

CITY OF BASTROP

BASTROP CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

The Bastrop City Council met at a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at the Bastrop City Hall Council Chambers, 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, Texas, with the following action taken to wit:

Council Members Present

Mayor Ishmael Harris
Mayor Pro-Tem John Kirkland
Council Member Cynthia Meyer
Council Member Kerry Fossler
Council Member Perry Lowe
Council Member Kevin Plunkett

Staff Present

City Manager Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino
City Attorney Charlie Zech
City Secretary Michael Muscarello
Assistant City Secretary Victoria Psencik
Assistant to the City Manager Viviana Andres
Public Information Manager Colin Guerra
Assistant City Manager Andres Rosales
Finance Director Judy Sandroussi
Police Lieutenant Daniel McManus
Executive Assistant to City Manager Taylor Andry
Development Services Director James Cowey
Parks and Recreation Director Jason Alfaro
Assistant Finance Director Laura Allen
Senior Planner Brittany Epling
Fleet and Facilities Director Doug Haggerty
Planner I Alondra Macias
Assistant Fire Chief Nick Laux
BEDC Operations Manager Angela Ryan
BEDC Business & Community Development Manager Jill Strube, Ph.D.

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Harris called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – United States of America and Texas Flags

Jorge Carmona and LeliAnna Emens, students from Cedar Creek Elementary, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

Pastor Bernie Jackson delivered the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4A. Mayor's Report

4B. Council Members' Report

4C. **City Manager's Report**

1. Update on Tri-City Economic Development Corporation

Submitted and Presented by: Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager

4D. **PROCLAMATION – Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

The proclamation was read in the record by Mayor Harris and accepted by the Family Crisis Center.

4E. **Bastrop County Emergency Service District No. 3 EMS Presentation.**

Submitted and Presented by: Allen Johnson, Executive Director

4F. **The City of Bastrop external auditors Crowe, LLP will be presenting the FY2025 Audit and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) to the City of Bastrop City Council.**

Submitted by: Judy Sandroussi, Finance Director

Presented by: Cory Lee, CPA, Senior Manager, Crowe, LLP

5. **WORK SESSIONS / BRIEFINGS – NONE**

6. **STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS**

6A. **Consider and act to approve Resolution R-2026-45 in support of the Bastrop Housing Authority's transition to a voucher program.**

Submitted by: Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager

Presented by: Rhonda Baxter, Bastrop Housing Authority Executive Director

MOTION: Council Member Fossler moved to approve Resolution No. R-2026-45 as presented. Council Member Lowe seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6B. **Consider and act to approve Resolution R-2026-22 to enter into negotiations with VWater regarding direct potable reuse.**

Submitted by: Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager

Presented by: Kevin Gast, VWater Chairman & CEO and Joe Navar, SVP Sales

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve Resolution No. R-2026-22 as presented. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6C. **Consider and act to approve Resolution R-2026-44 to enter into negotiations with Emergency Services District #2 to provide fire services to the City of Bastrop.**

Submitted and Presented by: Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager

MOTION: Council Member Meyer moved to approve Resolution No. R-2026-44 as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **CITIZEN COMMENT(S)**

Citizen(s) addressing the City Council on an item, not on the agenda: Reta Ward.

Citizen(s) that did not speak to the City Council but submitted a comment on an item on the agenda: Thomas Hoover (Bastrop Development Code), Judith Hoover (Bastrop Development Code), Dee Turnbow (Item 6C), Brenda Fowler (Items 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, and 9E), Jason Briggs (Item 6C), Nicole Briggs (Item 6C), Marie Rockey (Item 6C), Derek Quinn (Item 9B), James Oliyil (Item 9B), Bijo Mathew (Item 9B), Charuvica Mathew (Item 9B), Alex Thomas (Item 9B), Abraham Joseph (Item 9B), and Austin Bastrop LLC (Item 9B), Kristi Koch (Item 9B), Joey Najera (Item 9B), and Gary Schiff (Item 9B).

Citizen(s) addressing the City Council on an item on the agenda: Carole Reynolds (Item 9C).

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 8A. **Consider action to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2026-04 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, amending the operating and capital budget for the Fiscal Year 2026 in accordance with existing statutory requirements; appropriating the various amounts herein attached as Exhibit A; repealing all prior ordinances and actions in conflict herewith; establishing an effective date.**

Submitted by: Laura Allen, Assistant Finance Director

- 8B. **Consider and act on the second reading of Resolution No. 2026-23, approving an expenditure by the Bastrop Economic Development Corporation of Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$525,000.00) for the purchase of real property located at 804 Water Street; authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.**

Submitted by: Angela Ryan, BEDC Operations Manager, CEcD

- 8C. **Consider and act on a letter of support for the Bastrop Economic Development Corporation to apply to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program Application (PWEAA).**

Submitted by: Jill Strube, Ph.D., Business and Community Development Manager (BEDC)

- 8D. Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2026-43, approving a permit request to the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for the closure of Chestnut Street for the 2026 Juneteenth Parade.

Submitted by: Marco Olivares, Special Events Coordinator

- 8E. Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2026-47, authorizing the conveyance of approximately 1.101 acres of City-owned property, being a portion of that called 1.58 acres of land, part of Farm Lot 108, East of Main Street, Bastrop Town Tract Survey, Abstract 11, Bastrop County, Texas, to Patrick Millman via Quitclaim Deed; and authorizing the City Manager to execute any necessary documents.

Submitted by: Andres Rosales, Assistant City Manager

- 8F. Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2026-48 confirming the distribution of \$20,000 in Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds, previously approved by Resolution No. R-2026-42 on March 10, 2026, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary agreements.

Submitted by: Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager

- 8G. Consider and act to approve the Bastrop City Council minutes from the March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting.

Submitted by: Victoria Psencik, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary

Mayor Harris called for requests to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. No request was made to remove an item.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- 9A. Conduct a public hearing, consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-05, a request for a Zoning Concept Scheme to rezone the project site from P3 Neighborhood to P5 Core, for the area described as being 2.55 +/- acres out of the Building Block 120, East of Jackson Street, located at 1811 Jasper Street, within the city limits of Bastrop, Texas; and move to include on the April 14, 2026, City Council meeting for a second reading.

Submitted and Presented by: Brittany Epling, Senior Planner

Mayor Harris opened the Public Hearing at 8:57 p.m. for the property rezoned of 1811 Jasper Street listed in Item 9A.

Public Hearing: No comments were submitted.

Mayor Harris closed the Public Hearing at 8:57 p.m. for the property rezone of 1811 Jasper Street listed in Item 9A.

MOTION: Council Member Plunkett moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-05 as presented and include on the April 14, 2026, Agenda for a second reading. Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9B. **Conduct a public hearing, consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-06, repealing the Bastrop Building Block Code (Current Unified Development Code), and adopting the Bastrop Development Code (BDC) as Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances, as shown in Exhibit A; and move to include on the April 14, 2026, City Council meeting for a second reading.**

Submitted and Presented by: Brittany Epling, Senior Planner

Mayor Harris opened the Public Hearing at 9:26 p.m. to repeal the Bastrop Building Block Code (B3) and adopt the Bastrop Development Code (BDC) listed in Item 9B.

Public Hearing: Venkat Mallyor and Jimmy Crouch.

Mayor Harris closed the Public Hearing at 9:35 p.m. to repeal the Bastrop Building Block Code (B3) and adopt the Bastrop Development Code (BDC) listed in Item 9B.

During the discussion of Item 9B the following motion was made:

MOTION: Council Member Meyer moved to extend the meeting time until 10:30 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-06 as presented and include on the April 14, 2026, Agenda for a second reading. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland (original motion maker) moved to **amend** the original motion with the following:

- ❖ Garage Sales – allowed four (4) times per year and the homeowner is not required to own most of the items being sold;
- ❖ Single family dwellings should be permitted in mixed use;
- ❖ “Barndominiums” should be conditional use in mixed use;
- ❖ The Planning and Zoning Code for Conflict of Interest should refer to the City of Bastrop Ethics Ordinance;
- ❖ Boats, RVs, and other regulated vehicles should be allowed in driveways (*Sec. 14.02.005 Restrictions on Dwellings (C)(2)(b)*);
- ❖ Parking spaces should be 10 ft by 20 ft and not block sidewalks;
- ❖ The word “interest” should be struck from the three (3) members requirement for Planning and Zoning Commission (*Sec. 14.11.002 Members, Officers, and Alternative Qualifications (A)(1)*).

Council Member Meyer (original seconder to motion) agreed to amended motion listed above.

AMENDED MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-06 with the amendments listed above and include on the April 14, 2026 Agenda for a second reading. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9C. **Conduct a public hearing, consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-07, adopting a Comprehensive Zoning Map Amendment, as shown in Exhibit A; and move to include on the April 14, 2026, City Council meeting for a second reading.**

Submitted and Presented by: Brittany Epling, Senior Planner
Mayor Harris opened the Public Hearing at 10:16 p.m. to adopt a Comprehensive Zoning Map Amendment listed in Item 9C.

Public Hearing: Jimmy Crouch

Mayor Harris closed the Public Hearing at 10:20 p.m. to adopt a Comprehensive Zoning Map Amendment listed in Item 9C.

MOTION: Council Member Meyer moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-07 as presented and include on the April 14, 2026, Agenda for a second reading. Council Member Plunkett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9D. **Conduct a public hearing, consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-08, to approve amendments to the subdivision regulations and codification as Chapter 10, as shown in Exhibit A; and move to include on the April 14, 2026, City Council meeting for a second reading.**

Submitted and Presented by: Brittany Epling, Senior Planner

Mayor Harris opened the Public Hearing at 10:24 p.m. for amendments to the subdivision regulations and codification in Chapter 10 listed in Item 9D.

Public Hearing: No comments were submitted.

Mayor Harris closed the Public Hearing at 10:24 p.m. for amendments to the subdivision regulations and codification in Chapter 10 listed in Item 9D.

MOTION: Council Member Plunkett moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-08 as presented and include on the April 14, 2026, Agenda for a second reading. Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9E. **Consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-09, amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 1 "General Provisions", by repealing Section 1.13.05 "Trees on Private Property"; as shown in Exhibit A and replacing it with Chapter 14, "Bastrop Development Code", Article 14.06 "Tree**

Preservation and Mitigation” as shown in Exhibit B; and move to include on the April 14, 2026, Consent Agenda for the second reading.

Submitted and Presented by: James E. Cowey, Development Services Director

During the discussion of Item 9E the following motion was made:

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to extend the meeting time until 10:45 p.m. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Plunkett moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-09 as presented and include on the April 14, 2026, Agenda for a second reading. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Prior to convening into Executive Session, Council Member Fossler announced she has recused herself from Item 10. The submitted Conflict of Interest Statement has been attached as Exhibit A.

Mayor Harris closed the Open Meeting to convene the City Council into Executive (Closed) Session at 10:30 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 as follows:

10A. **Section 551.071 to consult with the Attorney regarding Pecan Street Bastrop, LLC v. City of Bastrop.**

11. TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON MATTERS POSTED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Harris reconvened the City Council into the Open Session at 10:47 p.m. and called for any action as a result of the Executive Session.

10A. **Section 551.071 to consult with the Attorney regarding Pecan Street Bastrop, LLC v. City of Bastrop.**

No action was taken on Item 10A.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Upon receiving a motion duly made and a second to adjourn, Mayor Harris adjourned the March 24th Regular Meeting at 10:47 p.m.

CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS



Ishmael Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:



Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary

Exhibit A



CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

I, Kerry Fossler, a City official of the City of Bastrop, Texas (the "City"), make this affidavit and hereby on oath state the following:

An action being contemplated by the (please circle):

City Council Board / Commission

at the March 24, 2026 Meeting, regarding Agenda Item No. 10A, may have an effect on a business entity, nonprofit organization, or real property in which I or a person related to me may have a conflicting interest as defined below.

1. The business entity, nonprofit organization, or real property in which I (or a relative) have an interest is described as follows (name, address, or legal description):

Sibling ownership of: Farm Lot, BLOCK 13 E M ST, ACRES 3.962 (Property ID 126740),

PECAN STREET BASTROP LLC, HOMES FOR GOOD FOUNDATION

2. The nature and extent of my interest (or a relative's interest) within the above-described entity or property includes one or more of the following:

(Check all that apply)

- Ownership of 5% or more of the voting stock or shares of a business entity
- Ownership of more than \$5,000 of the fair market value of a business entity
- Receipt of more than \$5,000 in gross annual income from a business entity (W-2, 1099, K-1, or similar)
- Ownership of an interest in real property with a fair market value of more than \$1,000
- Serves on the Board of Directors or as an officer of a business entity (unless appointed by City Council)
- Serves on the Board of Directors or as an officer of a nonprofit corporation or unincorporated association (unless appointed by City Council)
- Serves in an official, named capacity as a designated fundraiser for a nonprofit corporation or association (unless appointed by City Council)
- A relative of mine holds one or more of the above-listed interests

Note: "Relative" includes those related in the third degree by consanguinity (blood) or affinity (marriage), as defined in Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code.

Exclusion: This definition does not include ownership of an interest in a mutual or common investment fund unless I participate in the management of that fund.

AFFIDAVIT

Upon the filing of this affidavit with the City Secretary or Board Liaison, I affirm that I shall abstain from participation in any discussion, vote, or decision involving the matter identified above, unless a majority of the members of the governing body of which I am a member are likewise required to file and have filed affidavits declaring similar interests on the same item of official action.

SIGNED this 24 day of March, 2026

Signature of Affiant: _____

Printed Name: Kerry Fossler

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME on this the 24 day of March, 2026.

Michael Muscarello

Notary Public, State of Texas

My Commission Expires: August 2, 2026

