



CITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2026 MINUTES

City Hall, 120 El Chico Trl., Suite A, Willow Park, TX 76087

Tuesday, September 08, 2026 at 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mayor Teresa Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. and determined a quorum was present.

PRESENT

Mayor Teresa Palmer
Councilmember Eric Contreras
Councilmember Chawn Gilliland
Councilmember Buddy Wright
Councilmember Scott Smith
Councilmember Nathan Crummel

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager - Toni Fisher
City Secretary - Deana McMullen
City Attorney - Judy El Masri

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

Mr. Marc Povero gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge given by all present.

1. Mayor Comments: 1) Bible Verse 2) Business Recognition

Mayor Teresa Palmer read Bible verse:

Mayor Palmer recognized new business: Whit's Frozen Custard, 119 S Ranch House Rd. #800 Willow Park, TX 76087

Mayor Teresa Palmer will present a Proclamation to Freedom House to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Willow Park.

Mayor Teresa Palmer and Councilmember Chawn Gilliland presented a Proclamation to Freedom House to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Willow Park.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to five minutes per person)

To address the City Council, residents must complete a speaker form and turn it in to the City Secretary at least five (5) minutes before the start of the meeting. The Rules of Procedure state that all comments are to be limited to five (5) minutes for each speaker provided that there are no more than ten (10) speakers. If there are more than ten (10) speakers, the Mayor and/or the City Council may reduce the applicable time limits to speak to three (3) minutes. Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any item not listed on the agenda. The Council may: (1) make a statement of fact regarding the item; (2) make a statement concerning the policy regarding the item; (3) propose the item be placed on a future agenda (Tex. Govt. Code §551.042). Each speaker shall approach the podium or designated speaker location and state his/her name and address before speaking. Speakers shall address the City Council with civility that is conducive to appropriate public discussion. Speakers may only address the City Council and not individual officials, commission members, committee members, or employees. The public cannot speak from the gallery, but only from the podium or designated speaker location.

The following citizens were present to give public comments:

1. Gene Martin
2. Houston Wingard

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed below are considered routine or "housekeeping" by the City Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Council Member requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence. Approval of the Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager to implement each item in accordance with staff recommendation.

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Contreras, Seconded by Councilmember Gilliland.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

2. Approval of Regular City Council Meeting Minutes:

August 18, 2026 Special Meeting

August 25, 2026 Regular Meeting

3. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Parker County Sheriff Office for Jail Services for FY 2026-2027

4. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Parker County Sheriff Office for Dispatch Services for FY 2026-2027

5. Approval of Holiday Schedule for FY 2026-2027

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

6. **Public Hearing: The City of Willow Park City Council will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.** (*City Manager Toni Fisher, Assistant City Manager Michelle Guelker*)

The City of Willow Park City Council held a Public Hearing on the proposed Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year for anyone wishing to speak for or against this item.

Mayor Teresa Palmer opened the public hearing for anyone wishing to speak for or against this item at 6:17.

Ms. Carol Wagner spoke for this item.

Ms. Marcy Galle, spoke on this item.

With no further comments, Mayor Palmer closed the meeting at 6:26 pm.

7. **Discussion/Action: to adopt an ordinance approving the adoption of the City of Willow Park Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.** (*City Manager Toni Fisher; Assistant City Manager Michelle Guelker*)

Motion was made to approve Ordinance 947-26 as presented approving the adoption of the City of Willow Park Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Motion made by Councilmember Contreras, Seconded by Councilmember Smith.

This motion required a roll call vote that was as follows:

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

8. **Discussion/Action on Resolution No. 2026-34 Ratifying the Property Tax Increase reflected in the FU 2026-2027 Annual Budget. This tax rate will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$124,891 or 3.38 % and of that amount, \$ 179,174 is revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. **See Taxpayer Impact Statement Below*****

Motion was made to approve Resolution number 2026-34 that the City Council hereby ratifies the property tax increase reflected in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Budget and Acknowledges that the Budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$124,891, or 3.38% and of that amount \$179,174 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax rolls this year.

Motion made by Councilmember Contreras, Seconded by Councilmember Crummel.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

9. **Public Hearing: hold a public hearing on the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the 2026-2027 Fund Year** (*City Manager Toni Fisher, Assistant City Manager Michelle Guelker*)

Mayor Teresa Palmer opened the Public Hearing on the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the 2026 2027 Fund Year at 6:29 pm for anyone wishing to speak on this item.

There was no one wishing to speak on this item.

Mayor Palmer closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 pm

10. **Discussion/Action: to consider and act on approving an ordinance adopting an Ad Valorem Tax Rate and levy on assessed property not to exceed 0.429041 per \$100 valuation for tax year 2026 for the City of Willow Park, Texas, including a Levy for Debt obligations (\$0.25929) and a levy for Maintenance and Operations (\$0.169112) consistent with the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Municipal Budget.** (*City Manager Toni Fisher, Assitant City Manager Michelle Guelker*)

Motion was made to adopt Ordinance 948-26 as presented adopting and approving the Ad Valorem Tax Rate and levy on assessed property not to exceed 0.429041 per \$100 valuation for tax year 2026 for the City of Willow Park, Texas, including a Levy for Debt obligations (\$0.25929) and a levy for Maintenance and Operations (\$0.169112) consistent with the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Municipal Budget.

Councilmember Eric Contreras Thanked City Manager Toni Fisher and Assitant City Manger Michelle Guelker for thier hard work on the preparation of the Budget for this year and getting it to a balanced budget and staying with the no new revenue tax rate.

Motion made by Councilmember Contreras, Seconded by Councilmember Wright.

This item required a roll call vote as follows:

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

11. **Public Hearing on voluntary annexation of approximately 0.82 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #118980.** (*City Planner Chelsea Kirkland, City Manager Toni Fisher*)

Mayor Teresa Palmer opened the public hearing at 6:33 pm for anyone wishing to speak for or against the voluntary annexation of approximately 0.82 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #118980.

City Planner Chelsea Kirkland gave the Council and audience the brief on items 11, 12, 13 and 14 and also stated that this was unanimously approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

There was no one wishing to speak for or against this item.

Mayor Palmer closed the Public Hearing at 6:34 pm.

- 12. Discussion/Action: to consider approval of voluntary annexation of approximately 0.82 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #118980. (City Planner Chelsea Kirkland, City Manager Toni Fisher)**

Motion was made to approve the voluntary annexation of approximately 0.82 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #118980 as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Gilliland, Seconded by Councilmember Crummel.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

- 13. Public Hearing on voluntary annexation of approximately 0.33 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #125053. (City Planner Chelsea Kirkland, City Manager Toni Fisher)**

Mayor Teresa Palmer opened the public hearing at 6:37 pm for anyone wishing to speak for or against the item on voluntary annexation of approximately 0.33 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #125053.

There was no one wishing to speak on this item.

Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing at 6:37 pm

- 14. Discussion/Action: to consider approval of voluntary annexation of approximately 0.33 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #125053. (City Planner Chelsea Kirkland, City Manager Toni Fisher)**

Motion was made to approve of voluntary annexation of approximately 0.33 acres of land being situated in the James Oxer Survey, Abstract Number 1029, Parker County, Texas, as further identified as being a portion of the Parker County Appraisal District as Property ID #125053 as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Smith, Seconded by Councilmember Gilliland.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

15. Discussion/Action: to consider appointment of the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (*City Manager Toni Fisher, Assistant City Manager Michelle Guelker*)

Mayor Teresa Palmer recommended this item be tabled as this item was not posted correctly. The item should have stated Comprehensive Improvement Plan vs. Capital Improvement Plan.

City Manager Toni Fisher stated that to save time can we possibly add this item to the Special meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026.

Motion was made to table this item and add the correct item needed to the Special meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 as discussed.

Motion made by Councilmember Gilliland, Seconded by Councilmember Contreras.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

16. Discussion/Action: To consider approval of an ordinance to set regulations for Flock Cameras in Willow Park (*Councilmember Eric Contreras*)

Following a lengthy discussion it was suggested that this item be discussed further after a Chief of Police is appointed and then we can bring it back to the Agenda for guidelines.

Motion was made to direct staff and city attorney to rework the guidelines with comments made here and more information subject to Police Department guidelines and the intended usage for the cameras.

Motion made by Councilmember Contreras, Seconded by Councilmember Wright.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Contreras, Councilmember Gilliland, Councilmember Wright, Councilmember Smith, Councilmember Crummel

17. Discussion/Action: to set plans for information processes regarding Election for Home Rule Charter. (*Mayor Teresa Palmer*)

Mayor Teresa Palmer stated she added this item to the Agenda. She wanted to make sure that we are on track for the Charter Election in November stating that the Charter has to be mailed out and received at least 30 days prior to the election.

Staff informed Mayor Palmer that all steps necessary are in process of being taken care of.

No action was taken on this item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, the City Council will recess in Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following:

Mayor Teresa Palmer read the items for Executive Session and proceeded to try and discuss item 20 and 21 in open session. City attorney Judy El Masri stated that the Council needed to adjourn to executive session. Mayor Palmer continued to speak.

Motion was made to adjourn to executive session by Councilmember Scott Smith, seconded by Councilmember Eric Contreras. Mayor Palmer refused to call for a vote. Mayor Pro Tem Nathan Crummel called for the vote. The motion carried with five votes in approval and zero votes opposed.

The Council then adjourned into Executive Session at 7:20 pm to discuss items listed on the Agenda.

- 18. Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney: City of Aledo, Texas and City of Fort Worth, Texas v. City of Willow Park, Texas, Beall-Dean Ranch and Parker County cause number: CV26-0175 in Parker County District Court, 43rd District; Mediation Settlement Agreement.**
- 19. Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney: City of Willow Park v. Halff & Associates. (Fort Worth Water Project)**
- 20. Section 551.071(2): Consultation with the City Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding: Discussion regarding employee complaints.**
- 21. Section 551.071 (2): Consultation with the City Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding: Discussion of Mayor requests for confidential documents.**

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

In accordance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, the City Council will reconvene into Regular Session to consider action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Teresa Palmer called the regular meeting back to order at 8:31 pm and asked for any motions on any item discussed in Executive Session.

There were no actions on any items discussed in Executive Session.

INFORMATIONAL COMMENTS

- 22. City Manager Comments - Staff Recognition(s); Response/Reaction to meeting**

Community Interest: "National Night Out" Event - October 6, 2026 @ The District of Willow Park"

City Manager Toni Fisher wanted to shout out to Assistant City Manager Michelle Guelker with a Huge Thanks for the preparation of the City Budget. Michelle put together the Budget Book that has never been done here before and also included goals and accomplishments from each department. A Job very well done.

23. City Council/Mayor Comments: Response/Reaction to meeting

Councilmember Eric Contreras said Thank you again to Toni and Michelle for thier diligence and hard work on getting the City Budget done for this upcoming fund year. I know it was not easy and hard decisions had to be made.

Mr. Contreras also congratulated citizen Brian Grimes being appointed as County Manager for Parker County.

24. Future Agenda Items requested by Mayor, City Council, or City Staff

Mayor Teresa Palmer asked for an item to be added to a future Agenda to continue the discussion on Data Centers.

Councilmember Chawn Gilliland asked for an item on the Agenda to have employee recognitions and introductions, including information about themselves and thier job duties.

ADJOURN

With there being nothing further to discuss or consider Mayor Teresa Palmer asked for a motion to adjourn this regular meeting of the Willow Park City Council.

Motion was made to adjourn this meeting at 8:38 pm

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY WILLOW PARK CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor

Pro Tem

Date

City Secretary

