

CITY OF EAST TAWAKONI JULY 15, 2025 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Mayor called the Council meeting to order at: 7:00pm

ROLL CALL

☐ Terri Rose ☒ John Disch ☒ Chuck Moore ☒ Ed Fortuna
☒ Ken Reed

Quorum: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Staff: ☒ Heather McClaskey ☒ Rick South ☐ Kyle Washburn ☐ Jeff Swaggerty ☒ John Hall
☐ Lane Martin ☐ Adella Atherton

Other: Kyler Knight

Visitors: #

3. PLEDGES LED BY Mayor

4. INVOCATION GIVEN BY Mayor

5. The Consent items are considered to be self-explanatory and will be enacted with one motion:

Approve minutes of Regular CC Meeting of JUNE 2025

Approve Bills for JUNE 2025

Motion: Approve June minutes and June Bills

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
In favor:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed
Opposed:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed
Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

6. Citizens Comments

Citizens, who wish to address the Council, may discuss matters not on the agenda and who have not previously expressed to the Council or City Hall a desire to discuss such matters. Anyone wishing to speak should sign-up on the provided sheet, prior to the start of the meeting. Presentation shall be limited to three (3) minutes each. The only response from the Council can be a to request these items to be placed on a future agenda for discussion or action

Steve Maclaird: RS CR 1605 repair 3.5 tenths of a mile that section of road has never been repaired. Rains County says they are not responsible for that section. Please consider when working on the 2026 budget

161 acres available on 1605 ask to consider annex that development.

John Lisby: City Growth, 276 getting widen from Quinlan to East Tawakoni, what can the city do to help the growth with the roads for future City growth development.

7. Discuss and Approve if Necessary:

- a. Police Department:
- b. Permits/License and Court:
- c. Code Enforcement/Animal Control –
- d. Fire Department -
- e. Economic Development Corp –
- f. Planning & Zoning -
- g. Spirit of East Tawakoni- August clothes drive, last week of August
- h. Library -
- i. Water Department –

8. To discuss, and possibly take action or no action to approve or deny combining four (4) lots into one (1) 109 Mohawk Trl

Motion: Approve combining 4 lots into 1

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
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Opposed:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed
Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

9. To discuss and possibly take action or no action to approve or deny short term rental application

Motion: To defer until legal action has been resolved

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
In favor:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed
Opposed:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed
Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

10. To discuss and possibly take action or no action to approve or deny Use of City property for one day

Motion: Approve at a fee of \$5,000 and a contract with the developer

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
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Opposed:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed
Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

11. To discuss and possibly take action or no action to approve or deny Fence repair/replace around Wastewater Treatment plant

Motion: Approve

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken	
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken	
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Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails				

12. To discuss and possibly take action or no action to approve or deny establishing purchase order limits for departments

Motion: No action taken

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken	
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken	
In favor:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Opposed:	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Motion:	<input type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails				

13. To discuss and set a date and time for a workshop to discuss updating/revising ordinances and 2026 budget workshop

Motion: Ordinance Workshop 8/13 & 8/14 1pm to 3pm Budget Workshop 9/10 10am-12pm & 9/11 1pm – 3 pm and will hold off on item 12 of agenda to work on during budget workshops

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14. Council Comments

Jeremy Cook came to s peak bout ETCOG elections and ETCOG can do for the city and citizens. He suggested council members come to a meeting to meet and shake hands with the people with of ETCOG. Also check with ETCOG on their available grants.

Introduction of Rains County Judge Brent Hillard

15. Mayor Comments

- The 2026 RC Appraisal District budget proposes a 14% increase over the 2025 Budget
 - I will be attending the Public Hearing on Thursday July 17, 2025 to inquire what impact the increase will have on the city's quarterly payments for appraisals & collection fees. We paid \$4,957.68 for the third quarter 2025
 - Deadline to protest August 15th. I am prepared to dig deeper into their stated rationale for 2-line items with largest increase: software expense & training cost
- Follow-up on Law suit by Frontier Communications briefed to the city council last month:
 - I will be meeting with our TML attorney on Thursday 24th of July to discuss the severed Frontier fiber optic cable that occurred on June 6, 2023
 - Frontier alleges \$13,592.48 in damages due to city negligence.
 - We will discuss the documentation and basis for our dispute presented to Frontier in 2023 denying their original demand
- Follow-up on Accident involving a city water truck
 - No response yet from our insurance carrier on the claim we filed
- Opening for Water/Sewer Worker
 - The city is soliciting applications to fill a vacancy in the Public Works Department. The opening is the result of a termination that occurred on Friday 11 July. The action was for a failure to meet a commitment made by the employee as a condition of employment. Employee was granted an extended probationary period to satisfy the requirement and failed to do so.
- Refresher Training for Water/Sewer employees on Employee Handbook Sec. 503: "Use of city equipment and vehicles"
 - The session was conducted by the Mayor with City Secretary taking minutes of the meeting. All current Public Works Department employees were present.
 - Training consisted of describing perceptions about vehicle use for on-call duties based on verbal instructions and current practices that conflict with Handbook guidelines. Also, Sec 503 of the Handbook effective 1, Oct 2024 was read and discussed for clarifying what rules are in place for use of City vehicles.
 - Outcomes: It was understood and agreed to that no personal use of city vehicles is allowed while performing on-call duties for the city. Also, the use of Vehicle travel Logs was reinstated.
 - Finally, a recommendation for clarifying how to accommodate the exchange of vehicle and is offered a city vehicle to take home for W/E. Council will be presented with draft solutions to make changes to Sec 503.

CITY OF EAST TAWAKONI JULY 15, 2025 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- Recommendations for Officers for East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG)
 - The city received a notice dated 24 June from RC commissioner Jeremy Cook, also ETCOG Nomination Committee Chairman, pertaining to selection of members of the Executive Committee and Officers.
 - Deadline for Submittal is Aug 15
 - Commissioner Cook is present tonight to explain more about the process and our opportunity to participate.
- Back to item 14 on the agenda, Council Comments, I encourage Council to call on Commissioner Cook for Comments and introduce our newly appointed County Jude.
- I now yield to Council Members for Comments

16. Executive Session

Discussion of available property in East Tawakoni

17. Re-convene from Executive Session

18. City Council to discuss and or take action from Executive Session

Motion: Do not purchase property available


made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
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Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

19. Motion to Adjourn @ 9:19pm

made by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
Second by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Terri	<input type="checkbox"/> John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken
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Motion:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carries	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails			

Meeting Adjourn @ 9:20pm

Approve


Harold Chandler, Mayor

Attest


Heather McClaskey, City Secretary