



CITY OF KEMPNER

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING & AGENDA Tuesday, May 13th, 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
- d. Police Chief's Report
- e. Fire Chief's Report
- f. Proclamations

3. **Action Items**

- a. Consider the appointment of Elliott Whitton to fill the unexpired term of Place 5.
- b. Consider the re-appointment of Gene Isenhour as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Kempner for the 2025-2027 term.
- c. Consider the re-appointment of Hayleigh Talasek as the Administrative Municipal Court Judge for the City of Kempner.

Mayor to administer applicable oaths of office based upon council action on items above.

- d. Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem
- e. 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 April 22nd, 2025.
 - ii. Approval of the Financials for the month of April.
- f. Adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-05-13-001 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, REGARDING MUNICIPAL COURT FINES AND FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF A FINE OF \$25.00 FOR THE OFFENSE OF FAILURE TO APPEAR AND THE OFFENSE OF VIOLATION OF PROMISE TO APPEAR; AUTHORIZING A DRIVING SAFETY COURSE FEE; AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF COLLECTION FEES; AND AUTHORIZING A CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEE; PROVIDING FOR THE RATIFICATION OF PRIOR IMPOSITIONS AND COLLECTIONS OF FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

4. Workshops

- a. None

5. Council and Staff Announcements

- a. Staff Announcements
- b. Council Announcements
- c. Next Regular Meeting date is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, May 27th, 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 Isenhour / 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

May 9th, 2025 at 1:18pm

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 MAY 13, 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), Place 5 is vacant, and Mayor Wilkerson. Also in attendance was Gene Isenhour (Municipal Court Judge" Judge"), 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. Place 1 led the invocation.

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

a. Citizen Comments-

Raymond M. – Stated that he recently found out the proposed gun ordinance did not pass and expressed his appreciation to the Council for that outcome.

Sandy Stanley – Shared that she loves this county and the area and moved back to be near friends. She stated that she lives behind the fire station and post office, and that her home is one of three in the subdivision experiencing drainage issues. She asked if anything could be done, as water frequently floods her yard. She also expressed gratitude to City Manager Rebecca for her kindness and assistance in taking photos of the issue.

- b. City Manager Report-** Announced the upcoming event- Memorial Day Ceremony
- c. Police Chief's Report-** See attached
- d. Fire Chief's Report-** None/ Not here
- e. Mayor's Report-** None

- f. Proclamations – Proclamation presented by the mayor recognizing National Police Week: It Declares the week of May 12th to 16th, 2025, as National Police Week in the City of Kempner, Texas, in honor of the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers. The proclamation also recognizes Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15th and encourages all residents to express gratitude for the dedication of local, state, and federal law enforcement officers

3. Action Items

Note: Order of action items as discussed b,c,a,d,e,f

- a. Consider the appointment of Elliott Whitton to fill the unexpired term of Place 5.

The Mayor noted that Mr. Whitton is well known for his volunteer work and prior service on the advisory committee. Mr. Whitton expressed his interest in filling the vacant Place 5 position on the City Council. The City Secretary confirmed that Mr. Whitton meets all eligibility requirements. As no candidate filed to run for the position, the Mayor recommended appointing Mr. Whitton to fill the Place 5 vacancy.

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve Elliot Whitton for the unexpired term of Place 5

Seconded by: Place 3

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

- b. Consider the re-appointment of Gene Isenhour as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Kempner for the 2025-2027 term.

The Mayor stated that Mr. Isenhour has done an outstanding job and has demonstrated efficiency in managing court matters. He further noted that Mr. Isenhour is an asset to the City and recommended his reappointment.

Place 2 made the following motion: To approve the reappointment of Gene Isenhour for Municipal Court Judge.

Seconded by: Place 3

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

- c. Consider the re-appointment of Hayleigh Talasek as the Administrative Municipal Court Judge for the City of Kempner.

The Mayor stated that he recommends the reappointment of Mrs. Talasek, citing her outstanding work in effectively fulfilling and backfilling the responsibilities of the role.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve the reappointment of Hayleigh Talasek as the Administrative Municipal Court Judge
Seconded by: Place 1
All in favor, motion passed by all present.

The Mayor administered applicable oaths of office based upon council action on items above.

d. Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem

The Mayor stated that, since a new Council has been seated, it is necessary to appoint a new Mayor Pro-Tem.

Place 1 nominated Place 3 as Mayor Pro-Tem
Place 3 accepted the nomination

Place 1 made the following motion: To approve of the appointment of Rob Green (Place 3) as Mayor Pro-Tem
Seconded by: Place 4
All in favor, motion passed by all present.

e. 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 April 22nd, 2025.
- ii. Approval of the Financials for the month of April.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve the consent agenda
Seconded by: Place 1
Places 1-4 were in favor and Place 5 abstained, motion passed.

f. Adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-05-13-001 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEMPNER, TEXAS, REGARDING MUNICIPAL COURT FINES AND FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF A FINE OF \$25.00 FOR THE OFFENSE OF FAILURE TO APPEAR AND THE OFFENSE OF VIOLATION OF PROMISE TO APPEAR; AUTHORIZING A DRIVING SAFETY COURSE FEE; AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF COLLECTION FEES; AND AUTHORIZING A CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEE; PROVIDING FOR THE RATIFICATION OF PRIOR IMPOSITIONS AND COLLECTIONS OF FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

The Judge detailed changes to municipal court fines and fees, including the addition of a fee for approved Driver Safety Course (DSC) requests. He also

addressed fines related to Failure to Appear and Violation of Promise to Appear, emphasizing the critical role of the OmniBase system in enforcing citations. The system enables the court to place holds on driver's licenses for unpaid citations, preventing renewal until the matter is resolved. He noted that recent legislative efforts to eliminate these enforcement tools were unsuccessful, and the proposed ordinance aligns with current state law and requirements.

Place 3 made the following motion: To approve ordinance No. 2025-05-13-001

Seconded by: Place 2

All in favor, motion passed by all present.

4. Workshop (non-action items)

- a. None

5. Council and Staff Announcements

- a. Staff Announcements

- b. Council Announcements-

The Mayor directed the City Manager to investigate the drainage concerns raised during citizen comments and to begin working on a drainage plan for this area. The Mayor also asked the Council to remain after the meeting for group photos.

- c. The next Regular Meeting date is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 6:00 PM in council chambers.

6. Adjournment

Place 1 made the following motion: To adjourn.

Seconded by: Place 5

The meeting adjourned at: 6:27pm

APPROVED: _____

John (JW) Wilkerson- Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Hayleigh Talasek- City Secretary