

MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City of Spearman, Texas, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 30 SW Court, on January 20, 2026, with Mayor Tobe Shields presiding. Council members present: Mark Murray, Roger Buchanan, Frank Salgado Jr., Brian Gillispie (left at 12:55 p.m.) and Don Schroeder. Staff present: City Manager Justin Parker, City Secretary Dana Sharp, Director of Public Works Chris Taylor, Utility Foreman Brandon Vincent EDC Director Bonnie Thompson, Fire Chief Paxton Heckman, Chief of Police James Ortiz, Police Sergeant Olivia Mandujano and Officer Peter Guzman. Fire Department present: Ryan Wells, Audra Wells, Rodney Nickel, Mary Heckman and Robert Howell. Media present: Ernie Bowen and Billy Volden, High Plains Observer. Citizens present: Christina Dettmer, Marcia Halderman, Sharron Swan, Ron Antalek, Keith Goodman, Annette Bynum, David Boyd, Rocio Prado, Bruce Stinson, Leah Shults and Mike Murray.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 a.m., Mayor Shields declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Shields gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Ron Antalek spoke a couple times. He expressed his concerns that he feels the issues with the fire department have hurt the integrity of the department and the City. He questions the motives of the individuals who left as well as the authority of those in charge. He questioned how this ordinance issue came about. He speculated most alderman have not been to the firehouse in over a year and recommended they do so. He closed with a prayer for the correct decisions to be made.

Christina Dettmer spoke a couple times. She expressed that those who departed the fire department, had more than an ordinance issue but would only speak for herself. She expressed an abuse of power when questions were asked and were met with retaliation. She went to leadership above the Fire Chief and was told to handle it internally.

Ryan Wells said everything Christina said is not happening now, he is a good Chief.

Keith Goodman, no longer a spearman resident but was involved with the SVFD for over 20 years, also spoke on several occasions. He believes that the ordinance needs to be all or nothing. You need who will show up in an emergency and believes the department needs restructured.

Roger Close, was involved with SVFD for 30 years and remembers when you could not get to the fire house quick enough or you would get left behind because the volunteer numbers were high, toward the end of his time volunteer numbers were lower and believes a few miles outside of town is better than 14 miles.

Bruce Stinson stated that Spearman is just a place for people to sleep most do not work here, you need anyone willing to help.

Alderman Gillispie asked the City Manager where we were on recording and livestreaming for the community. City Manager let him know he was working on it but it is not simple given the size/shape of the room.

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2025, AND THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 23, 2025.

Motion was made by Buchanan to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2025, and the Special Meeting held on December 23, 2025.

Second by Schroeder.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION ON MONTHLY REPORTS FROM STAFF.

Motion was made by Salgado to approve the monthly reports from staff. Second by Buchanan.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE LAST MONTH.

Motion was made by Gillispie to table the approval of the December financial statements until council can see the itemized credit card statement for November that was paid in December. Second by Salgado.

Motion carried with a 3:2 vote.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH HANSFORD COUNTY LIBRARY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES TO CITIZENS OF SPEARMAN.

Motion was made by Buchanan to approve the annual contract with Hansford County Library. Second by Murray.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ON THE 2025 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT FOR SPEARMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Motion was made by Salgado to approve the 2025 Racial Profiling Report. Second by Schroeder.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO INTRODUCE, ON FIRST READING, ORDINANCE NO. 976, AMENDING CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 12.04 OF THE SPEARMAN MUNICIPAL CODE DESIGNATING CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS AS FOUR-WAY STOPS.

WALTER WILMETH DRIVE AND 11TH AVENUE

COTTER DRIVE AND 11TH AVENUE

COTTER DRIVE, SOUTH BRANDT STREET AND 7TH AVENUE

Motion was made by Buchanan to approve the ordinance to place stop signs at 11th and Cotter and 7th and Cotter/S Brandt Street and to re-address the stop signs at 11th and Walter Wilmeth at a later date if

necessary. Second by Salgado. Mayor requests a posted warning of a 4 way stop ahead and a 30-day grace period with no tickets, verbal warning only from law enforcement.
Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER SPEARMAN MUNICIPAL CODE §5.02.003(A) PERTAINING TO SPEARMAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP.

Motion was made by Schroeder to have a committee, consisting of current and former firefighters, formed to rewrite the structure of the Fire Department. Second by Buchanan.
Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1-26 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF FY2026 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (PRPC) AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO REPRESENT THE CITY IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS APPLICATION.

Motion was made by Gillispie to approve Resolution No. 1-26, authorizing the submission of the FY2026 Regional Solid Waste Grant Program application to PRPC. Second by Schroeder.
Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ORDER THE GENERAL ELECTION FOR MAY 2, 2026.

Motion was made by Salgado to order the May 2, 2026, election. Second by Buchanan.
Motion carried unanimously.

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE TO DELIBERATE:

- A. THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE UTILITY FOREMAN; AND**
- B. THE PERFORMANCE AND DUTIES OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE; AND**
- C. THE PERFORMANCE AND DUTIES OF THE CITY MANAGER.**

Motion was made by Buchanan to convene into executive session at 11:39 a.m. Second by Salgado.
Motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gillispie left at 12:55 p.m.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION TO TAKE ACTION AS DETERMINED APPROPRIATE IN THE CITY COUNCIL'S DISCRETION REGARDING:

Motion was made by Schroeder to reconvene into open session at 3:41 p.m. Second by Salgado.
Motion carried unanimously.

A. THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE UTILITY FOREMAN; AND

Council made the decision to modify the employment of the Utility Foreman and reinstate his position with 3 days unpaid suspension.

B. THE PERFORMANCE AND DUTIES OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

Council instructed the City Manager to proceed, today, as discussed in executive session.

C. THE PERFORMANCE AND DUTIES OF THE CITY MANAGER.

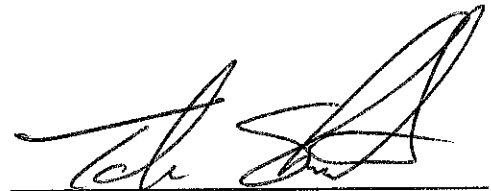
There is no action at this time, schedule a Special Meeting for February 3, 2026.

COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Look at credit card policy for the City.
- Department of Public Works needs to develop a schedule/policy for the street sweeper and alley maintenance as well as crack sealing.
- Present council with a list of surplus equipment.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned by Mayor Shields at 3:48 p.m.



MAYOR TOBE SHIELDS

ATTEST:



DANA SHARP
CITY SECRETARY