

COUNCIL MINUTES
July 29, 2025

Stratford City Council met in regular session with Mayor Wright presiding and the following:

Council: Joe Zak, Michael Hood, Misti McBryde, Ray Lerman, Brad Reed
City Manager: Tommy Bogart
City Secretary: Kathy Rendon
Police Chief: Richard Coborn
PW Supv: Tracie Bogart
ACCE: Kristin Elam

Guests: Kathy Allen, Tim Shefchik, Nora Wells, David Davis, Blynn Weldon, Suzanne Bellsnyder

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer

- Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Michael Hood offered the prayer.

Consent Agenda Items

- a. Minutes from June 24, 2025
- b. Accounts Payable for June 2025
 - Joe Zak motioned to approve as presented, Misti McBryde seconded, all else in favor, motion carried.

Council Business

- a. Discussion regarding Aspen Woods Update via Video/Phone Conference
 - Due to the time difference, the conference call could not be conducted. Mayor Wright read a memo from Amet. Michael Hood is requesting a business plan for the project. Mayor Wright advised that he could email Amet with any questions.
- b. Discuss and consider action: Order of Election to be held November 4, 2025
 - Joe Zak motioned to approve, Brad Reed seconded, all else in favor, motion carried.
- c. Discussion regarding a possible Tax Abatement Agreement with Stratford Texas Hotel, LLC, pursuant to Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code
 - Tim Shefchik was present to discuss the Cobblestone build. CM Bogart advised that he had just received the paperwork from the attorney, and it will be e-mailed to Council after the meeting. The City has posted the required 30-day notice. Mr. Shefchik said the hotel will be coming in; they are just going through all of the steps and processes from start to completion. There are approximately three (3) months of pre-construction and then 15-18 months to actual project completion. The hotel will have 54 rooms.

d. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will convene into closed session in accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney and Texas Government Code Section 551.087 - Economic development negotiations (Tax Abatement Agreement with Stratford Texas Hotel, LLC)

- e. Council will reconvene into open session to consider action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session
 - The executive session was not needed.

f. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council will convene into closed session in accordance with Texas Government Code 551.074 to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, dismissal or hiring for position of Public Works Director

- Council convened into closed session at 1:23 pm.

- g. Council will reconvene into open session to consider action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session
 - Council reconvened into open session at 1:55 pm. Joe Zak motioned to hire Tracie Bogart as the Public Works Director with a Step 5 pay per the pay scale, Misti McBryde seconded, all else in favor, motion carried.

h. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council will convene into closed session in accordance with the Texas Government Code 551.087 to deliberate regarding Economic Development

- Council convened into closed session at 1:58 pm.

i. Council will reconvene into open session to consider action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session

- Council reconvened into open session at 2:33 pm with no action taken.

City Manager Report

- Cm Bogart reported that he has been working with Cobblestone to move this project forward.
- Baseline budget has been given to Council. Public Works and the Police Department are the only departments with possible capital outlay expenses. Ray Lerman questioned the time item(s) for car allowance. CM Bogart explained that part of his pay increases has been applied to the car allowance, per his request.

Citizen Comment Period: none

Items from the Council

- Discussion of policies, complaints, or any matter of urgent necessity arising subsequent to the posting of this notice
 - Brad Reed asked for an update on the 5th Street repairs. CM Bogart replied that Cactus has offered to send an employee and use their camera to see about any disruptions in the line. Brad also commented regarding Wall St. being blocked due to repairs; but he wants better communication/updates so the Council is aware of any issues they could potentially be asked about by residents and can provide an answer.
 - Ray Lerman asked about the status of the updated Ordinance for the cross-connection requirement by TCEQ. Chief Coborn replied it is not available yet – still working on specifics.
 - Misti McBryde asked if the skunk in their area had been caught. ACCE Office Kristin Elam replied that is has not. She commented that Brianda Pinon is doing a great job and was an excellent choice to hire. She asked if there were any updates for fleet management from Duncan Chevrolet and was advised not yet. She also asked if a summary was available for the last audit. CM Bogart advised that there is, and it will be forwarded after the meeting.
 - Michael Hood reported that the portables are ready to be picked up from the parks. He asked if the new facilities funding has been decided yet. CM Bogart advised that this is a final decision to be made by the Sales Tax Board.
 - Joe Zak stated that there are fire hydrants that are not working. He was advised that a grant has been submitted for some replacements.

Adjourn

- There being no further business, Brad Reed motioned to adjourn at 2:50 pm, Misti McBryde seconded, all else in favor, motion carried.