

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

**Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2025**

A regular meeting and public hearing of the City Council, City of Blanco, Texas was held on May 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Arnold, followed by roll call announcing a quorum was present. The Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Troy LeBlanc, Blanco United Methodist Church. The Council members present: Mayor Arnold, Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung and Council Members Moses, Swinson, Cargill, and Moore.

City staff present: Warren Escovy, City Administrator, Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary, and Chief Jerry Thornhill.

Mayor Arnold made the following announcements:

- The City is still under Stage 4 Drought Restrictions
- The Burn ban is on as of noon today

Public Comments:

- June Newhouse, City of Blanco resident, spoke regarding the recent Council election and the created vacancy. She spoke in support of her son Ryan Moses to possibly fill the vacancy.
- Retta Martin, City of Blanco resident, also spoke in support of Ryan Moses to fill the Council vacancy. Secondly, she announced there will be a Streetscape Mixer to be held May 15 from 5-7 pm at Old 300 BBQ. Lastly she discussed the Rock Wall issue which has been ongoing for the past seven years. She reminded all that in the Historic District, we must follow the rules and that the Certificate of Appropriateness applies to the Rock Wall. See Section 4.11 of the UDC for more information.
- B. Ballas, City of Blanco resident said she is sorry to see Council Member Laura Swinson go. She would like to see more transparency within the City and the City Council. Concerning the election, if Council decides to fill the vacancy, she is in support of the third or fourth vote getter.
- Martha Gosnell, City of Blanco resident spoke regarding the bathrooms at Bindseil Park. We need to do a better job of sweeping the floors and cleaning out the cobwebs.
- Wayne Gosnell, City of Blanco resident, spoke regarding the May 3 election. He thanked all the council volunteers, Mayor Arnold and Council Members Swinson, and Moses for their service. Regarding the Council vacancy, he said the position could be left vacant, a special election could be called (if you want to spend the money), or a person could be appointed to fill the vacancy. He urged the Council to fill the vacancy with someone who ran for office.

Canvassing of the Special Bond Election and General Election

Consideration and Approval of Ordinance 2025-O-004 canvassing the returns and declaring the results of a bond election. **A motion was made by Council Member Cargill to approve Ordinance 2025-O-004 canvassing the returns and declaring the results of a bond election, seconded by Council Member Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

Consideration and Approval of Ordinance 2025-O-003 General Election Canvassing the Returns and Declaring the Official Results of the May 3, 2025, General Election to Elect One (1) Mayor and Two (2) City Council Members. **A motion was made by Council Member Moore to approve Ordinance 2025-O-003 canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the May 3 2025 general election, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

Administration of Oath of Office to Newly Elected Officials Mayor Candy Cargill and Council Members Rodney Thrailkill and David Behrends, Jr.

The newly elected Mayor Cargill shared a few words with Mayor Arnold before he passed the gavel.

Staff Presentations:

1. City Hall, Warren Escovy, City Administrator presented Damon Berryman with a thank you plaque for his years of service to the city and welcomed Danny Maldonado.
2. City Hall, Jose Martinez, Finance Director, was absent from the meeting but provided the April Monthly Financial Report to the Council in their agenda packet.
3. Police Department, Chief Thornhill presented the April 2024 monthly report. He updated the Council on his continued TPCA accreditation and continued work on updating the current policies and procedures.

Consent Agenda: *The following items may be acted upon in one motion.* No separate discussion or action is necessary unless requested by the Mayor or a Council Member, in which those items will be pulled for separate consideration.

1. Approval of Minutes from the April 8, 2025, Regular Meeting.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung to approve the consent agenda item one as presented, seconded by Council Member Moore all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Mayor Pro-Tem. for the Term May 2025 through May 2026. Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung has enjoyed being the Mayor Pro-Tem and would be honored to continue to serve in this capacity but understands if the majority desires to select a new person. Council Member Moore said he would be happy to serve. **A motion was made by Council Member Thrailkill to appoint Council Member Moore as Mayor Pro-Tem for the term May 2025 through May 2026, seconded by Council Member Mack-McClung, the motion carried 3-0, with Mayor Pro-Tem Moore abstaining from the vote.**

2. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Resolution 2025-R-007 Amending Resolution 2024-R-011 Designating Persons Authorized to Sign on the City's Depository Accounts as the Official Signatories of the City of Blanco. **A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore to approve Resolution 2025-R-007 Amending Resolution 2024-R-011 Designating Persons Authorized to Sign on the City's Depository Accounts as the Official Signatories of the City of Blanco, seconded by Council Member Thrailkill, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
3. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Resolution 2025-R-008 Authorized Signatories For Contractual And Financial Documents Pertaining To The Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Resilient Communities Program Through The General Land Office, **A motion was made by Council Member Thrailkill to approve Resolution 2025-R-008 Authorized Signatories For Contractual And Financial Documents Pertaining To The Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Resilient Communities Program Through The General Land Office, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
4. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Vacancy on the Governing Body of the City of Blanco, including Possible Appointment to the Governing Body or Call of Special Election to fill a Vacancy. Attorney Tim Tuggey shared the three options the Council has regarding the vacancy on the Council. They can choose to leave the position vacant, they can call a special election, or they can choose a person to fill the vacancy which is a one year term. Council Member Mack-McClung asked Mr. Moses where he stands on disputes with the city and lawsuits? The Council is looking for unity and teamwork. Mr. Moses' replied, there are multiple land owners involved and he can't speak for everyone. He said he would be honored to serve and is willing to work with an open mind. **A motion was made by Council Member Thrailkill to appoint Ryan Moses to fill the vacancy, seconded by Council Member David Behrends, Jr. all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
5. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Street Closures for the Lavender Festival (June 6-8, 2025), Chamber of Commerce. Libbey Aly thanked Chief Thornhill for assisting her daughter with a flat tire. She then discussed the street closures with the usual cones and barricades, requested for this years' Lavender Festival. The street closures will begin at 5:00 pm Thursday, June 5, 2025 until Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 4:00 pm. This year they have added a large tent, sponsored by the Science Mill to include interactive children's activities. Also discussed was parking at Pecan Bottom limited to the most needed for the elderly or disabled. . All volunteers will be wearing tee shirts this year to stand out. The Police Department will work with Inframark to set up barricades. **A motion was made by Council Member Moses to approve street closures as requested by the Chamber and allow prescriptive parking, to be determined, for the period of June 5 through June 8, 2025 seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
6. Discussion Only, No Action on Review of Series 2024A Bond Progress with a focus on the Rock Wall. Warren Escovy spoke regarding the Certificate of Obligation 2024. He provide the Council with an update on the Town Creek Rock Wall, trees and brush have been cleared, a survey has been ordered, inspectors to review and inspect any building that is affected by the wall, an on-site manager can be hired to supervise the work, an engineer to review "as built". The Council discussed. Will meet with all property owners before any work is done. **No Action Taken.**

OLD BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action to Authorize City Staff to coordinate the installation of a shut-off valve at the sprinkler supply line at the Henry Hotel.
Working on a solution. **No Action Taken.**

Closed regular meeting 7:25 pm and convened into executive session.

Executive Session in accordance with Texas Government Code: in accordance with the authority contained in the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, 551.072, and 551.074.

1. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding legal issues associated with the Water Treatment Plant Project, Bids, Contract. Award and Notice to Proceed.
2. Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct; Consultation with City Attorney, including but not limited to a) initial officeholder briefing on open government compliance; b) budget process compliance; c) legal review of vendor contracts; and d) potential litigation and other legal matters.

Closed executive session at 7:56 pm and convened into regular meeting.:

Adjournment:

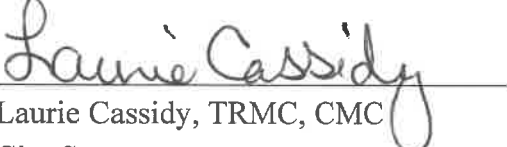
A motion was made by Council Member Mack-McClung to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Moses, all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Candy Cargill, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie Cassidy, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

These minutes were approved on the 10 day of June, 2025.

