



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, July 20, 2026 - 6:00 PM

Mayor Allen Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Allen Brown, Ward 1 Director Terry Roberts, Ward 2 Director Laney Harris, Ward 3 Director Steven Hollibush, Ward 5 Director Danny Jewell, and Ward 6 Director Steve Smith.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, and City Clerk Heather Soyars.

ABSENT: Ward 4 Assistant Mayor Ulysses Brewer and Deputy City Clerk Tabitha Churchill.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Director Steve Smith

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Shawn Taylor addressed the Board regarding the status of the Seibert Street Bridge, concerns about overgrown weed lots, and the importance of maintaining the appearance of the area.

Mr. May addressed the Board regarding overgrown weed lots and concerns about the creek located behind his residence.

Jay Patel, owner of Sunrise RV Park, addressed the Board regarding concerns that his water bill had tripled. He requested that the Board consider implementing measures to help ensure businesses like his are not overcharged for water service.

Sandy, resident of Texas, addressed the Board and expressed concerns regarding the potential for artificial intelligence (AI) and flock cameras to be used for both beneficial and harmful purposes.

PRESENTATION(S)

1. Presentation of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas Employee Service Awards. (ADMIN)

Misty Megason	TAPD	5 Years
Terri Rogers	TWU-GIS	15 Years

CONSENT

Director Jewell requested item 6. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Interim Airport Director to enter into an agreement with Altech Inc. for construction manager at risk (CMAR) services for the Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) Project. (AIRPORT), be removed from the Consent agenda.

Director Harris requested item 9. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Francis Excavating for East 24th Street, Oats Street and East 48th Street Rehabilitation Projects. (PWD), be removed from the Consent agenda.

Director Roberts made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda, Seconded by Director Hollibush. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting July 6, 2026. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
3. Resolution No. 2026-68 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract for the purchase of chemicals for water and wastewater treatment. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith
4. Resolution No. 2026-69 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract for the Lakewood Elevated Tank Contract No. 2 – Site Work Project. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith
5. Resolution No. 2026-70 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract for the Johnson Lane Six-Inch Water Extension Project. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith
7. Resolution No. 2026-71 authorized the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Contech Contractors for the installation of an emergency generator at City Hall. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee
8. Resolution No. 2026-72 amended the engineering contract with A.L. Franks Engineering for the Design of 2025 Street Bond Rehab Projects: McClure Road, Linn Ferry Road, Capitol Hill West Road and Grand Avenue. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee
10. Resolution No. 2026-73 awarded an engineering contract to A.L. Franks Engineering for the Design of 2025 Street Bond Rehab Projects: East 43rd Street, Grand Avenue, East 36th Street, and Arkansas Boulevard. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee
11. Resolution No. 2026-74 authorized the City Manager to enter into a purchase agreement with Leeboy Fayat Group for the purchase of a RA 400 Patcher/Asphalt Injection Truck. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee

REGULAR

6. Resolution No. 2026-75 authorized the Interim Airport Director to enter into an agreement with Altech Inc. for construction manager at risk (CMAR) services for the Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) Project. (AIRPORT) Interim Airport Director Russell Henderson

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Smith, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

9. Resolution No. 2026-76 authorized the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Francis Excavating for East 24th Street, Oats Street and East 48th Street Rehabilitation Projects. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

12. Consider the following action concerning the maintenance of overgrown lots:

Conduct a Public Hearing regarding the placing of liens on four (4) overgrown lots.

Resolution No. 2026-77 placing liens on four (4) overgrown lots. (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

Abstained: Director Harris

The motion carried 5-1 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

13. Resolution No. 2026-78 approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Texarkana Arkansas Police Department (TAPD) and University of Arkansas, Hope at Texarkana (UAHT). (TAPD) Captain Zach White

After a brief discussion, motion to read the resolution in title form was made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Smith.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

14. Ordinance No. 20-2026 granted the request for prerequisite municipal approval of a private club application for 305 Front Street, The Concho, LLC. (Jenn Wren). (ADMIN) City Manager Tyler Richards

After a brief discussion, the ordinance was read for the first time in title form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Harris.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Smith.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this ordinance.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

An emergency clause is requested. An emergency clause requires a separate and distinct vote of the board and is valid only if there is a two-thirds vote of approval by the Board.

Motion to enact the emergency clause made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Harris.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the emergency clause.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause adopted.

15. Ordinance No. 21-2026 created a policy concerning the authorized use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). (IT) Chief Information Officer Brandon Uselton

After a brief discussion, the ordinance was read for the first time in title form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this ordinance.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

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Motion to enact the emergency clause made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Smith.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the emergency clause.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause adopted.

16. Ordinance No. 22-2026 updated the Personnel Policy to include Artificial Intelligence. (ADMIN) Personnel Administrator Skylar Krause

After a brief discussion, the ordinance was read for the first time in title form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this ordinance.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

An emergency clause is requested. An emergency clause requires a separate and distinct vote of the board and is valid only if there is a two-thirds vote of approval by the Board.

Motion to enact the emergency clause made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Harris.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the emergency clause.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause adopted.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Harris stated that, if funding allowed, he would like to add additional streets to the street bond project. He noted that several roads could benefit from chip sealing and that multiple potholes throughout the city need to be addressed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 7:09 PM.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:10 PM, and the following action was taken:

Resolution No. 2026-79 appointed of Jenny Tefft to the Historic District Commission for the unexpired term of Christen Durham, 01/17/2023----2027. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, August 3, 2026

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Director Smith, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

APPROVED on this 3rd day of August 2026.

Allen L. Brown, Mayor

Heather Soyars, City Clerk