



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Ranger, Texas, was held on **Monday, February 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.**, in City Hall, 400 West Main Street Ranger, Texas. The following subjects were discussed, to wit:

Council Members and City Staff Present:

Honorable Robert Butler	Mayor
Commissioner Vicki Doyle	Place 1
Commissioner Jim McCullough	Place 2
Commissioner Katie Billings	Place 3
City Manager Charlie Archer	
City Secretary Hope Delatorre	
Police Chief Charlie Rodriguez	
Fire Chief Darrell Fox	
Public Works Director Daniel Plascencia	
Finance Director/Municipal Clerk Carol Stephens	

Agenda Item 01: Call to Order-Mayor Robert Butler

Roll Call/Quorum Check Hope Delatorre-City Secretary
Invocation of Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag
Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Agenda Item 02: Public Hearing concerning a property located at 122 S. Oak. The purpose of this hearing is to review the plan(s) related to bringing the property into compliance with all city ordinances. The structure is considered a dangerous structure according to ordinance 2023-01-23-A. The property is owned by Gerardo Lugo and Maria Lugo from Terrell, Texas.

Gerardo Lugo was present for his hearing and notified the Commission that the structure had been demolished and all that remained was clean up of the remaining debris. He requested sixty days to finish the clean up process. Code Enforcement confirmed that the danger had been mitigated and the remaining issue was aesthetics.

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings for Gerardo to return in sixty days to confirm completion of clean-up and issuance of a clearance letter.
Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 03: Public hearing concerning a property located at the corner of E. loop 254 and Tiffin Rd. The purpose of this hearing is to review the plan(s) to bring the property into compliance

with all city ordinances. The property is in violation of ordinance 2023-09-25-D (junk vehicles) and ordinance 0223-01-23-A, dangerous structures. The property is owned by Rebecca Swinney Casey of Ranger, Texas.

Property owner, Rebecca Swinney Casey, was not yet in attendance so the Commission moved the item to the end of the agenda pending potential arrival. When she was still not present at the end of the agenda, the Commission discussed moving the item to another meeting. The City Manager stated the owner was reminded of the meeting by mail and in person.

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings to postpone the hearing to the next meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 04: Citizen's Presentation-At this time, anyone on the list will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation, for a length of time not to exceed THREE minutes. No Council/Board discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.

No citizens were signed up to speak. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 05: Announcements from the City Commission or Staff-Comments may be made by the commission or staff, **BUT NO ACTION TAKEN** on the following topics without specific notice. Those items include: Expression of Thanks, Congratulations or Condolences; Information on Holiday schedules; Recognition of public officials, employees or citizens other than employees or officials whose status may be affected by the council through action; Reminders of community events or announcements involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of the people of the municipality.

Commissioner Doyle gave a shout out to MJ Dawson for all of her hard work in the City of Ranger and Commissioner McCullough thanked Code Enforcement and Public Works for their excellent work on code enforcement and at the wastewater plant noting the team was coming together well. Mayor Butler commended everyone for their participation in the Town Hall event at Ranger College on February 19, and that this was a useful format for sharing information and sharing information. The Mayor reminded the citizens and the Commission that the Texas Primary Election was March 3rd from 7 am to 7 pm, with Early Voting happening until February 27.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 06: Discuss/Consider: Vietnam Veterans Wall That Heals possible usage of additional Hotel/Motel tax funds up to \$3000 for the event (Helen Cozart)

With a prior approval of \$2200 for benches, Ms. Cozart returned to the Commission to request an additional \$3000 to support further items needed for the event. The Mayor confirmed the status of a previous reimbursement for benches, stating that once the final invoice for the benches and shipping is submitted to the city, the pre-approved amount can be reimbursed.

The council reminded the organizers to highlight the city's hotels and motels in their advertising, as they are the source of the funds. Ms. Cozart agreed to create banners featuring the two motels and potentially give an honorable mention to the Lone Star RV Park.

The event is expected to attract visitors from across North and West Texas. It holds particular significance for the city, which has a Vietnam Veterans' Park and an active veteran support group. The event is valued not only for its potential financial impact and ability to showcase the city but also as a way to honor veterans.

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings to extend up to \$3000 in addition to the previous \$2200 approved for the Vietnam Wall That Heals event.
Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 07: Discuss/Consider: Approval of TexSTAR Investment Pool as an authorized investment (REDC)

The REDC boards did not have a representative present. The commission wanted to ensure that a vote had occurred on these items and highlighted that once voted on that the REDC boards should sign the documents and then present them to the commission for approval. The agenda item should state the which board was approving the investment strategy.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to defer the item to the next meeting to allow the REDC boards to sign the forms.
Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Commissioner Doyle abstained due to membership on one of the boards.
Motion approved.

Agenda Item 08: Discuss/Consider: Approval of application for participation in the Texas Short Term Asset Reserve Program (TexSTAR)(REDC)

The REDC boards did not have a representative present. The commission wanted to ensure that a vote had occurred on these items and highlighted that once voted on that the REDC boards should sign the documents and then present them to the commission for approval. The agenda item should state the which board was approving the investment strategy.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to defer the item to the next meeting to allow the REDC boards to sign the forms.
Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Commissioner Doyle abstained due to membership on one of the boards.
Motion approved.

Agenda Item 09: Discuss/Consider: Approval of Logic Investment Pool as an authorized investment (REDC)

The REDC boards did not have a representative present. The commission wanted to ensure that a vote had occurred on these items and highlighted that once voted on that the REDC boards should sign the documents and then present them to the commission for approval. The agenda item should state the which board was approving the investment strategy.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to defer the item to the next meeting to allow the REDC boards to sign the forms.

Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Commissioner Doyle abstained due to membership on one of the boards.

Motion approved.

Agenda Item 10: Discuss/Consider: Approval of application for participation in the Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC)(REDC)

The REDC boards did not have a representative present. The commission wanted to ensure that a vote had occurred on these items and highlighted that once voted on that the REDC boards should sign the documents and then present them to the commission for approval. The agenda item should state the which board was approving the investment strategy.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to defer the item to the next meeting to allow the REDC boards to sign the forms.

Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Commissioner Doyle abstained due to membership on one of the boards.

Motion approved.

Agenda Item 11: Discuss/Consider: Approval of minutes of previous meetings:

- February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to approve the minutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Abstained by Commissioner Doyle.

Motion Passed.

Agenda Item 12: Discuss/Consider: Consent Items; the Approval of Monthly Department Reports:

- **Finance Report:** Carol Stephens
- **Fire/EMS Report:** Chief Darrell Fox
- **Public Works Report:** Daniel Plascencia

In the finance report, Carol drew attention to a few payments that may raise questions and explained that there were several bond payments that had come due and were paid. The bond payments do not impact the General or Utility Funds. Big Country Supplies (\$15,098) was for outfitting police vehicles and came from the police lease account, not impacting the General Fund. Finley Site Services (\$25,208) was for a building demolition and was against the code enforcement budget items. The P&L statement had not been completed in time for the packets, however, a draft report was provided to the commission for reference. Key fund totals were confirmed: General Fund at \$188,714 and Utility Fund at \$427,482.

Chief Fox stated that an ambulance had broken down so they were using a backup that would require tires soon. The department handled 106 total calls, comprising 68 EMS calls and 38 fire calls. The department secured a new \$10,000 grant for training aids, such as mannequins and forcible entry door props. The Chief noted that finding new grant sources will be a future priority.

The Public Works Director provided an update on sewer plant pump installations, water management during a recent freeze, and street repairs. The Public Works Director stated that the bill for the Eastland County Water Supply district may have been higher due to their winter storm preparations which involved draining the water tower. One new effluent pump has been installed and is now running, a project that required staff to work on a holiday. The department is awaiting the installation of the two remaining pumps to become fully operational. The temporary sump pump will not be moved from the plant until a second new pump is installed as a precaution.

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings to approve the monthly departmental reports.
Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 13: Discuss/Consider: Consent Items; City Manager's Report: business regarding city administration. The City Commission may provide staff direction; however, no action shall be taken. (City Manager)

City Manager Archer had been in contact with Austin May regarding the subdivision on land purchased from Larry Monroe and equipment would be arriving next month to begin clearing.

Significant electrical repairs had been completed for effluent pumps. First effluent pump installed at \$28,453. Two pumps were ordered using existing motors with a revised total for three pumps estimated at \$73,853 (original quote being \$109,000). The City Manager mentioned that he was planning to budget for a "muffin monster" which is a dual-shaft grinder on influent side (estimated at \$50,000-\$80,000) for the next fiscal year to reduce solids load and overtime.

He also proposed adding the sewer plant to existing SCADA for remote monitoring and proactive alerts; remote access for staff via phones/laptops which requires defining monitoring points/alarms and replacing CPU in communication box; major expense already in place. Quotes for this would be expected at the next meeting.

The county could not send CodeRED alerts to citizens signed up due to technical issues associated with the vendor changes, therefore CodeRED launched a bridging tool at no added city cost.

A police radar has been replaced and a new patrol car is arriving soon. A police radar that could not be repaired was replaced at a cost of \$3,200. The funds were available and just needed to be moved. A new patrol car is expected to be ready on March 6th.

Repairs and upgrades are required at the Love's lift station, with all costs to be covered by Love's. This will result in a significant upgrade for the lift station. The old pumps from the lift station will be kept at the shop as backups for use at other lift stations.

Motion was made by Commissioner Doyle to accept the City Manager's report.
Seconded by Commissioner McCullough.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 14: Discuss/Consider: A Resolution of the City of Ranger, Texas, authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization Program (City Manager)

The grant application is for the Texas Department of Agriculture's Downtown Revitalization Program. Ranger previously applied and scored well, indicating a high likelihood of success. The grant promotes pedestrian-centered economic activity and requires a \$50,000 city match, potentially from the contingency fund or possibly from the REDC B board. Allowable projects include lighting, street/drainage improvements, demolition of blighted structures, streetscape items (benches, signs), water/sewer work, and improvements to public restrooms, parking, parks, and event spaces. Past ideas included repairing downtown brick streets. The gazebo area was suggested as a potential project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings to adopt the resolution.
Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 15: Discuss/Consider: Ordinance 2026-XX-XX-X. First Reading of an Ordinance for the use and operation of motor-assisted scooters, mini-motorbikes, and pocket bikes by limiting or prohibiting the operations of motor-assisted scooters, mini-motorbikes, and pocket bikes on streets, highways, sidewalks, paths, and alleys; providing a penalty for adults, parents, and children for the use of a motor-assisted scooter, mini-motorbike, and pocket bike in a restricted or prohibited area; requiring that children wear a protective helmet while operating or riding a motor-assisted scooter; providing for a penalty for parents and children for failure of a child to wear a helmet; providing a repealing, severability and savings clauses; providing for a penalty for the violation of this ordinance; providing an effective date; and providing for the publication of the caption. (Chief of Police)

The ordinance restates existing state law to clarify rules and establish local penalties. It mandates helmets for children operating these vehicles, reinforcing state law for unlicensed youth. The

ordinances provided definitions to clarify different types of equipment. The ordinance does not cover e-bikes or golf carts, which are regulated by separate laws.

Motion was made by Commissioner Doyle to approve the first reading.
Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 16: Discuss/Consider: Retire into Executive Session to deliberate any items as authorized by Texas Government Code 551.074 Personnel Matters regarding:

- Public Works Director

Retired into Executive Session at 18:28

Agenda Item 17: Discuss/Consider: Reconvene into Open Session to take action as determined appropriate regarding Texas Government Code 551.074 Personnel Matters regarding:

- Public Works Director

Reconvened into Open Session at 18:59

Motion was made by Commissioner Billings that based on an the exemplary rating in the January performance review that a pay increase be given to the Public Works Director.
Seconded by Commissioner Doyle.

Unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 18: Discuss/Consider: Adjournment

Motion was made by Commissioner McCullough to adjourn the meeting.
Seconded by Commissioner Billings.

Unanimously approved.

Adjourned at 19:00.

These minutes were approved on the 9 day of March 2026

CITY OF RANGER, TEXAS

ATTEST:


Hope Delatorre, City Secretary




Robert Butler, Mayor