Deliberation pursuant to Section 551.071 Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding the following: Consultation with City Attorney regarding legal issues, procurement requirements, contractual obligations and potential remedies associated with street improvements previously authorized by the city.

Mayor Flores recessed the meeting for closed session at 7:30 p.m. however City Attorney advised him the closed session was not needed.

J. OPEN SESSION

1. Open Session Pursuant to Sections 551.071, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act deliberation and possible action regarding the following: Legal issues, procurement requirements, contractual obligations and potential remedies associated with street improvements previously authorized by the city.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary