City of Farmers Branch
Special Called Action Meeting Minutes
City Council

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

Tuesday, August 4, 2026 | **7:00 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 David Reid, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Roger Neal, Councilwoman Lupe Gonzalez, Councilwoman Tina Bennett-Burton, Councilwoman Elizabeth Villafranca

City Staff Present: City Manager Ben Williamson, Deputy City Manager Jawaria Tareen, Director of Administrative Services Stacy Henderson, Senior Management Analyst Erin Flores, Human Resources Director Jeffrey Ross, Carolina Green, Deputy Director of Human Resources Communications Manager Ariel Wallace, Senior Administrative Assistant Quinn Mercado, Police Chief Kevin McCoy, Officer Cervantes, and other City staff

CALL TO ORDER – SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Mayor Lynne called the meeting to order at 8:36 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Calcy Root, 3650 Janlyn Lane, Farmers Branch, Texas, urged the City Council to apply the Code of Ethics fairly and consistently.
- Max Broderick, 13531 Rawhide Parkway, Farmers Branch, Texas, emphasized expectations for professional conduct by elected officials.

PUBLIC HEARING

C.1 Conduct a public hearing and consider and take action regarding a complaint alleging a violation of the City's Code of Ethics against a Councilmember for District 1, pursuant to Section 2-284 of the City's Code, filed June 8, 2026.

Mayor Lynne opened the public hearing, stated its purpose, and outlined the procedures for receiving testimony, considering evidence, and determining whether a violation of the City's Code of Ethics had occurred.

Mayor Lynne administered the oath collectively to the following members of the City Council:

- Mayor Terry Lynne
- Mayor Pro Tem Reid
- Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal
- Councilwoman Gonzalez
- Councilwoman Bennett-Burton
- Councilwoman Villafranca

City Attorney David Berman and City Manager Ben Williamson did not take the oath.

Mayor Lynne separately administered the oath to the following witnesses before their testimony:

- Officer Cervantes of the Farmers Branch Police Department
- Resident Nancy Williams
- Resident Cesar Gonzalez

Omar Roman, serving as Councilwoman Gonzalez's representative for the hearing, presented opening and closing statements, questioned witnesses, and presented evidence documentation, audio, and video materials.

Investigating Attorney Ashley McSwain summarized the complaint, evidence reviewed, investigative findings, and applicable provisions of the City's Code of Ethics, and responded to questions from the City Council and Mr. Roman.

Sworn testimony was received from Mayor Lynne, Mayor Pro Tem Reid, Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilwoman Villafranca, Officer Cervantes, Nancy Williams, and Cesar Gonzalez. The City Council reviewed the evidence presented, questioned the investigating attorney and witnesses, and discussed the events following the June 2, 2026, City Council meeting, the investigative process, and the applicable provisions of the City's Code of Ethics.

A motion was made by Mayor Lynne, seconded by Councilwoman Villafranca, to require Councilwoman Gonzalez to: (1) issue a public apology regarding the events following the June 2, 2026, City Council meeting; (2) complete three Texas Municipal League training courses and provide certificates of completion to the City Council within 90 days; and (3) research and prepare a written report regarding City Council dynamics and recommendations for improving Council operations.

During discussion, Mayor Lynne accepted an amendment removing the requirement that Councilwoman Gonzalez prepare a written report. City Attorney Berman clarified that the remaining terms could proceed with Councilwoman Gonzalez's voluntary agreement and would not constitute a formal reprimand, letter of admonition, or determination of responsibility under Section 2-285 of the City's Code. Councilwoman Gonzalez voluntarily accepted the remaining terms.

A motion was made by Mayor Lynne, seconded by Councilwoman Villafranca, as amended, to require Councilwoman Gonzalez to issue a public apology regarding the events following the June 2, 2026 City Council meeting and to complete three Texas Municipal League training courses, and providing certificates of completion to the City Council within 90 days. Councilwoman Gonzalez voluntarily agreed to the terms. The motion, as amended, carried with the following vote:

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

Recuse: Councilwoman Gonzalez

A motion was made by Mayor Lynne, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Reid, to table Item D.1. The motion failed with the following vote:

Aye: Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilwoman Villafranca

Nay: Mayor or Pro Tem Reid

City Council convened into closed Executive Session at 2:41 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

D.1 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.074, Personnel, and Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney, of the Texas Government Code to consider and deliberate, and to seek legal advice from the City Attorney, regarding a complaint alleging a violation of the City's Code of Ethics and an investigating attorney's report against Councilmember for District 1, pursuant to Section 2-284 of the City's Code, filed June 8, 2026.

Mayor Lynne reconvened from Executive Session to the Special Called Meeting in Open Session at 3:27 a.m.

TAKE ANY ACTION AS NECESSARY AS A RESULT OF THE CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

C.1 The City Council will convene into a closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.074, Personnel, and Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney, of the Texas Government Code to consider and deliberate, and to seek legal advice from the City Attorney, regarding a complaint alleging a violation of the City's Code of Ethics against a Councilmember for District 4, pursuant to Section 2-284 of the City's Code, filed July 10, 2026.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Reid, to dismiss the ethics complaint filed June 10, 2026, against the District 4 Councilmember. The motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Reid, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Neal, Councilwoman Gonzalez, Councilwoman Bennett-Burton, Councilwoman Villafranca

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lynne adjourned the meeting at 3:27 a..m.

City Secretary Stacy Henderson, TRMC

Mayor Terry Lynne