

## COUNCIL MINUTES

January 27, 2026

Stratford City Council met in regular session with Mayor Pro-Tem presiding and the following:

Council: Misti McBryde, Ray Lermon, Brad Reed  
City Manager: Tommy Bogart  
City Secretary: Kathy Rendon  
Police Chief: Richard Coborn  
PW Supv: Tracie Bogart  
ACCE Officer: Kristin Elam

Guests: Fire Chief Justin Lanning, Kyla Wyatt

### **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation**

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by an invocation led by Brad.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Brad made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Council Business**

#### **Discuss and consider action re: permit for used carport at 315 S. Pearl**

ACCE Officer Kristin Elam explained that Kyla had been wanting to install a carport for some time. She had submitted the required paperwork and had filed for a variance because the carport would be closer to the curb than the required 25 feet. Kristin confirmed all measurements had been taken and the carport would not obstruct visibility as none of the sides would be enclosed.

Brad made a motion to approve the carport permit, Misti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Discuss and consider action re: ORDINANCE NO. 2026-0127 an ordinance amending the code of ordinances, City of Stratford, Texas, Chapter 13, "utilities" by adding a new article 13.07 "sewer use and system design requirements"**

PW Supervisor Tracie Bogart presented a comprehensive new sewer use ordinance to address increasing issues with clogs in the sewer system. The ordinance contains several key components:

1. Requirements for grease traps for new buildings or establishments with food-related operations, including specifications for size, type, frequency, and records of clean-outs
2. Provisions for businesses currently using grease dumpsters to continue doing so with proper documentation of emptying
3. Requirement that businesses experiencing grease clogs or high BOD may be required to install grease traps
4. Discharge limits for fats, oil, grease, pH, BOD, and ammonia
5. Prohibition of certain items being flushed such as rags, towels, wet wipes, plastics, and wood
6. Design criteria for new installations following TCEQ Chapter 217 rules and the International Plumbers Code

Tracie shared photographs of recent clogs found in the city's sewer lines and lift stations, including examples from Toot and Totem and the wastewater treatment facility's lift stations.

Misti made a motion to approve the ordinance, Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discuss and consider action re: Resolution 26-0127 (R) suspending for 45 days the effective date proposed by West Texas Gas Utility, LLC from December 23, 2025 to February 6, 2026, regarding its application filed on or about October 24, 2025, pursuant to section 104.301 of the Gas Utility Regular Act**

The City Manager explained this resolution would suspend the rate increase proposed by West Texas Gas for 45 days, giving the city's attorneys time to challenge the increase. He noted this strategy has been successful in the past in securing lower rate increases than initially proposed by the utility. Although a rate increase would still occur, it would likely be less than if the city did not challenge it.

Brad made a motion to approve the Resolution, Misti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discuss and consider action re: one (1) nomination for the SCAD Board of Directors for the 2026-2027 term of office**

The council needed to nominate one person from a list of three who did not receive election to the SCAD Board: Michael Wood, Misty McBride, and Rusty Russell. After brief discussion, the council decided on Rustin Russell.

Brad made a motion to nominate Rustin Russell to the SCAD Board, Misti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discuss and consider action re: formal acceptance of resignation of Mayor Greg Wright from November 2025 meeting**

Brad made a motion to accept Mayor Greg Wright's resignation from November 25, 2025, Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discuss and consider action re: the appointment of a qualified person to fill the vacancy of the Office of Mayor for the unexpired term of office**

The City Manager outlined two options: appoint a new person as mayor or have Joe Zak continue as Mayor Pro Tem until the next election in November. It was noted that as Mayor Pro Tem, Joe would retain his council vote, whereas bringing in a third party as mayor would mean that person would only vote in case of a tie.

Brad made a motion for Joe to continue as Mayor Pro Tem until the next election, Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discuss and consider action re: Racial Profiling Report**

The Police Chief presented the annual racial profiling report, which details traffic stops including information about the reason for stops, locations, and demographics of individuals stopped. He noted this is a state requirement that must be presented to the governing body each January. No action was required by the council.

**Discuss and consider action re: use of the Railroad Park for food trucks and vendors**

The Police Chief and Code Enforcement have been working on finding locations for food trucks in the city. They proposed using the Railroad Park near the Police Department for self-contained food trucks with their own power and water.

Since putting this item on the agenda, two property owners had offered their properties for food truck use: Joanne Palmer near the post office and Brian Clift with his RV park on South Main (though the latter still needs to complete variance requirements). Food trucks will begin operating at Joanne Palmer's property next Tuesday.

For Railroad Park usage, requirements would include restrictions on trailer size, self-contained utilities, proper trash disposal, and no overnight parking. The council agreed this would be a good use of the park space, which has adequate parking and facilities.

Brad made a motion to approve, Misti seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Discuss and consider action re: Sherman County assuming ownership of the old tanker trailer from the Fire Dept**

The council discussed transferring ownership of an old fire department tanker trailer to Sherman County. It was explained that Bryan Mungia wanted it for their precinct for water and could also bring it to assist with water supply during grass fires if needed.

Brad made a motion to approve Sherman County assuming ownership of the old tanker trailer, Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **City Manager Report**

The City Manager reported that the city had been approved for a grant for grass dumpsters through PRPC. Once funds are released, they will purchase a full load of 26-36 dumpsters.

He also provided an update on the Cobblestone permit process, explaining the steps required including submission of commercial plans to the city's engineering firm (OJD) for review. The company had requested a permit without fees, but this was not possible as engineering review and inspections will cost the city approximately \$7,000-\$8,000.

Regarding the fire truck issue with Dalhart, the City Manager reported that after meeting with Dalhart's city manager and their council consideration, Dalhart decided not to reimburse Stratford for the fire truck. Options now include potentially scrapping the truck or selling it at auction.

### **Items from the Council**

1. Brad reported that the Jamboree would likely be moved to July 4th, with questions about bathroom facilities at the park. The City Manager explained that economic development funds previously earmarked for bathrooms (\$58,000) may not be available due to the Cobblestone agreement.

Road conditions were discussed, with concerns about deteriorating streets behind Bain's, Wall Street, and on Second Street. The council and staff discussed the weather requirements for repairs, with 40 degrees and rising being ideal for asphalt work. The city has received three loads of recycled asphalt that can be used for repairs.

2. Ray noted that several yield and stop signs throughout town that are missing, discolored, or damaged, including problems at Pine, Second Street, Fourth Street, Fifth Street, Sixth Street, Seventh Street, Third and Spruce, and Fourth and Grace. Staff noted that one sign location had been replaced four times last year due to a truck repeatedly hitting it.

The effectiveness of the snow fences was questioned, with Ray explaining that for proper snow fence function, they should be placed 200-300 feet from the road and 3-4 inches off the ground. The current placement was likely to make snow drifting worse rather than better. It was suggested to remove the fencing as it would also create maintenance issues around mowing.

3. Misti made another request to post city council meeting minutes on the website. The City Manager made several suggestions for posting items online.

There was a brief discussion about storing council members' training certificates, particularly for NIMS training, with staff agreeing to research requirements.

A water leak at the baseball field was discussed, with staff explaining it was from a frozen sprinkler box. The water needs to remain on for required chlorine residual sampling, but they plan to set up a dedicated sample site to allow winterizing most of the park in the future.

### **Adjourn**

Misti motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 pm, Brad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.