CITY OF AMES 304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES November 03, 2025 6:00 PM

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:00 pm. Mayor Domain called the meeting to order at this time. Mayor Domain conducted the roll call the members of the City Council who were present were: Councilman Michael Trahan, Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy, Councilman Eddie White, and Councilwoman Tiffany Burgos were present. Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr. was absent. The prayer was led by Councilman Eddie White, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

<u>CITIZEN APPREARANCE:</u> Mr. Dwight Webb expressed that he was proud of the progress that he has seen in the City of Ames, and he wanted to thank everyone for their hard work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2025, WORKSHOP, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING, AND OCTOBER 06, 2025 REGULAR MEETING.

The council took a few minutes to look over the minutes. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Tiffany Burgos

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 4 (M. Trahan, E. Hardy, E. White, and T. Burgos)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

<u>DISCUSS FINANCIALS:</u> The city is facing issues with the proper allocation of funds and deposits into the correct accounts, which is causing confusion and the need for additional work to reconcile the accounts. The city will work to improve the internal processes and procedures for managing the financial accounts and ensuring proper allocation of funds to the correct accounts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At this time, it was decided to proceed with agenda item #1 before going into executive session. Executive Session Began at 6:39 pm and ended at 7:48 pm

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. PRESENTATION BY TEXAS REBUILD ON PERFORMANCE REBUILDING CONCEPT FOR LIFT STATION F.

Lift Station F is in need of significant repairs, including the replacement of pumps, valves, and other critical components. The current setup is not functioning efficiently and is causing recirculation of sewage. The proposal from Texas Rebuild provides a comprehensive solution to address the issues with Lift Station F, including the replacement of necessary equipment and the potential for a performance-based contract approach to address future work. The city is interested in exploring the performance-based contract option, which could allow them to spread the costs over time and potentially access additional funding sources, such as grants, in the future. Overall,

the city is taking a proactive approach to addressing the issues with Lift Station F and exploring options to improve the long-term sustainability of the wastewater infrastructure.

2. CONSIDER, AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE FOR ADDITIONAL INSPECTION TRAINING FOR ARLENE CARRINGTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,870.

Mayor Domain explained that Arlene Carrington does not currently have her plumbing inspection certification. The additional training will allow the city to have its own certified person conducting plumbing inspections, rather than relying on a third party, which will save money in the long run. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 4 (M. Trahan, E. Hardy, E. White, and T. Burgos)

Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

- 3. CONSIDER, AND IF APPRROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE PAINTING A MURAL AT THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000.00. FUNDING WILL BE PAID FROM THE PERMIT ACCOUNT. This item was postponed until next year.
- 4. CONSIDER, AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE AN ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT FOR AUDIT PREPARATION AND BOOKKEEPING SERVICES (2026) BETWEEN THE CITY OF AMES AND SABRINA WOODS, CPA. This item was tabled.
- 5. CONSIDER, AND IF APPRROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-027, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT THE CITY IN THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES, INCLUDING THE INITIATION OF TAX FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS, WHILE PRESERVING THE COUNTY'S AUTHORITY TO PURSUE SUCH ACTIONS.

This resolution will authorize the City Attorney to represent the City in the collection of delinquent property taxes that will help the city recover unpaid taxes, including through tax foreclosure proceedings. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan

Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy

All in favor: 4 (M. Trahan, E. Hardy, E. White, and T. Burgos)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

6. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FROM THE LIBERTY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT. A RESOLUTION WHEREAS, IT IS THE INTENT OF THIS VOTING TAXING UNIT TO CAST ITS VOTES FOR THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF THE LIBERTY COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD FOR 2026 ELECTION.

The city council cast votes for the position of Director of the Liberty County Appraisal District Board for the 2026 election, with 10 votes for Charles Bowles. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 4 (M. Trahan, E. Hardy, E. White, and T. Burgos)

Opposed: 0
Abstained: 0

- 7. <u>EDC REPORT:</u> Kim Judge, the EDC President explained that the outcome for the Zydeco Fest was affected by bad weather, resulting in a financial loss, but the performer has offered to make it up in the future. She also explained that the EDC is now exploring alternative fundraising methods that do not incur significant costs.
- 8. MAYOR'S REPORT: The LJ project in the Baker subdivision is progressing, with the city waiting to determine when it needs to provide its portion of the grant funding. The Highline internet service installation is also underway, with the city informing residents about the monthly costs. The city will continue to monitor the progress of the LJ project in the Baker subdivision and the Highline internet service installation, providing updates as necessary.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan

Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy

All in favor: 4 (M. Trahan, E. Hardy, E. White, and T. Burgos)

Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Barbara Domain

Mayor

Wellona Godfrey

City Secretary

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

SIGN IN SHEET

Monday, November 3, 2025

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