



Town Council Meeting

Monday, January 12, 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 PRE-COUNCIL AT 6:00 P.M. AND REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 P.M. IN PONDER TOWN HALL, AT 102 W. BAILEY STREET, PONDER.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Council Member Ginger Deussen

Mayor Nick McGregor

Council Member Lael McWilliams

Mayor Pro-Tem John Estes

Council Member Mark Culpepper

Council Member Marc Shingelo

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

Mayor McGregor led the pledges and invocation.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Bulk Trash Report - December

Murel Rogers with Waste Connections reviewed the recycling program with the Council. The service is offered twice a month. It picks up the same day as trash days.

2. Library Report

Kelly reviewed her attendance and new card issuances. The most attended program for the month of December was Box Day. Kids enjoyed coloring and building old shipping boxes. Kids were building creations in every room. Fun Fridays are getting great attendance. Kelly and Amy will begin working on their annual report that is due in March.

3. PD Report

Chief Caster reviewed the call report totals for the month of December. December was a very busy month for the department. Staff continued to collect food items for Backpack Blessings. They also collected winter jackets and clothes for a community closet. On December 6, the officers participated in Polar Express and Christmas in the Park. Administrative Assistant Jennifer and Officer Culwell worked to prepare the park for these festivities and recruited the Ponder Fire Department to put lights on the huge outdoor Christmas tree in the park. On December 14 Ponder Police Department, Ponder ISD and Denton County Cowboy Church opened a Santa Store allowing local families to "shop" for Christmas gifts. They gifted 212 children through Operation Jingle Bells. Aaron Coulter of Coulter Cattle Company generously donated 780 pounds of ground beef, which the department distributed to Ponder residents.

4. Planning and Zoning Report

Rebecca reviewed the permits issued for the month of December.

PRESENTATION

5. Presentation by CEO/Retired Chief Mike Wilson from Newinblue.

Mr. Plummer who is the Director of Operations with Newinblue gave a presentation for services.

PRE-COUNCIL MEETING - 6:00PM (Council members may have preliminary discussions about agenda items, allowing them to come to the regular meeting with a better understanding of the items.)

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING - 6:30PM

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 seventy-two (72) hours' notice. Issues raised may be referred to Town Staff for research and possible future action.

Augustine with Elektrafi Internet introduced himself to the community and council members. He is the new representative for the area.

Sign in sheet attached.

CONSENT AGENDA *(All matters listed as Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.)*

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

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

6. Consider approval of minutes from December 8, 2025 meeting.
7. Discuss, consider, and act on an Ordinance Calling an Election for May 2, 2026, to include a General Election for Town Council Places 1, 3, and 5, a Special Election for Town Council Place 4, a Special Election to Reauthorize the One-Fourth of One Cent Street Maintenance Sales and Use Tax, and a Special Election to Consider the Approval of a TAX INCREASE to increase the Town of Ponder Sales and Use Tax Rate by an Additional One-Fourth of One Cent.
8. Discuss, consider and possible action regarding the award of a construction contract with Mario Sinacola for the Anderson Farms Parkway construction project, in an amount not to exceed \$3,398,452.00.
9. Elect Chance Allen to the EDC Board and Cathy Green as an EDC advisory director.
10. Discuss, consider and possible action regarding a RFQ for engineering services.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

11. Discuss, consider and possible action regarding Replat of Lot 4, Hillside Estates No. 2 into Lots 4A and 4B, in Ponder's ETJ.

Motion to approve conditionally approve the Replat of Lot 4, Hillside Estates No. 2 per engineers' recommendations made by Council Member Shingelo, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

12. Discuss, consider and possible action regarding replat of Rylee Addition plus additional unplatted property into "Minor Plat" Lots 1-R and 2-R Block A

Motion to deny the Rylee Addition Minor Plat made by Council Member Culpepper, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

13. Discuss, consider, and possibly take action on terminating town attorney services with Boyle & Lowry, L.L.P.

Motion to terminate town attorney services with Boyle & Lowry, L.L.P. made by Council Member Shingelo, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

14. Discuss, consider, and possibly take action on engaging Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam, LLP as new town attorney.

Motion to engage in town attorney contract with Taylor Olson Adkins Sralla & Elam, LLP made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Shingelo.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

15. Discuss, consider and possibly take action on employment agreement for Fred Tillman.

Motion made to approve the employment agreement with Fred Tillman by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

Executive Session

The Town Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed below, as authorized by Texas Government Code

A. Consult with attorney on a matter in which the attorney's duty to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct conflicts with this chapter and/or consult with attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or contemplated settlement of the same. Section 551.071.

B. Consult with attorney on a matter in which the attorney's duty to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct conflicts with this chapter and/or consult with attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or contemplated settlement of the same. Section 551.071.

C. Discuss negotiated gifts or donations to the City (public discussion at this stage would have a detrimental effect on the City's bargaining position). Section 551.073.

D. Discuss the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline, or dismissal of or to hear a complaint against a public officer or employee. Section 551.074.

a. Town Administrator

E. Discuss the commercial or financial information received from an existing business or business prospect with which the City is negotiating for the location or retention of a facility, or for incentives the City is willing to extend, or financial information submitted by the same. Section 551.087.

F. Discuss the deployment or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices. Section 551.076.

G. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations pursuant to Section 551.087.

Motion to enter executive session at 7:06pm made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Shingelo.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

Council returned from executive session at 8:07pm.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

ADJOURN

The Town Council 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 Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices) and 551.087 (Economic Development)

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:08pm made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Culpepper, Council Member Shingelo

CERTIFICATION

Approve:



Nick McGregor, Mayor

Date:



Attest:



Rebecca Zielinski, Town Secretary

