

City of Wortham, meeting held at 107 S. 2nd, Wortham, Texas

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting on July 8, 2025

Council Present: Mayor Patty Jones, Deborah Evans, Michael Busby, and Cliff NeSmith

Council Absent: Patrick Evans and Jeff Carr

Staff Present: Tonya Rissmiller, Waylon Gierisch, and Kelly Craig

Regular Council Meeting - held at the Wortham Fire Department

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., announced a quorum was present, and asked for a moment of silence in memory of the Kerr County, TX flood victims.

Informal Citizen Comments:

Kerri Butler thanked Waylon Gierisch and the other city workers for their hard work in getting the 4th of July decorations hung up around the city.

1. Citizens Participation:

- A. Sheryl Harper was present and requested an additional water tap, sewer tap, and water meter on her property at 300 1/2 Phil Ave.
 - B. Sheryl Harper was present and requested approval for a mobile home to be placed on her property located at 300 1/2 Phil Ave.
 - C. Daniel Mata, Jr. was not in attendance during this time to request a water tap, sewer tap, and water meter on his property located at 124 CR 991.
 - D. Heath McCoslin was present on behalf of himself and his wife, Mollie McCoslin, and requested a water tap, sewer tap, and water meter at their property located on CR 1000.
2. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve the request by Sheryl Harper for an additional water tap, sewer tap, and water meter on her property at 300 1/2 Phil Ave. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
 3. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve the request by Sheryl Harper for a mobile home to be placed on her property located at 300 1/2 Phil Ave. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
 4. Councilmember Busby made a motion to table the request by Daniel Mata, Jr. who was not in attendance during this time to request a water tap, sewer tap, and water meter on his property located at 124 CR 991. Seconded by Councilmember NeSmith. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion tabled.
 5. Councilmember Busby made a motion to table the request by Heath and Mollie McCoslin for a water tap, sewer tap, and water meter at their property located on CR 1000, in order to allow further discussion by the McCoslins with other property owners along CR 1000 who might be interested in water access and cost-sharing. Seconded by Councilmember NeSmith. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion tabled.

6. David Shechtman of Hilltop Securities Inc. presented Texas Short Term Asset Reserve Program (TexSTAR) Investment Pool as an additional investment option for the City of Wortham, as explained in Resolution 840-0725. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve Resolution 840-0725; seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
7. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve Resolution 841-0725 updating the authorized representatives for Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC); seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
8. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve Resolution 842-0725 updating the authorized representatives for Texas Local Government Investment Pool (TexPool/TexPool Prime); seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
9. **Executive Session:** At 7:05 p.m., Councilmember Busby made a motion for the Council to move into closed session pursuant to Section 551.071(1)(A)- Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting, Texas Government Code, to discuss expanding the city prosecutor's consulting and prosecutorial duties with Wortham Police Department on code enforcement. Seconded by Councilmember NeSmith. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
10.
 - A. **Reconvene into Regular Session:** At 8:00 p.m., Councilmember Busby made the motion for the Council to close executive session and to reconvene into regular session; seconded by Councilmember Deborah Evans. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
 - B. **Action from Executive Session:** Councilmember Nesmith made the motion to expand the city prosecutor's consulting and prosecutorial duties with Wortham Police Department on code enforcement. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
11. **Consent Agenda** - Councilmember NeSmith made the motion to approve the following consent agenda:
 - A. Approve minutes of June 10, 2025.Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
12. Councilmember NeSmith made the motion to approve the 2025-2026 rerate notice for continuation of coverage with TX Health Benefits Pool. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
13. Councilmember NeSmith made the motion to approve Resolution 839-0725, suspending Oncor Electric Delivery Company's proposed effective date of July 31, 2025, for 90 days in connection with Oncor's statement of intent to increase rates filed on or about June 26, 2025, and requiring Oncor to reimburse the Alliance of Oncor Cities' rate case expenses. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
14. Councilmember NeSmith, in his capacity as the City of Wortham's wastewater operator, discussed the status of a Supplemental Environmental Proposal (SEP) to offset the administrative penalty described in Proposed Agreed Order dated May 19, 2025, for Enforcement Case No. 67153 by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) against the City of Wortham for violations of the Texas Water Code and TCEQ Rules. The SEP is expected to request TCEQ approval for the purchase by the City of Wortham of a wastewater pump in lieu of paying the administrative penalty.

The SEP is expected to be submitted to the TCEQ in July 2025. No action or vote was taken on this agenda item, as it was designated for discussion only and for providing an update on status of the SEP.

15. Councilmember NeSmith made a motion to approve the integration of Tyler Technologies' InCode software with Farmers State Bank's Positive Pay Product for fraud prevention. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
16. After discussion, Councilmember NeSmith made a motion that the City of Wortham request that the remobilization fee not covered by grant funds for downtown sidewalk improvements be split evenly among the City of Wortham, the sidewalk contractor, and the sidewalk engineer. Seconded by Councilmember Busby. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
17. After discussion of the HMGP generator grants (water, wastewater, police, and fire station), Councilmember Busby made the motion to withdraw from, and to otherwise not accept, the HMGP generator grant award package, and instead to proceed with using the local funding portion of such grant award package to self-fund a portable generator project tailored to local needs. Seconded by Councilmember NeSmith. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.
18. Councilmember Busby made a motion to approve the Lone Star Surface Pro estimate given to the Wortham EDC to add court lines for basketball court and floor games under the pavilion, and epoxy coating to the bathroom/concession stand floors. Seconded by Councilmember NeSmith. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.

Monthly Reports: The following reports were reviewed:

Finance Department - June 2025 monthly financial statements.

Public Works - monthly activity for June 2025.

Police Department - monthly activity for June 2025.

Fire Department - monthly activity for June 2025.

EDC - meeting minutes for June 2025.

Adjournment:

At 8:45 p.m., Councilmember Busby made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Deborah Evans. The vote was 3 to 0. Motion carried.

Patty Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tonya Rissmiller, City Secretary