



CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, August 05, 2026
6:00 PM

Iowa Colony City Council Chambers, 3144 Meridiana Parkway Iowa Colony, Texas 77583

Phone: 281-369-2471 • Fax: 281-369-0005 • www.iowacolonytx.gov

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF IOWA COLONY

BE IT REMEMBERED ON THIS, the 5th day of August 2026, the City Council of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, held a worksession at 6:00 P.M. at the Iowa Colony City Council Chambers, there being present and in attendance the following members to wit:

Mayor Wil Kennedy
Mayor Pro Tem Marquette Greene-Scott
Councilmember Arnetta Murray
Councilmember Tim Varlack
Councilmember Kareem Boyce

And Councilmember Margaret Madariaga and Councilmember Sydney Hargroder being absent, constituting a quorum at which time the following business was transacted.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kennedy called the work session to order at 6:00 P.M.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Cameron Rollwitz talked about his opposition to data centers and the use of flock cameras.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discussion on the FY 2026-2027 City Budget, tax rate, and related matters.

City Manager Tarron Richardson provided information regarding the City's growth, proposed staffing needs, and development of the FY 2026-2027 budget. He advised that staff would use Council's feedback to prepare updated budget recommendations.

Finance Director Chris Thomas presented updated information regarding the FY 2026-2027 budget, certified property values, projected revenues, and potential tax rates. He explained the impact of certified property values on the proposed budget and presented several tax-rate scenarios for Council's consideration. He also reviewed the proposed new positions for the fiscal year, including an IT Technician, Fire/Building Inspector, Maintenance Worker, Public Works Director, Public Information Officer/Communications position, and Human Resources Assistant.

Mayor Pro Tem Greene-Scott asked questions regarding the proposed positions and emphasized the importance of prioritizing staffing needs based on available revenues. She thanked staff for their hard work and questioned whether hiring an in-house Building Inspector would be more cost-effective than continuing to pay a contractor for those services.

Councilmember Boyce noted that other positions had been prioritized over additional police officers and asked for clarification regarding the prioritization of the proposed positions. He also inquired about the next opportunity for annexation related to MUD 32.

Councilmember Varlack requested that staff evaluate whether certain positions could be filled through part-time employees, outsourcing, or other alternatives.

Police Chief Aaron Bell discussed current Police Department staffing, Crime Control funding, and the proposed addition of two police officer positions. He emphasized the importance of planning for additional public safety personnel as the City continues to grow.

Dinh Ho, City Engineer with Adico, provided information regarding the requirements for annexation of MUD 32. He explained that reaching approximately 90 percent water and wastewater availability would affect the City's ability to proceed with annexation. He agreed to provide Council with updated information regarding the current percentage.

Mayor Kennedy emphasized the importance of public safety and effective communication with residents regarding City projects, services, and initiatives. He discussed the proposed Public Information Officer position and the need to ensure residents receive consistent and accurate information.

Councilmember Murray shared her perspective on the proposed positions, emphasizing that public safety should remain a top priority. She noted that outsourcing could be considered as an alternative for certain functions and stated that staffing decisions should be based on what is in the best interest of the City.

IT Director Bibin George discussed the proposed IT Technician position and explained the security and compliance concerns associated with fully outsourcing certain information technology functions.

Councilmember Varlack reiterated the importance of maintaining a plan for communicating information to residents, regardless of whether a full-time Public Information Officer position is included in the budget.

Council discussed alternatives for several proposed positions, including outsourcing, part-time staffing, internships, and third-party service providers.

City Manager Tarron Richardson summarized Council's feedback and stated that staff would review the proposed positions and other budget considerations before returning with an updated proposed budget.

Council directed staff to incorporate the feedback provided during the workshop into the proposed FY 2026–2027 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

The worksession was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 19TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2026


Kayleen Rosser, City Secretary




Wil Kennedy, Mayor