



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Ranger, Texas, was held on **Monday, March 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
Commissioner Jared Calvert	Place 4
City Manager Charlie Archer	
Fire Chief Darrell Fox	
Police Chief Charles Rodriguez	
Finance Director Carol Stephens	

### **Agenda Item 01: Call to Order-** Mayor Robert Butler

Roll Call/Quorum Check-City Manager Charlie Archer  
Invocation of Prayer  
Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag  
Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

**Agenda Item 03: 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.

**Agenda Item 04:** 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: Expressions of Thanks, Congratulations or Condolence; 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.

Manager Archer stated that the TWDB had accepted the second project information packet (PIF) which is the sewer system grant to replace the city sewer lines, rehabilitate 450 manholes and build a new treatment plant. The grant is in the amount of 24 million dollars. The project has been listed on the TWDB website for public comments and then will be moved into the scoring process, once it's scored and if it scores well enough, we will be invited to apply for the grant. The scoring process will take place this summer.

Mayor Butler spoke about the Ranger College hosting the Wall that Heals Vietnam Memorial and stated that the college is still in need of volunteers and that anyone interested could contact Helen Cozart at the Ranger college library. Mayor Butler also mentioned that City Hall would be closed Friday April 3, 2026 for Good Friday.

**Agenda Item 05: Discuss/Consider:** Approval of minutes of previous meetings:

March 9, 2026, Regular Meeting

Mayor Butler asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes and called for a motion to approve, Commissioner Billings made the motion seconded by Commissioner Doyle, unanimous vote followed.

\*Item 9 was moved up to this place. Eastland County Crisis Center representative spoke about Child Abuse Awareness Month. The representative gave a breakdown of the services offered by the Crisis Center and what signs of child abuse look like. The representative gave the 1-800-252-5400 24 hr. hotline to report child abuse and also [www.txabusehotline.org](http://www.txabusehotline.org) website for reporting. Mayor Butler stated we were happy to be a part of this by signing this proclamation and that over 62000 children receive services from the state monthly.

Motion was made by Commissioner Calvert to approve the proclamation and post it on the Ranger Facebook page with the contact numbers provided. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 06: Discuss/Consider:** Approval of the REDC A Board Annual Report for submission. (REDC A Board).

REDC President Dawson stated the two numbers that required changing had been changed as requested to both reflect 48912.00 instead of 48921.00 which was referenced by Mayor Butler. The Mayor also clarified that April 1<sup>st</sup> was the submission date of the annual report.

Commissioner Billings made the motion to approve the annual report of the REDC A Board; Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 07: Discuss/Consider:** Approval of the REDC B Board Annual Report for submission. (REDC B Board)

REDC President Dawson stated that Mr. Doyle was unable to change the capital asset line and stated the change would occur on the next annual report. Mayor Butler stated that recreational property should not be listed.

Commissioner Billings made the motion to approve the annual report of the REDC B Board; Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 08: Discuss/Consider:** Advertising to fill the recently vacated City Secretary position. (City Manager)

Manager Archer stated that he had looked into indeed and it was expensive to advertise on and wanted to use TML, Facebook and the local paper for two weeks. Commissioner Calvert suggested a possible video. Mayor Butler asked if it might be possible to have applicants for the first meeting in

April, Commissioner Calvert stated we could always put in on the agenda must in case we had someone to interview.

Commissioner Doyle made a motion to approve the advertisement as presented, seconded by Commissioner Billings followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 09: Discuss/Consider:** A Proclamation for the City of Ranger Proclaiming the Month of April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month (Eastland County Crisis Center). This proclamation emphasizes the importance of communities and families working together to prevent child abuse and neglect. (Mayor Butler)

Eastland County Crisis Center representative spoke about Child Abuse Awareness Month. The representative gave a breakdown of the services offered by the Crisis Center and what signs of child abuse look like. The representative gave the 1-800-252-5400 24 hr. hotline to report child abuse and also [www.txabusehotline.org](http://www.txabusehotline.org) website for reporting. Mayor Butler stated we were happy to be a part of this by signing this proclamation and that over 62000 children receive services from the state monthly.

Motion was made by Commissioner Calvert to approve the proclamation and post it on the Ranger Facebook page with the contact numbers provided. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 10: Discuss/Consider:** Consent Items; City Manager's Report: business regarding city administration. The City Commission may provide staff directions; however, no action shall be taken. (City Manager)

Manager Archer stated that he had already covered item 1 in the staff comments at the beginning. Manager Archer stated that a fire hydrant was discovered to be stripped after the recent fire, the Public Works Department replaced the hydrant as we had it in stock, the curb was replaced and it looks great. The recent fire consumed approximately 183000 gallons of water. Archer stated that Mr. Cassell had started two new homes on Melvin Street and that additional property had been purchased. A tiny home permit had been issued; this was the second one and both were in excess of 500.00 and all inspections had went well and the owners were very pleasant to work with. The ship date for the remaining pumps for the sewer plant is 4/22/2026. The new Police car had been put into service. Public works had been working on Rusk Street removing trash and debris and clearing the roadsides back to proper width. Commissioner Calvert asked if we were going to burn the brush at the dump when the ban was lifted, he was assured we would. The deeds to the ball fields should be ready anytime, Commissioner Calvert asked if we were going to lease the fields to the Youth Association, Mayor Butler said this was the plan all along, Calvert said a nonprofit might need to be established to help fund repairs of these fields. Commissioner Billings asked if the REDC B Board could help, Mayor Butler said that there might be another way but was hesitant to discuss until it was discussed with the other party.

Commissioner Calvert made the motion to accept the Manager's report; Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 11: Discuss/Consider:** City of Ranger General and Utility Fund Mid-year Budget Review Schedule April and May. Review the FY 2025-26 Budget to adjust line items for revenues and expenditure, if needed. This will also serve as the basis for the FY 2026-27 Budget planning.

(Mayor Butler)

Mayor Butler explained this was needed to see if any adjustments were needed for the line items in place and this would lead to the documents needed to prepare the 26-27 fiscal budget. Commissioner Calvert stated he would like to see an excavator purchased and asked if Mayor Butler would be available by phone during his recovery to discuss. Mayor Butler mentioned the challenges of the timeline and said that by April 20<sup>th</sup> all department managers would have met with the City Manager and Finance Director and then the council would approve any adjustments needed by May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Calvert made the motion to approve the timelines; Commissioner Billings seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote.

**-Agenda Item 12: Discuss/Consider:** Union Pacific Railroad bridge replacement within the city limits of Ranger. The bridge in question is located just south of the historic Depot, having coordinates of beginning 32.468032°, -98.680644° and ending 32.467503°, -98.680959°. The bridge in question will require the moving of a main water line and the sewer line that runs under the bridge. The city would be responsible for the cost of the modifications. (City Manager)

Manager Archer stated that he had attended a zoom meeting with Union Pacific Railroad and in attendance was Colden Rich with EHT (City Engineer) and Daniel Plascencia. The railroad is planning to replace said bridge in the early part of 2027. The city does have an agreement with the railroad allowing the main water line to be on their right of way. We could not find the same agreement on the sewer line that needs to be moved. A concrete encasement was discussed to protect our sewer line instead of moving it. Commissioner Calvert stated that this was too expensive for the city and asked if any of the work could be done by our workers. Commissioner Billings asked if we should buy an excavator now to help with this project, manager Archer stated we shouldn't buy anything until the budget review is completed.

Commissioner Calvert made a motion for the City Manager to continue negotiating with the Railroad to cover the expense as the City does not have the funds, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Billings followed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 13: Discuss/Consider :** Code Enforcement update and follow up after the town hall meeting. Discuss the guidelines, procedures and any concerns and issues that may occur. (City Manager)

Manager Archer stated that an issue had been identified in the code enforcement software that was preventing the linking of outlook and the activities requiring follow-up. The issue has since been corrected and that things should be much more fluid. We also developed a plan to allow Chief Fox to be more helpful to code enforcement. The shuffling of RV's was discussed; we write the owners a ticket and then they move the RV to another property. The mayor asked if these units were registered and if they should be towed to the impound yard. A discussion was held with all council members and the chief of Police around the RV situation. We discussed the use of IPADS with code enforcement and the fees associated with those pads. Manager Archer covered what has been accomplished so far. Mayor Butler mentioned that there is positive movement all over town and reinforced that the goal is for the citizens to clean their property and then the city can use allotted money elsewhere. A citizen brought up a property on the loop that has been complained about several times, Manager Archer gave an update on that property as well. Commissioner Calvert stated that he felt that code enforcement had not got as much done as it could have, he further stated that

Manager Archer had stated that things could go better. Commissioner Calvert discussed the colored basket program. Commissioner McCullough asked if a basket was better than software and asked Chief Fox if he needed a basket, Chief Fox said he did not. Chief Fox stated that for years he had nobody to back him up legally. Chief Rodriguez stated the town did not get this way overnight and the process will work itself out if we let it. Chief Fox stated that Manager Archer had made contact on a property they had tried to reach for over a year. Commissioner Doyle stated that property owners have been put into nursing homes or passed away and that was causing issues. Commissioner Calvert stated letters are being ignored, Mayor Butler stated he was glad to have the discussion and that this is the first time ever that there was a budget for code enforcement, he further stated that there is no staffing dollar in the budget and that everyone involved was doing their primary job. Commissioner McCullough stated we are a group and should work as a group. Commissioner Calvert stated that Manager Archer has too much to do and needs to do less of the code enforcement as he has too much on his plate with all of the grants and other duties. Mayor Butler told Commissioner Calvert that he was being too critical of himself and that the whole group is responsible for the program. Commissioner Calvert apologized if he came off too critical of those involved in code enforcement. Manager Archer stated that he didn't need an apology, and he knew where his heart was.

Mayor Butler made a motion to continue training on the I.T. side and that the council be notified when the letters don't get answered and we post in the newspaper at that time, Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote. The Mayor also asked that the council be forwarded the code enforcement updates from the IWORQ software.

**Agenda Item 14: Discuss/Consider: Adjournment**

Commissioner Calvert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Doyle followed by a unanimous vote.

Adjourned at 19:06

These minutes were approved on the 13 day of April 2026

**CITY OF RANGER, TEXAS**

**ATTEST:**



**Charlie Archer, City Manager**



**Robert Butler, Mayor**