

CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2025
6:00 PM

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:01 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.

SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CITY COUNCIL TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET.

The public hearing opened at 6:04 PM.

Councilman Trahan asked if 17 holidays is normal. Mayor Domain explained that the only change that was made to the holidays was adding the TVE day for the parade and Texas Independence Day. Councilwoman Hardy stated that she thought we changed the TVE day last year. It was explained that it was the Jubilee date that we cancelled. Councilman Trahan asked if wanted to show that we would be over budget as it stands now. Mayor Domain asked Marivious if we needed to include the amount of the bond in the budget as revenue. Councilman Trahan asked how long we must spend the money for each project. The city secretary explained that for Bakers Circle we have until January 2027 and Tebo St we have until March 2027. Councilwoman Hardy asked if we are going to include the bond amount before it is passed. Marivious stated that we should allocate what we intend to receive and what we intend to pay back in the budget. Mayor Domain explained that the plan is to have the bond money put into a separate account and transfer money from that account to the general fund to cover paying the bond back. Marivious stated that the bond would have to be allocated for a specific purpose and that we would need to determine how to document the expense. Councilman Trahan stated that with the bond, the citizens will be paying back the debt and that it would have to voted on. Mayor Domain explained that Justin explained that if the bond is not over a million dollars, then it does not have to be voted on. Mayor Domain explained that each year the payment for the bond will be the same in the amount of \$85,715.60. Councilman asked how much the match was, and Mayor Domain stated that it was 10%. She also explained that the plan is to secure enough money with the bond to make necessary repairs to the streets that were not included in the grants. Councilman Trahan stated that he feels that we should just secure a bond enough to cover the match from the grants and not add the additional street repairs. Mayor Domain explained that her reasoning for securing the extra funds with the bond is to make necessary repairs to Friend Street, Martin Street, and Berotte St. There was more discussion on many different line items in the budget that Mayor Domain provided detailed explanations for. There was no further discussion.

The public hearing closed at 6:19 PM.

2. CONSIDER, AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2025-006 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR 2025; FUNDING MUNICIPAL PURPOSES; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES; PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT, ENACTMENT; FILING OF BUDGET; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.

Councilman Trahan asked if the adjustment was going to be made to the budget to reflect the bond amount to be allocated as revenue. Mayor Domain stated that the correction will be made to the

General Account. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White
Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Roll Call Vote: Council Member Trahan: Yes
Council Member Hardy: Yes
Council Member White: Yes
Council Member Freeman: Not Present
Council Member Burgos: Yes

3. CONSIDER, AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF NEW AND UPDATED CONTROL PANELS FOR 2 LIFT STATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00.

Mayor Domain explained that the city is looking to modernize its lift station control panels, which are outdated and pose potential safety concerns. The new panels will provide more reliable and user-friendly functionality. Each panel costs \$4,995.00. The council approved the installation of new control panels for **two lift stations, at a cost of \$10,000**, with the potential to expand the project to additional stations in the future. There was no further 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

Before adjourning the meeting, the mayor and council reviewed the current drug and alcohol policy and there may be some adjustments made to the guidelines and procedures for testing and compliance. The council will continue to review the city's drug and alcohol policy, with the goal of ensuring it aligns with best practices and the needs of the organization.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 PM.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White
Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth 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