



City of La Vernia
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
102 E. Chihuahua St., La Vernia, Texas 78121
August 13, 2026
6:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32PM

Mayor Gilbert, and Council members Recker, Rabel, Ingle and Oates were present. Evans was absent.

2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Bobby Nixon lead the prayer and Mayor Gilbert lead the pledges.

3. Citizens to Be Heard

(At this time, citizens who have filled out a registration form prior to the start of the meeting may speak on any topic they wish to bring to the attention of the governing body so long as that topic is not on the agenda for this meeting. Citizens may speak on specific agenda items when that item is called for discussion. During the Citizens to Be Heard section, no council action may take place, and no council discussion or response is required to the speaker. A time limit of three minutes per speaker is permitted; the council may extend this time at their discretion.)

There were no citizens to be heard.

4. Consent Agenda

(All consent agenda items are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests an item be removed and considered separately.)

A. Minutes from the 06/30/2026 City Council Workshop

B. Minutes from the 07/09/2026 City Council Meeting

Motion made by Recker, seconded by Oates to approve as listed, all in favor.

5. Public Hearing

A. The City of La Vernia City Council will hold a Public hearing regarding Ordinance No. 091026-01 adopting the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget

A.1 Open Public Hearing

A.2 Staff Presentation

A.3 Receive Public Comments

A.4 Close Public Hearing

A.5 Discuss and consider action on Ordinance No. 091026-01 adopting the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget

A.1 Open Public Hearing

The Public hearing was opened at 6:33PM.

A.2 Staff Presentation

City Administrator Lindsey Wheeler spoke, she went over a high level overview of the budget. She went over staff request as well.

A.3 Receive Public Comments

A citizen asked if we are having issues with the park lighting? Lindsey stated that we are having issues, the LED lights that are being requested will help with future issues.

A citizen asked about the drainage in the park? Lindsey stated that the funds are already accounted for.

A.4 Close Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was closed 6:45PM.

A.5 Discuss and consider action on Ordinance No. 091026-01 adopting the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Gilbert tabled item for future workshop.

- B. The City of La Vernia City Council will hold a Public hearing regarding Ordinance No. 091026 -02 adopting the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate, consisting of Operation and Maintenance and Interest and sinking (Debt Service) Tax Rate.

B.1 Open Public Hearing

B.2 Staff Presentation

B.3 Receive Public Comments

B.4 Close Public Hearing

B.5 Discuss and consider action on Ordinance No. 091026 -02 adopting the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate, consisting of Operation and Maintenance and Interest and sinking (Debt Service) Tax Rate.

B.1 Open Public Hearing

The Public hearing was opened at 6:46PM.

B.2 Staff Presentation

City Administrator Lindsey Wheeler spoke, she presented the first draft of the tax rate for FY 26-27. She also went over charts showing our tax rates for the previous years, as well as surrounding cities tax rates. She highlighted on the voter-approval rate and why it decreased.

She also went over the impact, and pulled 3 properties in the city limits and showed what their current property taxes are with the current Tax at \$0.272538, and how much it would be with the proposed \$0.370000 tax rate.

B.3 Receive Public Comments

A citizen asked if there has been talk around rezoning the city limits? Mayor Gilbert stated the property owners have to request to annex into the city limits.

A citizen asked if we raised the rate last year? Lindsey stated we did we upped the tax rate to the current 0.272538.

A citizen asked about the new sewer system? Mayor Gilbert stated that we have to maintain and update it.

A citizen asked if there are any grants available? Mayor Gilbert stated yes there are grants and the staff is really good about finding and applying for them.

A citizen asked if the new homes coming in will impact them? Mayor Gilbert stated they are working to not have them affect them, he also highlighted that with more homes the tax rate could decrease.

B.4 Close Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was closed 7:09PM.

B.5 Discuss and consider action on Ordinance No. 091026 -02 adopting the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate, consisting of Operation and Maintenance and Interest and sinking (Debt Service) Tax Rate.

Mayor Gilbert tabled item for future workshop.

6. Discussion Only

A. Discussion regarding the monthly meter replacement report

City Engineer Morgen Gore spoke, she stated all residential meters have been replaced. They only have commercial meters left, there are 54 of them that need to be replaced.

7. Resolutions

A. Discuss and consider action on Resolution No. 081326-01 regarding the contract for animal services with Hearts to Homes Rescue

City Administrator Lindsey Wheeler spoke, she stated Hearts to Homes Rescue will keep 2 spots available for us at anytime, they will work closely with the police department and already have a plan in place for animals.

Motion made by Recker, seconded by Rabel to approve Resolution No. 081326-01 regarding the contract for animal services with Hearts to Homes Rescue, all in favor.

B. Discuss and consider action on Resolution No. 081326-02 regarding the contract for inspection services

City Engineer Morgen Gore spoke, she states this will be as needed for civil inspections and will be charged to the developer.

Josh Mair was present from Toro Consulting and spoke on behalf of them.

Motion made by Recker, seconded by Oates to approve Resolution No. 081326-02 regarding the contract for inspection services, all in favor.

8. Executive Session

The City Council for the City of La Vernia reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberation about Security Devices), and 551.087 (Economic Development), and any other provision under Texas law that permits a governmental body to discuss a matter in a closed executive session.

The City Council went into Executive Session at 7:19PM.

The City Council came out of Executive Session at 8:18PM.

- A. Pursuant to Local Government Code section §551.072. *(Deliberations about Real Property)* of the Open Meeting Act. Tex. Gov't Code, the City Council will meet in executive session to deliberate on proposed developments taking place at a property(S) legally known as A0008 J DELGADO SUR, TRACT 48N (U-1), ACRES 25 and A0008 J DELGADO SUR, TRACT 48P (U-1), ACRES 48.53
No public action was taken.
- B. Pursuant to Local Government Code section §551.074 *(Personnel Matters)* of the Open Meeting Act. Tex. Gov't Code, the City Council will meet in executive session to deliberate the annual job performance of the Chief of Police.
No public action was taken.
- C. Pursuant to Local Government Code section §551.074 *(Personnel Matters)* of the Open Meeting Act. Tex. Gov't Code, the City Council will meet in executive session to deliberate the annual job performance of the City Administrator.
No public action was taken.

9. Items Specific to Future Line Items on the Agenda

- Workshop (08/24/26)
- Tree Ordinance
- Trash contract
- Permitted use chart (churches)

10. Adjourn

Motion made by Oates, seconded by Rabel to adjourn at 8:30PM, all in favor.

DECORUM REQUIRED

Any disruptive behavior, including shouting or derogatory statements or comments may be ruled out of order by the Presiding Officer. Continuation of this type of behavior could result in a request by the Presiding Officer that the individual leave the meeting, and if refused, an order of removal.

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The City of La Vernia Council meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. The facility is wheelchair accessible and parking spaces are available. Request for accommodations, should you require special assistance, must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Braille is not available. Please contact the City Secretary at (830) 779-4541 or email mfarrow@lavernia-tx.gov

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting of the governing body of the above named La Vernia City Council is a true and correct copy of said Notice and that I posted true and correct copy of said Notice on the bulletin boards of the City Hall of said La Vernia, Texas, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and said Notice was posted on **August 06, 2026 at 4:30 PM** and remained so posted continuously for at least 3 business days proceeding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Madison Farrow, City Secretary