Arcola City Hall
13222 Highway 6
Arcola, Texas 77583

TUESDAY, JULY 08, 2025

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Veeda V. Williams
Mayor Veeda V. Williams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Abarr

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Fred Burton

ROLL CALL

Mayor, Council Members and Administration

QUORUM PRESENT

City Council Members that were present.
Council Member E. Jones; Mayor Pro -Tem G. Abarr; Council Member Florence Jackson; Council Member Fred Burton; Council Member R. Bigby; Mayor Veeda V. Williams

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

GENERAL AUDIENCE. Citizens who desire to address the City Council with comments of a general nature will be received at this time. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council is restricted from discussing or taking any action on items not listed on the agenda. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments.

CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA ITEM. Citizens who desire to address the City Council, with regard to matters on the Consent Agenda or Regular Agenda will be received either at this time or, if they state at this time that they elect to do so, during the City Council's consideration of the item. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council on a given item is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council on a given item through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. Comments or discussion by the City Council Members will only be made at the time the agenda item is scheduled for consideration. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments.

1) Larry Williams
2) Nick Patel
3) Casey Lamb

II. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 551.0415 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council of the City of Arcola may receive reports about items of community interest from City staff and/or a member of the City Council, but no action or possible action shall be taken or discussed concerning the subject of such report, except as provided by Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code.

Mayor Veeda Williams, Council Member Evelyn Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Abarr, Council Member Florence Jackson, Council Member Fred Burton, and Council Member Rosemary Bigby.

Council Member Burton apologized for the parking lot that everyone had to drive through, and he stated that he feels Mr. Patel's pain. Mayor Williams interjected by informing him that Mr. Patel's comments could not be addressed as his concerns were not on the agenda. Council Member Burton stated that he's only making a comment. Council Member Burton continues and states that he's responding to what he heard Mr. Patel commented and that there is no cooperation from the city and there should be whether it's answering emails, letters, phone calls, etc. and he hope we "the city" can do better towards Mr. Patel and Mr. Lamb. Council Member Burton further expresses how water draws a lot of attention to the city and business want to do business in the city because of the water and that the city should be more open regardless of the feelings about the business.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

All Consent Agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

A. Consideration of and Action on the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 and special meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025. ***Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary***

A motion to **Approve**, Item III-A: Minutes of the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 and special meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 a consent agenda item listed is considered to be routine by the City Council and was enacted by one motion made by Council Member R. Bigby, and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Council Member Fred Burton

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

IV. PRESENTATIONS (INFORMATION ONLY)

A. May 2025 and June 2025 Permit Monthly Report- ***Distribute***

B. State Legislative Law Changes on Posting Requirements and Budget- ***Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary***

C. City Engineer Report- ***Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.***

D. State of the City- ***Mayor Veeda. V. Williams, PhD***

V. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the May 2025 Municipal Operations and Consulting (MOC) report. ***Roland Leal, MOC Area Manager Operations***

Mr. Roland Leal, Area Manager Operations, gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve with corrections,** Item V-A: The approval of the June 2025 Municipal Operations and Consulting (MOC) report was made by, Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed with corrections.**

Correction is to change the monthly report from May to June.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Council Member F. Burton.

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

B. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the Financial Report for May 2025. ***Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator***

Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator, gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Burton asked to table the budget due to the fact council had received just before the council meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Abarr rebutted stating that he's worked closely with the bookkeeper and all numbers as far as he knows the budget is accurate.

A motion to **Approve,** Item V-B: The approval of the Financial Report for May 2025 was made by, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member R. Bigby, the motion **Passed.**

A roll call vote was conducted

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson.

Nay: Council Member F. Burton
Motion carried. 4-1

C. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve payment to Flock Safety for flock cameras in the amount of $17,000.00 (General Fund and reimbursement of $14,167.00 by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority.) ***Police Chief Carr- Bryant***

Police Chief Carr-Bryant gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve,** Item V- C: payment to Flock Safety for flock cameras in the amount of $17,000.00 (General Fund and reimbursement of $14,167.00 by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority) was made by Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed.**

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Council Member F. Burton.

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

VI. PLANS PLAT AND PERMITS

A. Discussion Consideration and Possible Action to accept the final plat for Lawson Estates, City of Arcola, Fort Bend County, Texas. ***Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.***

Llarance Turner gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve,** Item VI-A: to accept the final plat for Lawson Estates, City of Arcola, Fort Bend County, Texas was made by Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones,, the motion **Passed.**

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Council Member F. Burton.

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

VII. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

A. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve a contract with **Fresno Fence Inc.** for a security fence for employee parking in the amount of $24,020.00 (General Fund and Security Fund***). Police Chief Carr- Bryant***

Police Chief Carr-Bryant gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Burton, asked Chief Carr-Bryant questions regarding the current systems in place such as the cost of the surveillance system in place, will council have access to park in the employee parking area, and what is the issue that now requires a fence to be put up.

Chief Carr-Bryant responded to the questions. She stated that she did not know at that moment how much the current system cost. This is the decision of the Mayor and the security plan at this time access to council has not been discussed and council members have always parked in the public parking areas. The cause of needing more security in place is the need for a clear and defined area employee parking from public parking. There have been instances that members of the public have accessed the area where the police vehicles and employees park and it's becoming a safety concern.

A motion to **Approve,** Item VII-A: a contract with **Fresno Fence Inc.** for a security fence for employee parking in the amount of $24,020.00 (General Fund and Security Fund) was made by Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, and seconded by Council Member R. Bigby, the motion **Passed.**

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson.

Nay: Council Member F. Burton
Motion carried. 4-1

B. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to accept the recommendation of the city engineer to award a construction contract for the rehabilitation of Lift Station #3 and the replacement of 450 linear of 12" sanitary sewer along North Pine to CFG Industries LLC in the amount of $227,560.00 (Enterprise Fund). ***Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.***

Llarance Turner gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Bigby asked how many bids were submitted? Mr. Turner stated that three (3) companies put in a bid for the job and went over the amounts of each bid per the documents distributed to them.

Mayor Pro-Tem Abarr asked about how long it will be from awarding the contract to the start of work. Mr. Turner's went through the next events that must happen prior to work starting and by the next council meeting work should have begun.

Mayor Williams asked how many days for the project? Mr. Turner stated 75days and weather could have an impact if the project goes longer.

A motion to **Approve,** Item VII-B: to accept the recommendation of the city engineer to award a construction contract for the rehabilitation of Lift Station #3 and the replacement of 450 linear of 12" sanitary sewer along North Pine to CFG Industries LLC in the amount of $227,560.00 (Enterprise Fund) was made by Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones,, the motion **Passed.**

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Council Member F. Burton.

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

Mayor Williams stated that City Council will move Closed Executive Session before agenda Item VIII and then reconvene into regular session to discuss remaining agenda items. Council Member E. Jones made the motion to move closed executive session before agenda item VIII and then reconvene back into regular session. It was seconded by Council Member R. Bigby, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Council Member F. Burton.

Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER AGENDA REQUEST

A. Discussion on Arcola Community Estates - ***Council Members Fred Burton and Florence Jackson***

No Action Taken on this Item and was pulled from the agenda

B. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to Approve an ordinance for Authority to Terminate Police Officers. ***Council Members Fred Burton and Florence Jackson***

Council Member Burton stated that before officers are terminated the termination needs to come before city council. Power should not be given to just one person.

A motion to **Approve,** Item VIII-B: to Approve an ordinance for Authority to Terminate Police Officers by city council was made by Council Member F. Burton

Motion Died due to no second motion.

C. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to Approve an ordinance for Authority to Eliminate or Defund Positions. ***Council Members Fred Burton and Florence Jackson***

Council Member Burton stated that certain positions need to be eliminated or defund because they did not come before council and this was something that the Mayor needed to do is bring someone on board he felt like this ordinance need to be brought before council and they need to eliminate or defund certain positions.

A motion to **Approve,** Item VIII-C: to Approve an ordinance an ordinance for Authority to Eliminate or Defund Positions was made by Council Member F. Burton

Motion Died due to no second motion.

IX. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will convene into Closed Executive Session as authorized under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code for:

A. **Consultation with Attorney**. The city council will consult its attorney about contemplated litigation and matters in which the duty of the City Attorney requires the discussion to be conducted in close executive session.

X. COUNCIL ADJOURNS CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENES INTO REGULAR SESSION

RECONVENE: The Mayor reconvened into the regular meeting at 7:44p.m. with action taken after closed executive session.

A. Council Members may take possible action on matters discussed in Closed Executive Session. ***David Olson, City Attorney***

Council Member E. Jones made a motion to authorize staff to put together a resolution for censorship and seconded by Council member R. Bigby

Roll call vote was conducted

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson.

Nay: Council Member F. Burton
Motion carried. 4-1

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

A motion to **Approve** to close out the city council meeting, was made by Mayor Pro - Tem G. Abarr, and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Mayor Pro - Tem G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Council Member F. Burton.

Nays: 0
Motion carried: 5-0

Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary