



CITY OF KEMPNER

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING & AGENDA Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6:00pm

Notice is hereby given that the City Council will convene in a regular meeting in Council Chambers, located at 12288 E. HWY 190 Kempner Texas 76539. The items listed on this notice may be taken up by the Council.

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledges to Flags

2. Reports & Presentations to Council by City Staff and Invited Guests

- a. Citizen Comments (please see Additional Notices and Information at the end of this agenda).
- b. City Manager Report
- c. Mayor's Report
- d. Police Chief's Report
- e. Fire Chief's Report
- f. Presentation by Brennen Barber regarding Eagle Scout Project

3. Action Items

- a. Consent Agenda (all items on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be approved by a single motion to approve the consent agenda, or each item listed below may be acted upon independently should a council member make such motion)
 - i. Approval of the meeting minutes from the meeting held on October 14th, 2025
 - ii. Approval of the October, November and December 2025 Financials.
 - iii. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-002, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE IN CAR SYSTEMS GRANT.**
 - iv. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-003, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE FARADAY PACKAGE GRANT**

- v. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-004, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE PEACE OFFICER MENTAL HEALTH GRANT.**
 - vi. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-005, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE BALLISTIC VEHICLE GLASS GRANT.**
 - vii. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-006, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE ALERRT TRAINING GRANT.**
 - viii. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-007, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE SPILLMAN FLEX GRANT.**
 - ix. Appointment of Rebecca D. Ramos, City Manager, as Public Information Officer in accordance with HB 33-89th regular legislative session.
- b. Council to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; To wit: entering into an employment agreement with Stacie Kolski as a police cadet/future police officer.
 - c. Direction of Council to update financial accounts to add Shaleah Stevens as a signatory to the following accounts owned and/or under the control of the City of Kempner:
 - Cadence Bank General Fund
 - Cadence Bank Street Fund
 - Cadence Bank Building and Technology Fund
 - Cadence Bank Debt Service Fund
 - Cadence Bank Savings Account
 - Cadence Bank Cable Fee Fund
 - Cadence Bank Forfeiture Fund
 - d. Direction of the council to update City Financial account(s) to add Shaleah Stevens to Bank of America Credit Card Accounts as an administrator of the account.
 - e. Direction of the Council to appoint Shaleah Stevens as Public Investment Officer effective February 1, 2026.
 - f. Resolution NO. 2025-12-16-001, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY, NAMELY THE 2015 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXATXFH901971 AND 2015 FORD EXPLORER VIN# 1FM5K8AR2FGB61652 TO A NON-PROFIT ENTITY, NAMELY THE KEMPNER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.**
 - g. Approval of the Consultation and Compensation Contract between the City of Kempner and Hayleigh Talasek.
 - h. Consider approval of the engagement agreement between the Diaz and Wright Attorney at Law, PLLC, and the City of Kempner pertaining to legal services provided to the City and Municipal Court prosecutorial matters.
 - i. Accepting an RFQ (Request for Qualification) submission for city engineering services and authorizing agreement with selected service provider.

4. Workshops

- a. Security System at Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park
- b. Plumbing project at Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park

5. Council and Staff Announcements

- a. Staff Announcements
- b. Council Announcements
- c. Next Regular Meeting date is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM in council chambers.

6. Adjournment.

Certification Of Legal Posting:

I hereby certify that this agenda has been posted on the City message board affixed to the exterior wall of the Eisenhower / Clark Municipal Building AND has been posted on the City of Kempner official website (kempnertx.gov) at least 3 business days prior to the start of the meeting.

Shaleah Stevens

Signature of Certifying Official

Shaleah Stevens, City Secretary

Printed Name and Title of Certifying Official

January 7, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

Date and Time signed:

Additional Notices and Information

General Statement of Mayor Wilkerson:

Hello neighbors,

Below is some information you should find useful when reading the agenda and what to expect while attending our meetings. I have the responsibility to ensure the meeting is being held in a lawful and organized manner. I have an obligation to each of you to ensure:

- Each council member is afforded the opportunity to express their opinions on matters brought before them;
- Each citizen is treated with respect and afforded the opportunity to be heard;
- Each council member and staff member is treated with respect by the general public and other staff and council members

The Council may discuss and/or act on the items listed on this agenda. Legally, the Council may take official action only on the items listed under #3 "Action Items". All other items listed on the agenda offer the council opportunity to hear information on related matters and provide directions to City Staff on items or additional information needed for the issue to be placed on a future agenda for action by the council.

Citizen Comments: Any person may bring an issue to the attention of the City council during this time on matters **NOT ON THE AGENDA**. State law prohibits the Council from discussing issues or matters that are not on the agenda. Bringing an issue (not on the agenda) before the council during this time makes the council aware of the information and may lead to the matter being placed on a future meeting agenda. The Council has adopted a policy granting 3 minutes for each person to talk. Although you do not have to legally give your name and address, there is a sign-in sheet at the back of the room. Signing in on the sign-up sheet will allow your representatives to contact you to follow up on your concerns.

Citizens' input on City Matters: The City Council wants to hear from those we represent. When a matter is being taken up by the Council, a member of the public in attendance at the meeting who desires to be heard on the matter may be called upon when that issue is being discussed.

Closed (Executive) Sessions: The council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during a meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) 072 (Deliberation about Real Property), .073 (Personnel Matters), .076 (Deliberation about Security Devices), and .086 (Economic Development).

Accessibility: The Isenhour / Clark Municipal Building is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodation or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Please contact the City Secretary at (512) 932-2180 or email citysecretary@kempnertx.gov for information or assistance.

John "JW" Wilkerson



CITY OF KEMPNER

MEETING MINUTES

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2026, AT 6:00 PM

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED IN A REGULAR MEETING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 12288 E. HWY 190, KEMPNER TX 76539.

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledges to Flags

The meeting started at 6:00 PM. The quorum consisted of David Richardson (place 1), Tom Combs (place 2), Rob Green (place 3), Dan Long (place 4), and Mayor Wilkerson. Also in attendance was Gene Isenhour (Municipal Court Judge “Judge”), Rebecca Ramos (City Manager), Heriberto Rodriguez (Police Chief) and Shaleah Stevens (City Secretary). Each person notated in these minutes will be referred to as place/title only throughout this document. Elliott Whitton (place 5) was not present. Judge led the invocation.

2. Reports & Presentations to Council by City Staff and Invited Guests

- a. Citizen Comments (please see Additional Notices and Information at the end of this agenda).
- b. City Manager Report- see attached
- c. Mayor’s Report- The Mayor informed the City Council of his decision to travel to San Antonio using a Bell County vehicle, accompanied by the Chief of Police in a Kempner Police Department unit, to escort the family of the recently deceased Cove police officer, Elijah Garretson.
- d. Police Chief’s Report-see attached months for October, November and December
 - i. Place 2 referenced an ordinance violation and requested that the Police Department follow up on the matter. The Mayor inquired whether the grants included in the consent agenda required a matching contribution. The Police Chief responded that no matching funds were required.
- e. Fire Chief’s Report- No report was provided; the fire chief was not present.
- f. Presentation by Brennen Barber regarding his Eagle Scout project proposal, which involves installing bat boxes on city-owned land to help increase the local bat population for natural insect control and to mitigate habitat loss. The proposed

locations include Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park and the city cemetery. Each installed post would support two bat boxes, with an estimated cost of \$300 per box, to be funded through donations. While the City Council expressed support for the project, no official action was taken as the item was not listed on the agenda. The project will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting for formal consideration. Mr. Barber was directed to work with the City Manager to obtain finalized cost estimates and to report back regarding any donated materials or items.

3. Action Items

- a. Consent Agenda (all items on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be approved by a single motion to approve the consent agenda, or each item listed below may be acted upon independently should a council member make such motion)
 - i. Approval of the meeting minutes from the meeting held on October 14th, 2025
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 - iii. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-002, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE IN CAR SYSTEMS GRANT.**
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 - viii. Resolution NO. 2026-01-13-007, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, FOR THE SPILLMAN FLEX GRANT.**
 - ix. Appointment of Rebecca D. Ramos, City Manager, as Public Information Officer in accordance with HB 33-89th regular legislative session.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve the consent agenda

Seconded by: Place 1

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- b. Council to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; To wit: entering into an employment agreement with Stacie Kolski as a police cadet/future police officer.

Moved to the end of the agenda

Entered executive session: 6:50 PM

Returned into open session: 7:11 PM

The mayor asked the Police Chief if he performed a proper background investigation and if there were any disqualifiers. The Police Chief confirmed a proper background investigation was conducted and there were no disqualifiers or concerns.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve the employment agreement with Stacie Kolski as a police cadet and police officer.

Seconded by: Place 4

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- c. Direction of Council to update financial accounts to add Shaleah Stevens as a signatory to the following accounts owned and/or under the control of the City of Kempner:

- Cadence Bank General Fund
- Cadence Bank Street Fund
- Cadence Bank Building and Technology Fund
- Cadence Bank Debt Service Fund
- Cadence Bank Savings Account
- Cadence Bank Cable Fee Fund
- Cadence Bank Forfeiture Fund

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve and update the city financial accounts

Seconded by: Place 3

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- d. Direction of the council to update City Financial account(s) to add Shaleah Stevens to Bank of America Credit Card Accounts as an administrator of the account.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve and update Shaleah Stevens as administrator on Bank of America account.

Seconded by: Place 4

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- e. Direction of the Council to appoint Shaleah Stevens as Public Investment Officer effective February 1, 2026.

Place 4 made the following motion: To approve Shaleah Stevens as Public Investment Officer effective February 1, 2026

Seconded by: Place 2

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- f. Resolution NO. 2025-12-16-001, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY, NAMELY THE 2015 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXATXFH901971 AND 2015 FORD EXPLORER VIN# 1FM5K8AR2FGB61652 TO A NON-PROFIT ENTITY, NAMELY THE KEMPNER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve Resolution NO. 2025-12-16-001
Seconded by: Place 1

Place 2 asked whether the Fire Department remains active with the City. The Mayor confirmed that it is still active and stated that he will sign an agreement requiring the Fire Department to remove emergency lights and any other applicable equipment to ensure the vehicle is brought into compliance with state law in the event of a sale.

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- g. Approval of the Consultation and Compensation Contract between the City of Kempner and Hayleigh Talasek.

Place 1 made the following motion: To approve the Consultation and Compensation Contract between the City of Kempner and Hayleigh Talasek

Seconded by: Place 3

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- h. Consider approval of the engagement agreement between the Diaz and Wright Attorney at Law, PLLC, and the City of Kempner pertaining to legal services provided to the City and Municipal Court prosecutorial matters.

Attorney David Morrison introduced himself and the law firm he represents, noting that the firm specializes in working with small municipalities and municipal courts. Mr. Morrison reviewed the contract rates and stated they are consistent with those of the City's previous attorney.

Place 2 asked why the City should hire Mr. Morrison and his law firm. Mr. Morrison responded that his firm focuses on small towns, has extensive experience operating small municipal courts, and values engagement with city government and the local community.

The Mayor noted that an additional duty of the position includes serving as the City Prosecutor and requested input from Judge Isenhour. Judge Isenhour stated that Mr. Morrison attended court the previous month, was professional, punctual, and

demonstrated strong knowledge of the law. The Judge also noted that Mr. Morrison stepped in to cover court on short notice.

The City Manager stated that Mr. Morrison has been very responsive, enjoyable to work with, and agreed with Judge Isenhour that his willingness to step in on short notice was beneficial to the City.

The Mayor further stated that another bid was sought for legal services; however, due to budget constraints, no other attorney was available.

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve of the engagement agreement between the Diaz and Wright Attorney at Law, PLLC, and the City of Kempner and Kempner Municipal Court.

Seconded by Place 3

Motion passed unanimously by all present

- i. Accepting an RFQ (Request for Qualification) submission for city engineering services and authorizing agreement with selected service provider.

The City Manager explained that the as-needed City Engineer contract will assist the City with multiple road repairs and an identified roadway improvement. The engineer will evaluate conditions, identify cost-effective solutions, address issues such as drainage concerns, and provide support during the sealed bid process for improvement projects.

The City Manager further noted that the City has successfully worked with this engineer on prior projects and that utilizing an as-needed contract allows the City to efficiently use taxpayer funds without the cost of a full-time position.

Place 3 made the following motion: To accept the Request for Qualifications submission by Burkes and Walker Engineering.

Seconded by: Place 1

Motion passed unanimously all present

4. Workshops

- a. Security System at Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park

The City Manager requested direction from the City Council regarding replacement of the inoperable security system. The cost estimate presented includes upgrading the existing cameras and installing a new recording system.

Place 3 asked whether the cameras would remain in their current locations, and the City Manager confirmed they would. Place 2 asked whether the camera system would be certified for legal use. The City Manager explained that, when identifiable evidence is captured (such as vehicle identification), the Chief of Police or a police officer would retrieve the footage for use in prosecution.

The Mayor stated that, if there were no objections from the Council, staff would proceed with obtaining more definitive cost estimates and place the item on a future agenda for consideration. There were no objections from the Council.

b. Plumbing project at Sylvia Tucker Memorial Park

The City Manager stated that piping and valves in the men's restroom need to be replaced due to preexisting drainage issues. An estimated cost of slightly over \$1,000 was provided. The Mayor noted that this item will not be placed on a future agenda, as the City Manager is authorized to make expenditures up to a specified amount. The expenditure will be reported to the Council at a later date.

5. Council and Staff Announcements

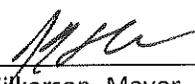
- a. Staff Announcements
- b. Council Announcements
- c. Next Regular Meeting date is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM in council chambers.

6. Adjournment.

PLACE 2 made the following motion: To adjourn.

Seconded by Place 1

The meeting adjourned at: 7:13 PM

APPROVED: 
John (JW) Wilkerson- Mayor

ATTEST: 
Shaleah Stevens- City Secretary