

CITY COUNCIL MEETING REGULAR SESSION

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 6:00 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 **Regular Session** on **Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 6:00 PM.** at City Hall, 102 W. Ashley Wilson Rd, Sweeny, Texas with the following agenda.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

Neal Bess Jr., John Rambo, Brian Brooks, Sandra Blaine, and Caniel “Shaun” Massey were in attendance.

PLEDGES & INVOCATION

Pledges were led by Neal Bess Jr.

Invocation was given by Attorney Stevenson.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS CITY COUNCIL

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes: February 17, 2026 Regular Session

Mayor Hopkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes. John Rambo stated so moved. Seconded by Sandra Blaine. Rambo, Brooks, Blaine and Massey approved. Neal Bess Jr. abstained. Motion carried.

2. Financial Statements
3. Monthly Departmental Updates: FY 25/26, February 01-28
4. Boards & Agencies Updates: FY 25/26, February 01-28

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Presentation, discussion, and possible action to accept the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 annual financial audit; KM&L

Wade Whitlow, audit partner with KML, gave the audit report for fiscal year ending 09/30/2025.

Shaun Massey moved to accept the KML 24/25 annual financial audit. Seconded by Neal Bess Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible action to agenda request for road closure and variance to Ord.

§113.04, for annual event to be held at Gazebo Park; Kristin Simmons of S Town Legends Kristen and Phil Simmons, owners of S Town Legends, requested the variance and road closure for this year's event.

Brian Brooks moved to approve the requested usage of Gazebo Park on March 27th and 28th, 2026, allowing for W 1st Street to be blocked from Main Street to Pecan Street during the event, and to approve a variance to Ordinance §113.04, allowing for the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages within the event. Seconded by Sandra Blaine. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action to variance request for the 2026 Pride Day festivities, Ord. §113.04, Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public places; Sweeny Beautification Committee

Mayor confirmed with the City Attorney that Council could discuss and consider items 7, 8, and 9 together.

John Rambo moved to approve variance request for the 2026 Pride Day festivities, Ord. 113.04, for possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public places, item 8. to restrict public vehicle access within festivities, and item 9. to close Ashley Wilson Road, from the west side of the intersection of Main Street to the second entrance of the Sweeny Community Center during the Pride Day festivities. Neal Bess Jr. seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

8. Discussion and possible action on restricting public vehicle access within the 2026 Pride Day festivities; Sweeny Beautification Committee
9. Discussion and possible action on a request from Sweeny Beautification Committee to close a portion of Ashley Wilson Road, from the west side of the intersection of Main Street to the second entrance of the Sweeny Community Center during Pride Day festivities.
10. Discussion and possible action to appoint applicant to the Planning and Zoning Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners consist of seven members and we currently have three vacancies. Staff recommends appointing applicant Tiffany Walker.

John Rambo moved to approve appointing Tiffany Walker to the Planning and Zoning Board of Commissioners. Seconded by Brian Brooks. Bess, Rambo, Brooks, and Blaine approved. Shaun Massey abstained. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action to accept employee-sharing agreement between SEDC and City of Sweeny.

SEDC President, Jenny Massey, stated this employment sharing agreement is from 2025, and is simply a formality to put the verbiage in writing. Ms. Medina will be a shared employee operating as the Executive Director of the EDC and Office Manager for the Public Works department.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve this agreement and formalize the cost sharing of the EDC Executive Director position. So moved stated Brian Brooks. Seconded by John Rambo. All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Discussion and possible action to review engineering Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) submitted and request direction regarding the subsequent selection processes or negotiation efforts.

City Manager, David Jordan, stated that the City received proposal packages from three engineering firms. The submissions were evaluated and scored by four individuals. All firms were also invited to attend this evening's meeting for potential further discussions. At this time, staff requests direction from Council on whether to begin contract negotiations with a specific firm or to proceed in a preferred order. Representatives from two firms were in attendance: Chris Roznovsky of WGA and John Mercer of Lynn Engineering.

Shaun Massey motioned to recommend for staff to negotiate a professional service agreement with Lynn Engineering and WGA. Seconded by Brian Brooks.

Discussion ensued on the recommended route for negotiation, as negotiating with two firms can become an issue.

Massey requested to amend his motion: To recommend staff to negotiate a professional service agreement with Lynn Engineering and WGA, and according with the timeline of the City Manager. Massey approved. Bess, Rambo, Brooks, and Blaine opposed. Motion failed.

Council continued to discuss scoring, location, and previous experience. Neal Bess Jr. commended both individuals as they presented themselves and their firm very well.

Brian Brooks motioned to recommend negotiating with Lynn/Mercer and see how that works out. Seconded by John Rambo. Bess, Rambo, Brooks, and Blaine approved. Shaun Massey opposed. Motion carried.

13. Discussion with Sweeny ISD about Agriculture facility.

Mayor Hopkins stated the Agricultural Department at SISD is in need of additional resources and is hoping that the City could help to allow opportunities for future partnerships. Kinsey Pawlosky, Ag Science teacher at the High School, was in attendance to give further information on the growing need for agricultural resources aimed at expanding student opportunities. Discussion centered on possible partnerships and whether the City would be able to support the district's agricultural initiatives by allowing property usage.

John Rambo motioned for the City Manager and staff to investigate the possibility of the use and report back to Council with a proposal. Seconded by Brian Brooks. All in favor. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and update to the Bulldog Power Plant.

Mayor Hopkins gave an update to Bulldog Power Plant, as he previously attended the abatement request at Commissioners Court. Commissioners Court voted down the reinvestment zone for the project and the County will not be allowing the ten-year abatement request for \$10 million dollars. This location is not within the City limits, however, water resources are a major concern for Sweeny. Unfortunately there is nothing the City can do to restrict this project.

Discussion only; no action.

15. Discussion and possible action to allow City Manager to enter into a contractual agreement for extension of services, previously awarded to Rostan Solutions, for Disaster Recovery Grant Management and Administrative Services.

The City's Disaster Recovery Grant Management and Administrative Services provider is Rostan Solutions. This would be to extend the current contracted service.

John Rambo motioned to allow City Manager to enter into a contractual agreement with Rostan Solutions for Disaster Recovery Grant Management and Administrative Services. Seconded by Neal Bess Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

16. Discussion and possible action to allow the City Manager to sign a contractual extension with our awarded Debris Monitoring Contractor, Rostan Solutions.

This extension would exercise the final extension, ending July 06, 2027, with our current debris monitoring contractor.

John Rambo moved to allow City Manager to sign a contractual extension for Debris Monitoring with contractor Rostan Solutions. Seconded by Brian Brooks.

Discussion: Rambo stated, in the past with a storm, they would still come with an estimate, so this is a formality.

All in favor. Motion carried.

17. Discussion and possible action to Resolution 26-R104, authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Water Supply and Infrastructure Grant (WSIG).

This grant application would support the conversion of the Travis Street well from emergency use, to full-time operations, increasing the distribution capacity. This application would additionally include adding a filtration system to help the clarity of the water system. We would be applying for two million dollars to complete this project. There are no leverage or match requirements.

Shaun Massey motioned to approve Resolution 26-R104, authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Water Supply and Infrastructure Grant (WSIG). Seconded by Neal Bess Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

18. Discussion and possible action authorizing the issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for professional grant writing services for the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Water Supply and Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) related to the City's water quality and well conversion reliability project.

This is to allow staff to request qualifications for professional grant services pursuant to the TWDB WSIG grant application.

Mayor asked for a motion to authorize staff to go out for a request for qualifications. Shaun Massey stated so moved. Seconded by Neal Bess Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

19. Discussion and possible action authorizing the issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services for the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Water Supply and Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) related to the City's water quality and well conversion reliability project.

This is to allow staff to request qualifications for engineering services pursuant to the TWDB WSIG grant application.

Mayor asked for a motion to approve staff to issue a request for qualifications for engineering pertaining to the WSIG grant. So moved stated Shaun Massey. Seconded by Neal Bess Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

20. Discussion and possible action to Resolution 26- R105, authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas General Land Office for the 2024 Disasters Local Community Program (LCP).

This application pertains to the reinforcement of the Hackberry water tower. However, because this grant is funded through CDBG, it requires meeting low-to-moderate income (LMI) eligibility percentages. The City would be applying for one million dollars. Council needs to determine if they wish to include a leverage amount of 5% or \$50,000.00. Including a leverage amount increases the City's scoring eligibility.

Neal Bess Jr. motioned to approve Resolution 26-R105 authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas General Land Office 2024 Disasters Local Community Program- LCP, in the amount of \$1 million dollars, with the leverage. Seconded by John Rambo. All in favor. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Neal Bess Jr. asked about places that takes old paint for disposal.

John Rambo stated that Sweeny Beautification will be doing a trash pickup on Saturday, March 21st at Backyard Park. This keeps them compliant with Keep Texas Beautiful.

Mayor Hopkins commended the Parks & Recreation Board for their recent work at MLK Park and TJT walking trail. Parks and Rec, along with volunteers, installed donated exercise equipment and lighting. Mayor additionally requested for the Chamber to be in attendance at the next meeting.

ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM.

Financial Statements are on file with the City Secretary's Office.

Staff and Boards Present

City Manager, David Jordan
Chief of Police, Brad Caudle
Director of Public Works, DeLane Brown
Finance Director / Personnel Services, Karla Wilson
City Secretary, Kaydi Smith
SEDC Executive Director, Michelle Medina
Fire Marshal/Fire Chief, Devin Lemon
SEDC President, Jenny Massey
CCPD President, Woody Tolley
CCPD Treasurer, Linda Wolfe
SBC President, Sancı Kennedy

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Kaydi Smith -- City Secretary