



Town Council Meeting - Special

Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

NOTICE

THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS, WILL CONVENE IN A WORK SESSION AT 6:00 P.M. AND SPECIAL SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING IN PONDER TOWN HALL, AT 102 W. BAILEY STREET, PONDER.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor ProTem Estes called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

*Council Member Jason Adams
Mayor Pro-Tem John Estes
Council Member Mark Culpepper
Council Member Marc Shingelo
Council Member Lael McWilliams*

ABSENT

Mayor Nick McGregor

Staff members: Fred Tillman, Rebecca Zielinski, Alexis Norberg

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

WORK SESSION AGENDA

Work Sessions are not public hearings; the Council cannot take action on any matter placed on the Work Session agenda. Public comments are permitted in accordance with the Town Council's general rules for public comments.

1. Budget workshop to discuss FY26-27 general fund and water/sewer fund budgets.

Entered budget workshop at 6:02pm. Fred Tillman gave brief introduction to the proposed draft water/sewer and general fund budget. Caryn Riggs with ZacTax was present to review budget, give brief history of certified appraisal roll, real estate market review, current tax

rate and proposed tax rate for the tax year 2026-2027. Discussion between council members regarding the budget.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZEN INPUT (Please limit to 5 minutes per person and if you wish to speak on a particular agenda item, please list the agenda item next to your name.)

This is a time for the public to address the Town Council on any subject. However, the Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Town Council from discussing issues which the public has not been given three (3) business days' notice. Issues raised may be referred to Town Staff for research and possible future action.

No one signed up to speak.

SPECIAL SESSION

2. Discuss, consider and act on Westwood Wastewater Treatment Plant Proposal.

Motion to approve proposal made by Council Member Shingelo, Seconded by Council Member Culpepper.

Voting Yea: Council Member Adams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo, Council Member McWilliams. Motion passes 5-0-0.

3. Discuss, consider and act on setting the proposed tax rate for the tax year 2026-2027.

Motion to set proposed tax rate to No New Revenue Rate of 0.707665 made by Council Member Culpepper, Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

Voting Yea: Council Member Adams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo, Council Member McWilliams. Motion passes 5-0-0.

4. Discuss, consider and act on setting the public hearing date for the proposed tax rate and the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget on the Town Council agenda for 6:00pm on September 14, 2026 and place agenda item for approval of the proposed tax rate and budget on the Town Council agenda for 6:00pm on September 14, 2026.

Motion to set public hearing date and vote for September 14, 2026 made by Council Member Culpepper, Seconded by Council Member Shingelo.

Voting Yea: Council Member Adams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo, Council Member McWilliams. Motion passes 5-0-0.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

ADJOURN

BUDGET STATEMENT Pursuant to Section 551.043, Government Code, the following taxpayer impact statement must be included with the Town Council meeting notice at which the Town Council will discuss or adopt a budget for the Town of Ponder: For an average-valued homestead property

(\$300,000.00), the Town's portion of the property tax bill in dollars for the current fiscal year (FY2025) is \$2,139.73, the Town's portion of the property tax bill for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2026) for the same property if the proposed budget is adopted is estimated to be \$2,083.14, and the Town's portion of the property tax bill in dollars for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2026) for the same property if a budget funded at the no-new-revenue rate under Chapter 26, Tax Code, is adopted is estimated to be \$2,083.14.

ADJOURN

Mayor ProTem closed the meeting at 7:59pm.

Approve:

Date:

Nick McGregor, Mayor

Attest:

Rebecca Zielinski, Town Secretary