



City of Hutto

Minutes

Special City Council Budget Meeting

Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers – 500 W. Live Oak Street

- 1. CALL SESSION TO ORDER – 6:00 PM**
- 2. ROLL CALL**

Members of Council present: Mayor Snyder, Mayor Pro Tem Thornton, Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember Morris, Councilmember Gordon, Councilmember Porterfield and Councilmember King

Staff members present: James Earp, City Manager; Matt Wojnowski, Assistant City Manager; Dottie Palumbo, City Attorney; David Amsler, Director of Strategic Operations; Nick Angeli, Management Fellow; Ashley Bailey, Executive Director of Development Services; Kristi Barnes, Community & Culture Officer; Alberta Barrett, Finance Director; Christina Bishop, Controller; Sara Cervantes, Director of Real Estate Services; Rick Coronado, Public Works Director; Cassandra Edwards, Deputy Director of Emergency Management; Cheney Gamboa, Director of Economic Development; Laura Hallmark, City Secretary; Angela Hassell, Management Analyst; Jake Isbell, Emergency Management Coordinator; Dwain Jones, Assistant Police Chief; Kate Moriarty, Assistant to City Manager; Kristin Phillips, Library Director; Matt Rector, City Engineer; David Reeves, IT Manager; Kristiana Spencer, Human Resources Manager; Irene Talioaga, Director of Human Resources; Jeff White, Parks and Recreation Director; Brayden Worley, Budget Coordinator; Jeffrey Yarbrough, Police Chief

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Katherine Cabrera

- 4. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 4.1. Consideration and possible action on Capital Improvement Projects for Fiscal Year 2026.

Alberta Barrett, Finance Director, reviewed CIP building projects and funding allocations for the five years.

Motion by Mayor Snyder, second by Councilmember King, to move the Library/Community Center feasibility study out to 2029/30 and combine a Public Works/Parks facility with a feasibility of the Parks component in 2027/28. Motion passed 5:2 (Thompson, Gordon).

Review of Parks projects with no recommended changes.

Council discussion regarding streets and drainage projects.

Motion by Councilmember Gordon, second by Mayor Pro Tem Thornton, to move \$7.8 million for T15 (Exchange Blvd. Reconstruction) out to 2028/29 and move T18 (CR 163 Reconstruction) to 2028/29. Motion passed 7:0.

Motion by Mayor Snyder, second by Councilmember Porterfield, to move \$8.9 million for T9 (Live Oak Reconstruction) to 2027/28 and combine T46 (Ed Schmidt & Live Oak intersection) and T79 (Live Oak to Ed Schmidt Construction) with \$500,000 to 2025/26. Motion passed 6:1 (Gordon).

Council discussion regarding Water projects.

Motion by Mayor Snyder, second by Councilmember Porterfield, to leave \$100,000 in 2025/26 for a study on alternative solutions to Iron Removal (W27) and move the remaining \$19,900,000 out to 2029/30. Motion passed 7:0.

Council discussion regarding Wastewater projects. Ms. Barrett reviewed bond issuance information for February 2026.

Motion by Mayor Snyder, second by Councilmember King, to remove the \$100,000 for Annual Maintenance of Brushy Creek Amphitheater (P01) based on City Manager recommendation. Motion passed 7:0.

4.2. Review and possible action on the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget.

Ms. Barrett reviewed the No New Revenue (NNR) tax rate as well as a review of the 2025/26 increase in revenues and expenses.

Councilmembers began discussions relating to specific departmental items as follows:

City Manager – James Earp, Kate Moriarty

- Community stakeholder events were decreased. Clarification provided that these were community initiated and not City-initiated events.*
- Ercot and Atmos Cities Steering Committee removed. Clarification provided that those costs were moved under City Council line item for Memberships to have them all in the same place.*
- Standardized Training allocation City-wide was also discussed.*

City Council – James Earp, Kate Moriarty

- *150th Anniversary Celebration placeholder of \$300 for further Council direction. Sponsorship opportunities and survey of other cities' events were also discussed.*
- *Downtown Hutto Business Association allocation for \$10,000 for security offset.*
- *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Commission training for \$17,500 and \$5,000 total available for all others.*
- *Council development and training dollars not allocated.*
- *Outside Funding allocations and affect of NNR available funds.*
- *Clarification of \$200,000 Economic Development payment to cover the Texas State Technical College (TSTC).*

Human Resources – Irene Talioaga

- *Operational functioning without requested HR Assistant position.*

Economic Development – Cheney Gamboa

- *Software maintenance costs decreased.*
- *Operational functioning without requested staff position.*

Development Services – Ashley Bailey

- *Decrease in 3rd party inspections – due to addition of Building Official last year, able to decrease that amount.*
- *Contractual agreement for the Unified Development Code (UDC) revision is a carry-over to the next fiscal year.*

Engineering – Matt Rector

- *Right-of-way (ROW) Agent and Traffic Engineer requested positions not included in the upcoming budget.*
- *Software licensing funds reallocated to different line item with enterprise pricing.*

Motion by Councilmember Gordon, second by Mayor Snyder, to add ROW Agent and Traffic Engineer positions and fund as much as possible out of CIP funds. Motion passed 7:0.

Police – Chief Jeffrey Yarbrough

- *Two of four requested officers included in budget. Operational challenge to four-quadrant patrolling in City.*
- *Requested administrative positions also not included – sworn personnel will continue to fulfill those responsibilities when needed.*
- *Availability of service slow down matrices.*

Information Technology (IT) – David Reeves

- *Requested IT Specialist for the PD not included.*
- *Requested programs not funded – not high priority for this year.*

Emergency Management – Jake Isbell

- *Requested weather stations not included.*

Library – Kristin Phillips

- *Requested Outreach Coordinator not included.*
- *Patron statistics for the Library.*
- *Request for reclassification of position.*
- *Requested bookmobile not included.*

Parks and Recreation – Jeff White

- *Requested staff not included.*
- *Review of tasks covered by Parks Maintenance Staff.*
- *Requested equipment not included.*
- *City sponsored events.*
- *Clarification of Christmas events and locations.*

Public Works – Rick Coronado

- *Requested equipment not included.*
- *Maintenance of current equipment.*
- *Wastewater Local Limit Study.*

Strategic Operations – David Amsler

- *Software oversight moved from Communications.*

Utility Billing – Alberta Barrett

- *Signing up for new service.*
- *Cash payments vs. electronic options.*

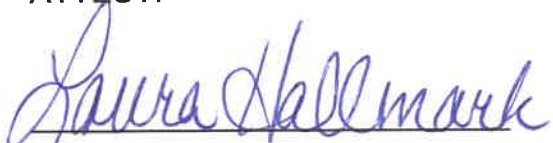
- 4.3. Consideration and possible action on Resolution No. R-2025-192 calling and setting up a public hearing on September 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM on the proposed tax rate for fiscal year 2025-2026 and determining the proposed tax rate to be included in the hearing notice and meeting, and providing an effective date. (Alberta Barrett)

Ms. Barrett outlined the proposed NNR tax rate and public hearing date set for September 4, 2025.


Motion by Councilmember Porterfield, second by Councilmember Morris, to approve the item as presented with the NNR rate of \$0.385928. Motion passed 5:2 (Gordon, Thompson).

5. ADJOURNMENT – 11:04 PM

ATTEST:



Laura Hallmark, City Secretary



Mike Snyder, Mayor



