



CITY OF KEMPNER

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING & AGENDA

Tuesday, January 28th, 2025, 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

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 January 14th, 2025.
- b. Reconsider postponed item from 12/10/2024 meeting, approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the City of Kempner.
- c. Adoption of Title 9. Chapter 2. Cybersecurity Training Requirements.
- d. Approval of Resolution No. 2025-01-28-001, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, DECLARING EXEMPTIONS FROM THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED CYBERSECURITY TRAINING.
- e. Approval of the Contract for Election Services between The City of Kempner, Texas and Lampasas County, Texas for the May 3, 2025, Local Election.

- f. Approval of Secretary of State Form 1-2f and ordering the General Election for May 3, 2025.

4. Workshops

- a. To explore the feasibility, impact, and implementation of a potential property tax break for citizens aged 65 and older.

5. Council and Staff Announcements

- a. Staff Announcements
- b. Council Announcements
- c. Next Regular Meeting date is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 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 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Hayleigh Talasek

Signature of Certifying Official

Hayleigh Talasek, City Secretary

Printed Name and Title of Certifying Official

01/24/2025 at 10:45am

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 in attendance at our meetings. I have the responsibility to ensure the meeting is being held in a lawful and organized manner. I have the 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 afford the council opportunity to hear information on the related matter and provide direction 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 afford your representatives to contact you for 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).

John "JW" Wilkerson



CITY OF KEMPNER

MEETING MINUTES

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2025, 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 were Rebecca Ramos (City Manager), Heriberto Rodriguez (Police Chief), and Hayleigh Talasek (City Secretary). Each person notated in these minutes will be referred to as place/title only throughout this document. Debbie Hernandez (place 5) was not present. Place 1 led the invocation.

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

- a. Citizen Comments- none
- b. City Manager Report-
- c. Mayor's Report- Deferred to end of meeting.
- d. The Police Chief stated he had several compliments on the officers from local business owners and recognized them for their diligence.

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 January 14th, 2025.

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve the consent agenda.

Seconded by Place 1

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

- b. Reconsider postponed item from 12/10/2024 meeting, approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the City of Kempner.

The fire chief was not present. The mayor stated he is still in favor of formally rejecting the MOU due to high costs (\$400 per hour per engine, \$500 per hour per truck) and the availability of state fire marshals at no cost noting that two state fire marshals' live in Lampasas County.

Place 3 makes the following motion: To reject the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

Seconded by Place 4

Place 2 asked what we are leaving our citizens open for.
The mayor answered absolutely nothing.

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

c. Adoption of Title 9. Chapter 2. Cybersecurity Training Requirements.

The City Manager stated based on the tech package they chose this is the corresponding policy that exempts the council members from cybersecurity training requirements if they do not use city-owned technology for at least 25% of their work.

Place 1 made the following motion: To adopt Title 9. Chapter 2. Cybersecurity Training Requirements.

Seconded by Place 2

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

d. Approval of Resolution No. 2025-01-28-001, **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, DECLARING EXEMPTIONS FROM THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED CYBERSECURITY TRAINING.**

Mayor stated this resolution serves as an addendum to the cybersecurity policy, exempting council members from training requirements unless they use city-owned technology.

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve Resolution No. 2025-01-28-001.

Seconded by Place 3

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

e. Approval of the Contract for Election Services between The City of Kempner, Texas and Lampasas County, Texas for the May 3, 2025, Local Election.

The City Manager stated this is the standard contract we do annually with the county of Lampasas.

Place 1 made the following motion: to approve the Contract for election services between The City of Kempner, Texas and Lampasas County, Texas for the May 3, 2025, Local Election.

Seconded by Place 2

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

- f. Approval of Secretary of State Form 1-2f and ordering the General Election for May 3, 2025.

The Mayor stated this form is a legal requirement to order the elections with the following positions up for election:

- Mayor
- Alderman Place 3
- Alderman Place 4
- Alderman Place 5 (Unexpired)

Place 3 made the following motion: to approve the Secretary of State form 1-2f and ordered the General Election for May 3, 2025.

Seconded by Place 4

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

4. Workshop (non-action items)

- a. To explore the feasibility, impact, and implementation of a potential property tax break for citizens aged 65 and older.

The City Manager reported that she had been contacted by a couple residing within city limits who, based on their age and financial situation, believed that a tax break for citizens aged 65 and older would be beneficial. They inquired about the necessary steps to have this matter considered. The City Manager informed them that she would take time to gather relevant information and present it to the City Council. Although the couple wished to attend the meeting, they had prior commitments and submitted an email reiterating their concerns.

The City Manager and the Mayor presented data to the Council, outlining the potential financial impact of such a tax exemption. She explained that an analysis was conducted to determine the number of eligible residents, including those aged 65 and older and disabled individuals who do not have a VA disability. She also provided an overview of the City's revenue sources, emphasizing that the majority of funding is derived from property taxes. Given the City operates on a lean budget, offering only essential services, any tax reduction would significantly impact revenue.

The analysis indicated that implementing the proposed tax break would result in a 24% reduction in taxable value, necessitating a 75.6% increase in tax rates for remaining taxpayers to maintain the current budget. The Mayor clarified that the purpose of this discussion was to present the financial implications to the Council and solicit citizen feedback, though no citizens were in attendance. He further stated that if any Council member wished to pursue this matter, they could coordinate with the City Secretary or City Manager to place it on a future agenda.

Council Member Place 3 expressed opposition to the proposal, stating that it would benefit only 24% of the population while significantly impacting the remaining 76%. Council Member Place 2 inquired whether demographic statistics indicated an aging population and whether projected growth from new housing developments could offset the revenue loss over time. The Mayor responded that, based on current figures, the City is experiencing an aging trend, and while growth is occurring, it is unlikely to compensate for the revenue shortfall in a timely manner. Given these considerations, Council Member Place 2 concurred with Place 3 and stated that he would not support pursuing the proposal at this time.

The Mayor concluded by reiterating that Council members are welcome to request further discussion if they wish to revisit the matter in the future.

5. Council and Staff Announcements

- a. Staff Announcements- none
- b. Council Announcements- Mayors Report- The Mayor provided an update to the Council regarding the firearms ordinance, informing them that a draft ordinance has been submitted to the City Attorney for review. He explained that the draft was developed based on the concerns and recommendations expressed by the Council. The proposed ordinance would generally prohibit the discharge of firearms within city limits, with specific exceptions. These exceptions include lawful self-defense or protection of property, discharging duties as a city official, and cases where an individual has obtained a permit from the City. The Mayor then outlined the permit process, detailing the requirements in accordance with applicable laws. Some Council members expressed interest in reviewing the draft ordinance, and in response, the Mayor directed the City Manager to distribute the document to the Council for further review and input on the final version

- c. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the council chambers.

6. Adjournment

Place 1 made the following motion: To adjourn.

Place 3 seconded the motion

The meeting adjourned at: 6:39PM

APPROVED: _____

John (JW) Wilkerson- Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Hayleigh Talasek City Secretary