



City of Farmers Branch Action Meeting Minutes City Council

Farmers Branch City Hall
13000 Wm Dodson Pkwy
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

The full video of this meeting is available on the City website at <https://farmersbranch.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Council Present: Mayor Terry Lynne, Mayor Pro Tem Omar Roman, Councilwoman Tina Bennett-Burton (arrived at 3:18 p.m.), Councilmember Roger Neal, Councilmember David Reid, Councilmember Elizabeth Villafranca

City Staff Present: City Manager Ben Williamson, Deputy City Manager Jawaria Tareen, Director of Administrative Services Stacy Henderson, City Attorney Nicole Corr, Director of Public Works Ray Silva-Reyes, Director of Parks and Recreation Rob Diaz, Police Chief Kevin McCoy, Fire Chief Daniel Latimer, Interim Finance Director Lee Ann Dumbauld Huddleston, Director of Community Services Danielle Summers, and other City staff

CALL TO ORDER - STUDY SESSION (3 P.M.)

Mayor Lynne called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON STUDY SESSION ITEMS

The below individuals spoke during Public Comment:

- Joseph Reigel, 13647 Greystone Drive, spoke on inclusivity in the proclamation process.
- Marthann Dafft, 2557 Brandywine Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Susan Davis, 13596 Tom Field Road, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- John Campbell, 1735 Wittington Place, Unit 2403, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Terry Anderson, 2644 Mount View Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Charles Gilmer, 3165 Golden Oak Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Sherry Caillier, 3165 Golden Oak Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Nancy Snyder, 13410 Glenside Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Brenda Brodrick, 13531 Rawhide Parkway, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- George Brodrick, 13531 Rawhide Parkway, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Kevin Caldwell, 14127 Tanglewood Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Daniel Bowe, 3464 Chaparral Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.
- Robert Brown, Dallas, spoke in opposition to the proposed calendar of events.

STUDY SESSION ITEMS

C.1 Review and discuss Consent and Regular agenda items.

Mayor Pro Tem Roman requested to pull Items M.2, M.3, and M.4 related to the City's investment policy and investment pools from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, seconded by Councilmember Roman, to approve the employment agreement for the Deputy City Manager, with the amendment that the amount of leave available for sell-back be increased from one week to two weeks. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

D.2 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss economic development incentives for 4050 Valley View Lane.

A motion was made by Councilmember Villafranca, seconded by Councilmember Roman, to extend the incentive agreement for 4050 Valley View Lane to June 30, 2025. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lynne adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:11 p.m.


City Secretary Stacy Henderson, TRMC


Mayor Terry Lynne

C.5 Discuss a proposed amendment to the current City Council Travel Policy related to reimbursements.

Mayor Pro Tem Roman discussed the proposed amendment to the Council Travel Policy, which would give Councilmembers the option to receive a monthly stipend or to claim reimbursements up to a maximum amount of \$2,400.

A majority of the Council was in favor of amending the travel policy to include the proposed language.

Mayor Lynne convened into Executive Session at 3:33 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

D.1 The City Council will convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Sections 551.074 and 551.072(2) of the Texas Government Code to receive legal advice and discuss an employment agreement for the Deputy City Manager.

Mayor Lynne reconvened the Study Session at 4:00 p.m.

STUDY SESSION ITEMS

C.2 Receive a presentation from Public Works on the City's water and wastewater rate study.

Ray Silva Reyes, Director of Public Works, introduced Richard and Andrea Campbell of NewGen Strategies, who gave a presentation explaining the components of the City's rate structure, the objectives of the study, citizens' priorities regarding daily costs, key issues affecting the City, comparison of water bills with neighboring cities, anticipated financial performance under current rates, and possible scenarios to improve cost recovery.

Councilmember Neal requested the following:

- Information regarding the percentage of increase in fees from the Trinity River Authority and Dallas Water Utilities over the last 10 years.
- Original letter sent to the City regarding the Lead and Copper Rule Revision.

Mayor Lynne suggested holding a work session to discuss this item further.

C.3 Discuss a calendar of events for the City Council to acknowledge, including City service and Farmers Branch ethnic heritage recognition, aligning with national and state observances.

Director of Administrative Services/City Secretary Stacy Henderson gave a presentation on the proposed calendar of events for social media postings.

Councilwoman Bennett-Burton requested to add the following:

- Religious Freedom Day
- Texas Independence Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Constitutional Day

Councilmember Reid agreed with Councilwoman Bennett-Burton's additions and requested to add the following:

- Military Appreciation Month

Councilmember Villafranca agreed with all of the aforementioned additions and requested to add the following:

- New Year's Day
- Washington's Birthday
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Columbus Day
- Christmas Day

Mayor Pro Tem Roman agreed with adding Memorial Day.

Council directed to bring back the calendar with the aforementioned additions.

Mayor Lynne recessed the Study Session at 5:05 p.m.

BREAK – CITY COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPHS

RECEPTION

A reception was held honoring incoming Mayor Pro Tem Omar Roman and Councilmember Elizabeth Villafranca.

CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Lynne called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Reverend Father Alfonse Nazzaro led the invocation and Mayor Lynne led the pledges of allegiance.

COUNCILMEMBER SWEARING IN AND REMARKS

Mayor Pro Tem Roman and Councilmember Villafranca conducted the ceremonial swearing-in ceremony and gave remarks.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

J.1 Presentation of the Employee of the Month award for April 2025 to Leslie Smith of the Finance Department.

Mayor Lynne presented Leslie Smith the Employee of the Month Award for April 2025.

J.2 Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing May 2025 as National Military Appreciation Month.

Councilmember Reid gave a proclamation declaring May 2025 as National Military Appreciation Month.

J.3 Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing May 11 through May 17, 2025, as National Police Week.

Mayor Lynne presented a proclamation declaring May 11 through May 17, 2025, as National Police Week.

J.4 Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing May 18 through May 24, 2025, as National Public Works Week.

Mayor Lynne presented a Proclamation declaring May 18 through May 24, 2025, as National Public Works Week.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Public Information Officer Christian Grisales presented items of community interest.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

The below individuals spoke during Citizen Comment:

- Al Mahesh, 3302 Water Oak Court, spoke congratulating Councilmember Roman and Councilmember Villafranca for their successful election.
- Rinkesh Desai, 1753 Hanover Court, spoke congratulating Councilmember Roman and Councilmember Villafranca for their successful election.
- Reyna Pruitt, 12600 Prescott Place, spoke, inviting members of the Council to the BAPS Charities Walkathon at Kaleidoscope Park in Frisco, Texas, on Saturday, June 1, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA

M.1 Consider approving the following City Council meeting minutes; and take appropriate action.

- April 29, 2025, City Council Meeting
- May 6, 2025, City Council Meeting

~~**M.2 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-069 adopting the City of Farmers Branch Investment Policy; and take appropriate action. (Moved to Regular Agenda Item O.2)**~~

~~**M.3 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-083 authorizing the City of Farmers Branch to participate in the TexSTAR Investment Pool and designating authorized representatives; and take appropriate action. (Moved to Regular Agenda Item O.3)**~~

~~**M.4 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-084 authorizing the participation of the City of Farmers Branch in the Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC) and designating authorized representatives; and take appropriate action. (Moved to Regular Agenda Item O.4)**~~

M.5 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-068 authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Emergency Medical Service data sharing with Dallas County on behalf of Dallas County Health and Human Services; authorizing the City Manager to execute the same, authorizing the Farmers Branch Fire Department to take any additional acts necessary to carry out the City's obligations under the ILA, and take appropriate action.

- M.6 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-067 authorizing the filing of a project application with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) for a regional solid waste program local implementation project; and take appropriate action.**
- M.7 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-060 approving a Professional Service Agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for Phase 4 of the Lead and Copper Rule Revision Compliance Plan, in an amount not to exceed \$120,133; and take appropriate action.**
- M.8 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-064 approving a Professional Service Agreement with Birkhoff, Hendricks, and Carter for design enhancements of the Valley View elevated storage tank and the Wicker ground storage reservoir in the amount of \$185,600; and take appropriate action.**
- M.9 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-077 authorizing the execution of a Residential Demolition/Rebuild Program Incentive Agreement in the amount of \$20,000 and a four (4) year property tax rebate for the property owner located at 2504 Squire Place; and take appropriate action.**
- M.10 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-076 approving an Economic Development Incentive Agreement pursuant to the Commercial Facade Grant Program for 13636 Neutron Road; and take appropriate action.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Reid, seconded by Councilwoman Bennett-Burton to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Roman, Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilmember Neal, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings held during this meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- O.1 Elect a Mayor Pro Tem and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem for the period of June 2025 through May 2026; and take appropriate action.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Neal, seconded by Mayor Lynne, to elect David Reid as Mayor Pro Tem and Tina Bennett-Burton as Deputy Mayor Pro Tem. The motion failed with the following vote:

Aye: Councilmember Neal, Councilmember Reid

Nay: Mayor Pro Tem Roman, Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilmember Villafranca

A motion was made by Councilmember Villafranca, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Roman, to elect Tina Bennett-Burton as Mayor Pro Tem and Roger Neal as Deputy Mayor Pro Tem. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilman Neal, Mayor Pro Tem Roman, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

O.2/M.2 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-069 adopting the City of Farmers Branch Investment Policy; and take appropriate action.

Interim Finance Director Lee Ann Dumbauld Huddleston gave a presentation explaining the process for the approval of the City's Investment Policy, the changes that have been made to the policy, and the investment pools that are being proposed for the City's investments.

Councilmember Roman requested a representative from JP Morgan come and answer questions regarding the City's investment strategy and requested the investment portfolio.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, seconded by Councilmember Roman, to table Item O.2/M.2 to the June 3, 2025, City Council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilmember Roman Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

O.3/M.3 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-083 authorizing the City of Farmers Branch to participate in the TexSTAR Investment Pool and designating authorized representatives; and take appropriate action.

A motion was made by Councilmember Roman, seconded by Councilmember Villafranca, to table Item O.3/M.3 to the June 3, 2025, City Council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

O.4/M.4 Consider approving Resolution No. 2025-084 authorizing the participation of the City of Farmers Branch in the Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC) and designating authorized representatives; and take appropriate action.

A motion was made by Councilmember Roman, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, to table Item O.4/M.4 to the June 3, 2025, meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Reid, Councilmember Villafranca

STUDY SESSION ITEMS

C.4 Discuss and provide direction regarding City Council liaison appointments to external organizations.

Deputy Director of Administrative Services/Deputy City Secretary Erin Flores gave a presentation explaining the current vacant liaison appointments.

The following was discussed:

- Mayor Lynne requested a future agenda item to discuss the Sister City Program.

- Councilmember Villafranca volunteered to serve as liaison to the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce.
- Councilmember Villafranca volunteered to serve on the Travel Expense Review Committee.

The majority of Council was in favor of leaving the Sister City Program liaison appointment vacant until further discussion is had and appointing Councilmember Villafranca as Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce liaison and as a member of the Travel Expense Review Committee.

C.6 Receive an update from the Mayor and Council Members regarding board liaison information from outside organizations and other meetings attended.

The Council gave updates regarding outside organizations and other meetings attended.

C.7 Review and discuss future agenda items.

The following future agenda items were requested:

- Mayor Pro Tem Bennett-Burton requested an item related to putting a restriction on the length of time before an item that has been voted down can be brought back before Council.
- Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal requested an update on the Citizen’s Collection Center, an update on the Spot at Myra, and an update on grant funding for Cook’s Creek.
- Councilmember Villafranca requested information on having banner installations on Oncor delivery poles on Valwood Parkway between Josey Lane and Webb Chapel and policy framework for the banners.
- Mayor Lynne requested research be performed on grant possibilities for Marsh Cemetery for the purpose of installing a wrought iron fence around the cemetery.

Mayor Lynne reconvened into Executive Session at 7:14 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

D.2 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss economic development incentives for 4050 Valley View Lane.

D.3 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss economic incentives for Farmers Branch Project 2025.005 B.

D.4 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss economic incentives for Farmers Branch Project 2025.006 A.

D.5 The City Council will convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss economic incentives for Farmers Branch Project 2025.009.

Mayor Lynne reconvened the Regular Agenda at 8:10 p.m.

TAKE ANY ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

D.1 The City Council will convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Sections 551.074 and 551.072(2) of the Texas Government Code to receive legal advice and discuss an employment agreement for the Deputy City Manager.