

CITY OF BASTROP

BASTROP CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

The Bastrop City Council met in a Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 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
Assistant City Manager / Fire Chief Andres Rosales
Assistant City Attorney Stan Springerley
City Secretary Michael Muscarello
Assistant City Secretary Victoria Psencik
Assistant to the City Manager Viviana Andres
Development Services Director James Cowey
Police Chief Vicky Steffanic
Public Information Manager Colin Guerra
Finance Director Judy Sandroussi
Assistant Finance Director Laura Allen
Main Street Manager Michaela Joyce
Fleet & Facilities Director Doug Haggerty
Water/Wastewater Director Curtis Hancock

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

Emma Creacy and Novi Jefferson, students with Emile Elementary SWAT Team, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

City of Bastrop Police Chaplain Dr. Arthur Banks delivered the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4A. Mayor's Report

4B. Council Members' Report

4C. PROCLAMATION – Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The proclamation was read and signed by Mayor Ishmael Harris.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENT(S)**

Citizen(s) that did not speak to City Council but submitted comments regarding items not specifically listed on the agenda: Reba King, Shawn Kana, Christy Rivera, Gilbert Cervantes, Roger Lightsey Jr, Doug Karn, David Segura, John Postle, Robin King, Hossein Soltani, Charles Day, Brad Cook, John McArdle, Tristan King, Scott Stanek, Jamie Howard, Barbara Rodgers, Romonda Watley, Mary Cervantes, Ashley Coy, Andy Mercer, William Harlan, Jonathan Fleming, and Jake Webb.

Citizens addressing the City Council on an item, not specifically listed on the agenda: Gwyneth Howard, Herb Goldsmith, Sami Mubasher, Andrea Haschke, and Rick Rivera.

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

7. **STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS – NONE**

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

8A. **Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2025-171, approving a Public Improvement Plan Agreement with Classen FM 969 LLC for the Auto Repair Shop, as attached in Exhibit A.**

Submitted by: James E. Cowey, Director of Development Services

8B. **Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2025-172 authorizing the reallocation of funding for the Agnes Street Extension project.**

Submitted by: Laura Allen, Assistant Finance Director

Mayor Harris called for requests to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. Mayor Harris requested Item 8C to be removed.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented above with the exclusion of Item 8C. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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8C. **Consider and act on the first reading of Ordinance No. 2025-74, amending the City of Bastrop Code of Ordinances Section 1.15.5 to recognize the Ethics Commission as a “City Official”; and move to include on the October 21, 2025 agenda for the second reading.**

Submitted by: Michael Muscarello, City Secretary

MOTION: Council Member Meyer moved to **table** Item 8C. Council Member Fossler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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9. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- 9A. Consider and act on the second reading of Ordinance No. 2025-71, adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026) attached as Exhibit A; making certain appropriations; and providing that expenditures for said Fiscal Year be made in accordance with said budget.

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

Citizen Comments submitted specifically for Item 9A that **did** speak: Reverend E.D. Johnson, Patrick Connell, Cecilia Serna, and Pablo Serna.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Kirkland moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2025-71 to adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 with a tax rate of 0.0504 and allocating the partnership idea proposed by the City Manager of a \$25,000 grant from HOT Funds for the Paul Quinn AME Church as a reimbursement upon completion. Council Member Plunkett seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9B. Consider and act on the second reading of Ordinance No. 2025-72, adopting the tax roll, adopting the tax rate, and levying ad valorem taxes for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 to provide revenue for the payment of budgeted municipal expenditures; and providing for tax assessment; records; an effective date; and proper notice and meeting.

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

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved that the property tax rate be set at 0.5040 per \$100 valuation, which is lower than the no-new revenue rate. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9C. Consider and act to approve Resolution No. R-2025-170 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, confirming annual board appointments of the Mayor, as required in Section 3.08 of the City's Charter, as outlined in Exhibit A; and establishing an effective date.

Submitted and Presented by: Michael Muscarello, City Secretary

MOTION (1): Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland moved to approve Resolution No. R-2025-170 naming appointments to Boards and Commissions from the Mayor with the exception of the BEDC Board and the Parks Board; for the BEDC Board – Mayor Ishmael Harris to Place 1, Mayor Pro-Tem John Kirkland as a reappointment to Place 3, Council Member Cynthia Meyer to Place 5, and Chris McCool as a reappointment to Place 7 and name the two remaining vacant seats at a later date; also name the remaining vacant seats of the Parks Board at a later date. Council Member Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION (2): Council Member Fossler moved to bring an Ordinance that would create a Parks Board seat as a liaison to the county parks system at the October 21st City Council meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Kirkland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Harris closed the Open Meeting to convene the City Council into Executive (Closed) Session at 8:23 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 as follows:

10A. **Section 551.071 to seek advice of legal counsel to discuss and deliberate regarding Corvette Invasion.**

10B. **Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property located on Lovers Lane.**

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 8:39 p.m. and called for any action as a result of the Executive Session.

10A. **Section 551.071 to seek advice of legal counsel to discuss and deliberate regarding Corvette Invasion.**

10B. **Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property located on Lovers Lane.**

No action was taken on Items 10A and 10B.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Upon receiving a motion duly made and seconded to adjourn, the September 30th Special Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS



Ishmael Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:



Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary