



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 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 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Alejandro Flores
Place 1 Alberto Escobedo
Place 2 Andrew Gonzales
Place 3 Gabriela Fernandez
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.

Mayor Flores informed the board that two individuals had signed up to speak during the visitor remarks portion of the meeting.

Leslie Nunes from United Way spoke to thank the Ethel Whipple Memorial Library for nearly 20 years of offering free VITA tax prep services. The program has helped over 4,500 residents and brought more than \$6.5 million back into the community. She invited the council to a recognition event on January 23rd at 9:30 a.m. and shared flyers and contact information.

Councilmember Escobedo made a public comment recognizing City Secretary Jackie for receiving the Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Recognition Award. He shared that several elected officials mentioned the achievement to him, expressing pride in Los Fresnos' representation. Both he and Mayor Flores thanked Jackie for her consistent dedication and service to the city.

Council member Andrew Gonzales arrived at 6:05 pm.

D. 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.

Mayor Flores asked whether any consent items needed to be pulled for discussion, there were none.

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve the minutes from meeting December 9, 2025.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from meeting December 9, 2025.

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

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

2. Consideration and ACTION to approve the preliminary plat of Falcons Landing Subdivision.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the preliminary plat of Falcons Landing Subdivision.

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

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

3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Los Fresnos Police Department and the Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District Police Department.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Los Fresnos Police Department and the Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District Police Department.

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

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

4. Consideration and ACTION to authorize the City Manager to dispose of surplus items.

Motion was made and seconded to authorize the City Manager to dispose of surplus items.

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

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

5. Consideration and ACTION to approve the Los Fresnos Community Development Corporations action to fund training for the Workforce Solutions Cameron Heavy Equipment Operator Program.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Los Fresnos Community Development Corporations action to fund training for the Workforce Solutions Cameron Heavy Equipment Operator Program.

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

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

E. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration and ACTION for the Mayor and Council to support and participate in the 2026 Healthier Texas Community Challenge.

Christine Martinez, the city's Community Health Supervisor, presented the 2026 Healthier Texas Community Challenge and asked the mayor and council to pledge their support. She explained Los Fresnos has participated for nine years, earning first place six times and runner- up once. The challenge begins February 2 and lasts eight weeks.

Motion was made and seconded for the Mayor and Council to support and participate in the 2026 Healthier Texas Community Challenge.

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

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

2. Consideration and ACTION to amend the interlocal agreement with the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) to include additional funding for preliminary engineering services and for construction and maintenance work with Union Pacific Railroad related to the affected track and right-of-way near the Whipple Road Upgrade Project.

The council discussed amending the interlocal agreement with the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority to add funding for engineering and required railroad related work for the Whipple Road upgrade. City staff explained that the long planned project involves multiple partners Los Fresnos, Cameron County, CCRMA, and TxDOT and that additional costs include \$15,000 for engineering and \$45,000 to Union Pacific for approvals related to the rail crossing. The improvements will widen Whipple Road to match Evergreen Street, adding lanes, a turn lane, shoulders, and sidewalks.

Motion was made and seconded to amend the interlocal agreement with the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) to include additional funding for preliminary engineering services and for construction and maintenance work with Union Pacific Railroad related to the affected track and right-of-way near the Whipple Road Upgrade Project.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 4 Gonzalez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez

3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the Los Fresnos Police Department 2025 Racial Profiling Report.

Mr. Milum presented the Los Fresnos Police Department's 2025 racial profiling report and advised the council Assistant Chief Rodriguez and Commander Banda were present if they had any questions. He reported that officers did not know a driver's race in 99.89% of stops and that searches occurred in only about 3% of cases, mostly for lawful reasons such as probable cause, impounds, or arrests. Contraband was found in roughly 75% of searches, primarily involving alcohol or drugs. The report also showed officers issued written warnings 40% of the time, countering public perception that citations are automatic. Importantly, no physical force was used in any traffic stop during 2025. Councilmembers praised the department's professionalism, communication, and transparency. The report was unanimously approved.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Los Fresnos Police Department 2025 Racial Profiling Report.

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

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

4. Consideration and ACTION to approve an agreement with Urban SDK for traffic analysis.

Mr. Milum presented a proposal to enter into a three year agreement with Urban SDK to provide comprehensive citywide traffic and speed analytics. He explained the platform will supply detailed data on vehicle speeds, percentile speed ranges, and traffic volumes including historical data for the previous 12 months allowing the City to quickly and accurately evaluate speeding complaints and roadway concerns.

Currently, officers must manually conduct speed studies, which is labor intensive and diverts personnel from other duties. The Urban SDK system eliminates the need for such deployments by using aggregated data from modern vehicle sensors. The data is approximately 99% accurate and cannot be used to track individual vehicles for enforcement, but will support planning, traffic management, and communication with residents.

The system will assist the City in assessing speeding patterns, identifying true problem areas, evaluating roadway capacity, and considering potential solutions such as speed limit adjustments, traffic flow improvements, or roadway modifications.

Staff recommended the three year term to take advantage of a 10% discount, resulting in an annual cost of \$98,325.50.

Motion was made and seconded to approve an agreement with Urban SDK for traffic analysis.

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

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

5. Consideration and ACTION to eliminate the Park Advisory Board.

Mr. Milum recommended eliminating the Park Advisory Board due to lack of available volunteers and because the Community Development Corporation (CDC) already performs its functions, including reviewing and funding park improvements. The Park Advisory Board has not met in about two years and has a long-standing vacancy. Mr. Milum noted the board could be reinstated in the future if needed.

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

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

6. Consideration and ACTION to appoint a member to the Park Advisory Board.

No Action.

7. Consideration and ACTION to re-appoint Place 1, Enrique Juarez, Place 2 Pedro Maldonado, Place 5, Gordon Cappon, Place 6 Claudia M. Villarreal to the Los Fresnos Community Development Corporation or appoint new members.

Motion was made and seconded to re-appoint Place 1, Enrique Juarez, Place 2 Pedro Maldonado, Place 5, Gordon Cappon, Place 6 Claudia M. Villarreal to the Los Fresnos Community Development Corporation or appoint new members.

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

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

F. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. City Manager Report

A. Wastewater Treatment Plant & Wastewater Collection System

B. Water Treatment Plant & Water Distribution System

C. Street Projects

D. Drainage

E. Whipple Road

F. Hike & Bike Trail

G. COVID 19 Funds

Mr. Milum reported no major updates since December but would answer any questions the council might have.

Mayor Flores asked whether the city could partner with other cities or entities, such as SpaceX/Starbase, to receive 85% treated water. Mr. Milum stated he would need more details but is open to exploring the idea and will follow up. Mayor Flores also asked for an update on the Hike & Bike Trail. Mr. Milum shared that the Brownsville to Los Fresnos connecting trail segment is complete with a ribbon cutting expected next week. The remaining segment from south of the large drainage ditch on FM 1847 to 10th Street is still pending grant funding.

Councilmember Gonzalez asked the Assistant Chief Rodriguez and Commander Banda present if there was any incidents reported on the trail. Assistant Chief Rodriguez reported no major incidents on the trail. The primary concern is pedestrian safety at roadway crossings due to speeding vehicles and pedestrians wearing dark clothing at night. Lighting is adequate, but reflective clothing is encouraged. A previous idea to add a sidewalk connection from Village East to the trail was mentioned; earlier estimates were about \$500,000 and would not fully resolve safety concerns. All it does is connect that neighborhood it does nothing to change the crossing of FM 2480 from one side to another. Since crossings fall under TxDOT jurisdiction, improvements such as signage or lights would require coordination. A social media reminder to encourage reflective gear was suggested.

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

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

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

G. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Financial Report November 2025 1. Monthly 2. Year to Date 3. Sales Tax

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge Financial Report.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez

2. Public Works Report November 2025 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 Public Works Report.

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

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

3. Police Department November 2025 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 Police Department Report.

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

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

4. Municipal Court November 2025 1. City Monthly Report 2. Linebarger Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge Municipal Court Report.

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

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

5. Library Report November 2025 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge Library Report.

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

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

6. Fire Marshal's Report November 2025 1. Monthly Report

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

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

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

7. Fire Department Report November 2025 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge Fire Department Report.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez

8. Community Development Corporation December 2025 1. Minutes 2. CDC Consultant Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge Community Development Corporation Report.

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

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

9. Planning & Zoning Commission Report November 2025 1. Minutes

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

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez

H. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Flores recessed the meeting for closed session at 6:45 p.m.

1. Deliberation pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding the following: Evaluation of the City Manager.
2. Deliberation pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding the following: the appointment, employment, evaluation and duties of City Manager, Chief of Police, Public Works Director, Librarian, Finance Director, or City Secretary.
3. Deliberation pursuant to Section 551.087, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding the following: commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations.

I. OPEN SESSION

Mayor Flores reopened the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act deliberation and possible action regarding the following:
Evaluation of the City Manager.
No action was taken.
2. Pursuant to Section 551.074, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act deliberation and possible action regarding the following:

The appointment, employment, evaluation and duties of City Manager, Chief of Police, Public Works Director, Librarian, Finance Director, or City Secretary.

No action was taken.

3. Pursuant to Sections 551.087, Title 5 of the Texas Government code, the Texas Open Meetings Act deliberation and possible action regarding the following:

Commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations.

Motion was made and seconded to move forward with the information discussed.

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

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

J. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary