



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL/WORKSHOP MEETING

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 5:30 PM

City Council Chambers | 202 N. Virginia Street, Port Lavaca TX 77979

MINUTES

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CALHOUN §
CITY OF PORT LAVACA §

On this the 23rd day of March, 2026, the City Council of the City of Port Lavaca, Texas, convened in a special meeting and workshop session at 5:30 p.m. at the regular meeting place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 202 North Virginia Street, Port Lavaca, Texas, with the following members in attendance:

I. ROLL CALL

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Jack Whitlow | Mayor |
| Daniel Aguirre | Councilman, District 1 |
| Tim Dent | Councilman, District 2 |
| Vacant Seat | Councilmember, District 3 |
| Rosie G. Padron | Councilwoman, District 4, Mayor Pro Tem |
| Rose Bland-Stewart | Councilman, District 5 |
| Justin Burke | Councilman, District 6 |

And with the following absent:

None

Constituting a quorum for the transaction of business, at which time the following business was transacted:

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

II. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Whitlow called the special meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and presided.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(Limited to 3 minutes per individual unless permission to speak longer is received in advance. You may make public comments as you would at a meeting by logging on with your computer and using "Join Zoom Meeting" information on first page of this agenda).

- Mayor Whitlow asked for comments from the public and the following citizen(s) spoke:
 - Sara Rodriguez, Calhoun County District Attorney, 211 S. Ann Street, Port Lavaca, Texas commented that City Council should go to the outside in posting for hiring a Police Chief.

IV. **ACTION ITEMS** - *Council will consider/discuss the following items and take any action deemed necessary.*

1. **Consider approval of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025, prepared by the Audit Firm of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P. Presenter is Reyann Grimaldo**

Mr. Travis Rogers of the Audit Firm of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P. was in attendance and went over the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approve the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2025, prepared by the Audit Firm of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

2. **Consider construction contract award for the Western Heights Streets and Drainage Project. Presenter is Wayne Shaffer**

Public Works Director Shaffer advised Council that on March 17, 2026, the City received four bids for the 2026 Capital Improvement Project – Western Heights Improvement. The Engineer’s Estimate for the Base Bid was \$2,144,000.00.

The Base Bid for the Western Heights Improvement Project includes full roadway reconstruction (Short Street, Central Ave, Warehouse Street, Border Street), drainage system upgrades, and water service replacements. Improvements consist of pavement removal, subgrade stabilization, installation of a flexible base and asphalt surface, new curb and gutter, sidewalks, and ADA-compliant ramps. The project also includes installation of new storm sewer infrastructure to improve drainage and reduce flooding, along with traffic control, erosion control, and site restoration measures.

Add Alternate Bid No. 1: Includes the construction of additional 4-inch thick concrete sidewalks within the project area to enhance pedestrian accessibility and connectivity. The work consists of sidewalk installation, grading, and associated improvements necessary to meet ADA standards and improve overall walkability and safety for residents.

Lester Contracting, Inc. submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1. The Engineer’s Recommendation Letter and detailed bid tabulation are attached for review.

Financial Consideration:

This project will be funded through the 2024 Series Bonds. A remaining balance of \$2,201,030.24 is available, which is sufficient to cover the construction contract amount of \$1,845,781.00.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the construction contract award to Lester Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,845,781.00 for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1. The contract time is established at 300 calendar days.

Motion made by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby approve the award of a construction contract for the 2026 Capital Improvement Project – Western Heights (Roadway reconstruction [Short St, Central Ave, Warehouse Street, Border Street], Drainage System upgrades, and Water service replacements), to Lester Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,845,781.00 for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1, with 300 calendar days to substantial completion, after receipt of Order to Proceed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all instruments necessary to affect such agreement.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

3. Announcement by Mayor that City Council will retire into closed session:

- **To discuss Personnel matters in accordance with Title 5, Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (to discuss the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties and responsibilities, reassignment, discipline, or dismissal of an officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee: [Chief of Police]).**
- **To deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of Real Property (Deliberation in an Open Meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the Governmental Body in negotiations with a third party), in accordance with Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code.**

Mayor Whitlow announced that Council would retire into closed session at 6:02 p.m.

4. Return to Open Session and take any action deemed necessary with regard to matters in closed session. Presenter is Mayor Whitlow

Mayor Whitlow announced that Council was back in open session at 7:52 p.m.

Motion #1:

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby ratifies the Retirement Agreement executed between the Interim City Manager Jody Weaver and Police Chief Colin Rangnow effective March 20, 2026.

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Motion #2:

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:

THAT, Council hereby names Police Detective James Weston Burris as the Acting Chief of Police and will lead the department during the transition, while the City posts the position for a permanent Police Chief.

Seconded by Councilman District 6 Burke

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

V. ADJOURN SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor Whitlow asked for motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Councilman District 6 Burke

Seconded by Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Special Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

WORKSHOP SESSION

VI. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Whitlow called the workshop to order at 7:58 p.m. and presided with the following announcement:

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(Limited to 3 minutes per individual unless permission to speak longer is received in advance. You may make public comments as you would at a meeting by logging on with your computer and using "Join Zoom Meeting" information on first page of this agenda).

- Mayor Whitlow asked for comments from the public and there were none.

VIII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - Council will discuss the following items

1. **Discuss job description and compensation for the Municipal Court Judge for the period June 30, 2026 through June 29, 2028.**

Council discussed this agenda item.

No action necessary and none taken.

IX. ADJOURN WORKSHOP

Mayor Whitlow asked for motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Councilman District 2 Dent

Seconded by Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron

Voting Yea:

Councilman District 1 Aguirre, Councilman District 2 Dent, Councilwoman District 4 (Mayor Pro Tem) Padron, Councilwoman District 5 Bland-Stewart, Councilman District 6 Burke

Workshop adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jack Whitlow, Mayor

Mandy Grant, City Secretary