



Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Hall – 520 East Ocean Blvd. Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<https://cityoflosfresnos.com/meetings>

NOTICE OF SAID MEETING IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TITLE 5 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Alejandro Flores called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Alejandro Flores
Place 1 Alberto Escobedo
Place 2 Andrew Gonzales
Place 3 Juan Munoz
Place 4 Luis Gonzalez
Place 5 Leonel Casanova Jr.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Alejandro Flores gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. VISITORS REMARKS

To speak, you must sign in with the City Secretary prior to the meeting. You have a limit of 5 minutes to speak.

Manuel Abrego addressed the council regarding political campaign signs, commending the city and candidates for improved sign removal following recent elections. He encouraged continued enforcement of sign regulations and accountability for timely removal of campaign signage after elections.

Mr. Manuel also spoke in support of developing a sports complex and additional recreational facilities for youth, including baseball and soccer programs. He encouraged the City to begin planning and setting aside funding for future improvements to meet the needs of the growing community and anticipated residential development. He noted recent sports facility investments by neighboring communities and emphasized the importance of providing recreational opportunities for local youth and families.

Mayor Flores thanked Mr. Abrego for his comments.

Council Member Luis Gonzalez arrived at 6:35 p.m.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing to receive comments from the public on the proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Public hearing opened at 6:08 p.m.

Nataly Ramos introduced herself and explained she would present in both English and Spanish. Ms. Ramos addressed the Council regarding the proposed tax rate of \$0.685 per \$100 valuation, noting that although the rate remains unchanged from the previous year, increased property valuations may result in higher tax bills for property owners. She compared the proposed rate to the published no-new-revenue tax rate and requested additional information regarding the amount of revenue generated above that rate, how the funds would be allocated, and the rationale for maintaining the proposed rate. The resident also expressed

concern about the impact on homeowners, particularly those on fixed incomes, and encouraged transparency regarding the use of the additional revenue.

Public hearing closed at 6:14 p.m.

E. ACTION ITEMS

1. Budget Workshop for FY 2026-2027

Council member Luis Gonzalez arrived at 6:35 p.m.

City Manager Roberto Baez presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget, including projected revenues and expenditures. Department Heads reviewed their respective budgets and highlighted significant changes and anticipated needs for the upcoming fiscal year. Key discussion topics included: Ongoing records digitization efforts in the Administration Department. Municipal Court training expenses and implementation of a payment system that shifts credit card processing fees to customers. Information Technology funding for backup batteries and cybersecurity infrastructure. Election expenses returning to normal levels following a special election year. Police Department vehicle replacement through the Enterprise leasing program and continued use of traffic-monitoring technology. Contract increases for Fire and EMS services as required by existing agreements. Code Enforcement overtime needs, animal control facility improvements, and future consideration of civilian code enforcement positions. Street and utility infrastructure needs, including aging water and sewer systems, increased chemical costs, water meter replacement, and equipment replacement. Library staffing, facility improvements, and potential future funding opportunities for building upgrades. Addition of part-time assistance for the Senior Center meal program. Emergency Management funding for potential generator purchases through a FEMA grant program. Employee recognition initiatives and community health programming. CDC, Debt Service Fund, and TIRZ budget projections and ongoing efforts related to economic development and capital improvement planning.

Manuel Abrego was permitted to comment during the workshop and encouraged the Council to consider employee compensation adjustments and review utility tap fees. Council members expressed appreciation to department heads for their work in developing the budget and discussed future priorities, including parks, recreational facilities, senior services, infrastructure improvements and long range capital planning.

No action was taken and the workshop concluded following discussion of all budgeted funds and departments.

F. CLOSED SESSION

1. Closed Session pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.087 to discuss economic development negotiations related to a proposed commercial development including potential infrastructure improvements and possible economic development incentives.

Closed session started at 7:02 p.m.

G. OPEN SESSION

1. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.087: Discussion and possible ACTION regarding economic development negotiations and potential infrastructure improvements associated with a proposed commercial development.

Meeting was opened at 7:39 p.m.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the item as discussed in executive session.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 5 Casanova Jr..

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Gonzales, Place 3 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Casanova Jr.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary