



CITY COUNCIL MEETING SPECIAL SESSION

Monday, August 11, 2025 at 5:00 PM

City Hall, 102 W. Ashley Wilson Rd, Sweeny, Texas

MINUTES

BE IT KNOWN that the City Council of the City of Sweeny met in **Special Session** on **Monday, August 11, 2025 at 5:00 PM.** at City Hall, 102 W. Ashley Wilson Rd, Sweeny, Texas with the following agenda.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Hopkins called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Neal Bess Jr., Reese Cook, Sandra Blaine, and Shaun Massey were in attendance. Brian Brooks arrived after roll call at 5:05 PM.

PLEDGES & INVOCATION

The pledges were led by Neal Bess Jr.

The invocation was given by Reese Cook.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Hearing on the annual budget for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026
This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$514,227 which is a 31.39% increase from last year's budget, and of that amount, \$8,766 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

Mayor Hopkins read the public hearing information aloud and opened the Public Hearing at 5:03 PM. The Public Hearing was closed at 5:04 PM. No attendees were present for the Public Hearing.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS CITY COUNCIL

N/A

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Discussion and possible action to tax rate submission to Council.

Council discussed the tax rates and how they would affect the proposed budget. The 2025 tax rate calculations are:

No New Revenue	\$0.623281
Voter Approval	\$0.740596
De minimis	\$0.907397

3. Discussion and possible action to adopt the annual Budget by Ordinance for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year and / or to postpone the final budget by vote; LGC §102.007; **MUST BE A RECORD VOTE**, *At the conclusion of the public hearing, the governing body of the municipality shall take action on the proposed budget.*

Mayor Hopkins read the heading of the Budget Ordinance and stated that this budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$514,227 which is a 31.39% increase from last year's budget, and of that amount, \$8,766 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

After previous discussions from item no. 2, modifications have been requested to the budget. Postponing would allow those modifications to be completed and brought back for review. Staff is recommending

postponing the adoption of the budget. This must be a record vote, FOR or AGAINST, as action must be taken following the public hearing as per LGC §102.007.

Mayor Hopkins asked for a motion to postpone the final adoption of the FY 2025/2026 Budget. Brian Brooks stated so moved. Reese Cook seconded.
Discussion: Staff gave additional information on postponing budget adoption.

Neal Bess Jr.	voted	FOR
Reese C. Cook	voted	FOR
Brian Brooks	voted	FOR
Sandra Blaine	voted	FOR
Caniel “Shaun” Massey	voted	FOR

Present but not voting, Mayor Dusty Hopkins.
All were in favor. Motion carried.

4. Discussion and possible action to scheduling a public hearing for proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Mayor Hopkins asked for a motion to call and set the public hearing on the proposed tax rate for Tuesday, August 26th, 2025, at 5 PM at City Hall, located at 102 W Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, Texas 77480. Brian Brooks stated so moved. Sandra Blaine seconded.
Discussion: Council asked about moving the regularly scheduled meeting to coincide with the August 26th meeting. After discussion, both meetings will be left as scheduled; 08/19 and 08/26. Councilman Bess requested to discuss the Fire Department and Police Department budget individually at the next meeting, 08/19/2025.
All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Discussion and possible action to set a proposed tax rate by record vote.

Mayor Hopkins stated that the proposed tax rate must be a record vote; FOR or AGAINST.
Brian Brooks motioned to approve a proposed tax rate of \$0.901224/100 exceeding the voter approval rate. This rate consists of Maintenance and Operations and the calculated debt rate of \$0.172801.
Caniel “Shaun” Massey seconded.
Discussion: Councilman Brooks stated he has talked to several people about this. All were in favor of the 90 cents.

Neal Bess Jr.	voted	FOR
Reese C. Cook	voted	FOR
Brian Brooks	voted	FOR
Sandra Blaine	voted	FOR
Caniel “Shaun” Massey	voted	FOR

Present but not voting, Mayor Dusty Hopkins.
All were in favor. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Brian Brooks stated the Backyard Park event last weekend was great. The Lions Club, Fire Department, P66 and Police Department did a great job.
Mayor Hopkins stated that the Police Department went to Grand Jury on the Jeffries case last week. It will be going to trial, if it doesn't plea out first, with a murder indictment. The Police Department will be looking at adding flock cameras at entryways into/exiting the City. These cameras capture everything from vehicle descriptions to license plates and would be beneficial. Chief is working on this.

ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Hopkins adjourned the meeting at 5:38 PM.

Staff in Attendance:

City Manager, David Jordan

Finance Director, Karla Wilson

Public Works Director, DeLane Brown

Police Chief, Brad Caudle

City Secretary, Kaydi Smith

Passed and approved the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Kaydi Smith, City Secretary