



Town Council Meeting - Special

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 6:30 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

NOTICE

THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS, WILL CONVENE IN SPECIAL SESSION AT 6:30PM IN PONDER TOWN HALL, AT 102 W. BAILEY STREET, PONDER.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McGregor called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Nick McGregor

Council Member Jason Adams

Mayor Pro-Tem John Estes

Council Member Mark Culpepper

Council Member Marc Shingelo

Council Member Lael McWilliams

Staff:

Fred Tillman, Rebecca Zielinski, Brooke Boller, Alexis Norberg, Lane Cheek

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

Mayor McGregor led the pledge and prayer.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

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.

See attached list.

Erika Emerson had questions about tax and budget planning process. She has concerns about the high tax rate compared to City of Justin. The mayor suggested she speak with town staff to get a better understanding of the proposed budget and tax rate.

Hunter Howard spoke about the termination of library director. He spoke about a social media post addressing the reduction of library hours. The library is about investing in children and books and access for children and families. He would like council and staff to reconsider her termination. Town Administrator Fred Tillman said he will discuss with town staff. Mayor pointed out that library staff was who reduced hours of library. Attorney spoke that council may not comment any further and the public is welcome to bring their concerns to an open forum.

Amy holder spoke about high water bill. She has concerns about the high water bill and why she is responsible for the water leak that occurred after the system was reenergized.

Sharron Wiggins at 232 Southpeak Ln had a high bill and has similar concerns as other Mrs. Holder.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss, consider and adopt Ordinance 26-10, appropriations for the support of the Town of Ponder and adopting the FY 2026-2027 Annual Budget.

Motion to approve ordinance 26-11 and tax rate for the FY2026-2027 year made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Adams.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq., the Town Council will recess into Executive Session in accordance with the authority contained therein to discuss the following:

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

A. Town Administrator

§551.071: Consultation with attorney regarding a matter in which the duty of the attorney requires to be held in closed session.

A. Water Bills

Motion to enter into executive session at 6:55pm made by Council Member Culpepper, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

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

No action taken.

Motion to return from executive session at 7:49pm made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Shingelo.

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

Motion to adjourn at 7:49pm made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Shingelo.

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

Approved:

Date:

Nick McGregor, Mayor

Attest:

Rebecca Zielinski, Town Secretary