

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

**Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2025**

A regular meeting of the City Council, City of Blanco, Texas was held on August 12, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Cargill, followed by roll call announcing a quorum was present. The Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Pastor Carlos Cloyd, Blanco Methodist Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary. The Council members present: Mayor Cargill, Mayor Pro-Tem Moore and Council Members Mack-McClung, Thrailkill, Behrends, and Moses.

City staff present: Warren Escovy, City Administrator, Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary, Jose Martinez, Finance Director, and Chief Thornhill

Mayor Cargill made the following announcement:

- Take note of the Blanco Water Stages, posted at city hall and the library

Public Comments:

- Martha Herden, City of Blanco resident and former Mayor, spoke regarding Laurie Cassidy, saying her bright smile and laughter light up the room. Her heart is with this community and when people speak of keeping Blanco, Blanco, she has been the leader doing this. She said Laurie will be missed, please come back to visit. She then asked everyone to give her a round of applause and closed saying it was her honor to work with Laurie.
- Jacob Arnold spoke regarding his concerns with the contractor registration form. He doesn't understand the process and the need for copies of insurance. Would like to talk through it more and see an easier process.
- Tojo Chorath, owner of CJ's convenience store since 2008. He is happy to see the respectable council members under Mayor Cargill's leadership. He spoke regarding the need for a better understanding of the plans for the US 281 relief route. He also spoke of the ongoing water issues and asked for a better notification system to the business owners.
- Randall Pawlik, spoke for his parents which could not be at the meeting tonight. They have been the owner of 99 acres, where the proposed US 281 relief route may directly intersect, stripping away the property value and they are voicing their opposition to this relief route. Asking the Council to take a stronger stand and clearly state they do not accept a bypass within the City limits or the ETJ.
- Ken Welch, Blanco County resident, spoke regarding the ½ penny sales tax, thoroughly need to understand the issue and how this looks for the future. Need to better educate the residents and need a plan for use of the funds. He suggested tabling this item and further discussing how it will impact the public.
- Mayor Cargill read letters from herself, Senator Donna Campbell and Representative Ellen Troxclair, thanking Laurie Cassidy for her service to the City. She then presented Laurie with a dozen pink roses in a beautiful vase. Laurie spoke and thanked everyone telling them it has truly been a pleasure to work with the residents, staff and the Council for the past five and half years.

- Peter Kelly, City of Blanco resident, spoke regarding three issues he is having. First one is with the smelly manhole cover, concrete is cracking. Secondly, is the commercial dumpster near his residence at 13th Street and Greenlawn. It is unsightly and smelly. He would like for the Council to pass an ordinance requiring these types of dumpsters be enclosed. Thirdly the light pollution from the corner lights shine and are against the dark sky ordinance. Granddaughter looking at sky with telescope. Selina as City Hall was awesome.

PRESENTATION:

1. Retta Martin and Katy Comal showed off the Community Achievement Award received from the Office of the Governor and Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB).

Staff Presentations:

1. City Hall, Warren Escovy, City Administrator shared the following: the Council met earlier today to discuss the FY 25-26 budget and will hold another meeting on August 28 at 3:00 pm., the staff and committee are working on updating the Comprehensive Master Plan and rewriting of the UDC. Lastly, working towards the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) final draft of 5-year plan.
2. Police Department, Chief Thornhill presented the July 2025 monthly report.
3. Danny Maldonado with Inframark gave a brief update. The crew has cleared the area by the damn. The repairs to the manhole cover is on the to-do list. They are working on leak repairs and have fixed 21 leaks this past month. Also, driving the City to review and continue road patches and working on installation of new taps. Stallion Facility generator has been installed and is ready to use. Next is the installation of generators at the Church Tank and Elevated storage tank. Also working to update SCADA alarms and alert calls. Surface water treatment plant, one pump is installed and working, with the transfer pump to be installed sometime next week. Wastewater facility is working great, no need to discharge. Also, currently working through a few TCEQ violations. Discharge permit public meeting is set for September 11, 2025 at Gem of the Hills.

Consent Agenda: *The following items may be acted upon in one motion.* No separate discussion or action is necessary unless requested by the Mayor or a Council Member, in which those items will be pulled for separate consideration.

1. Approval of Minutes from the July 8, 2025, Regular Meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes from the July 29, 2025, Special Meeting/Budget Workshop #2.

Council Member Moses asked the Mayor to pull Consent agenda Item 3 and move to New Business Item 1.

A motion was made by Council Member Moses to approve consent agenda items one and two as presented, seconded by Council Member Thrallkill all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Approval to Revert back to Original Contract, with the addition to reduced fee at 30 hours, between the City of Blanco and Tim Tuggey Law. The Council discussed. A motion was made by Council Member Moses to approve reverting back to original contract with Tim Tuggey Law, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

2. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Approval of two parking spaces at 310 Pecan for ADA Compliance. Warren Escovy discussed request from business owner and approval of two ADA compliant parking spaces. They will be going to Historic Preservation Commission with a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) request. Rebecca Lightfoot O'Shea, RLO Realty, LLC spoke. Edward Jones is only asking for one space. Staff recommends that the Council approve the request for two parking spaces to create an ADA accessible parking space. **A motion was made by Council Member Mack-McClung to approve two ADA compliant parking spaces with van access, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
3. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Sales Tax Collection and Related Issues, including the Possibility of Calling a Future Special Election to Repeal and Repurpose a Current One-half Penny Sales Tax Collection for a Period of Four (4) Years. Tim Tuggey, Attorney recognized Laurie Cassidy's service to the city. He then spoke and said he is not recommending the Council vote tonight regarding the holding of a November election. He explained the tax collection and related issues. The Council discussed bringing the issue back during a workshop to better educate the residents. **No Action Taken.**
4. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on status update of water pumps at the Water Treatment Plant. Warren Escovy undated the Council on the status of the pumps stating pump one is ready now and pump two will be ready next week. **No Action Taken.**
5. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Approval of Resolution 2025-R-0XX, Supporting Innovative One Water Strategies. The Mayor and Warren Escovy discussed the One Water Strategies and the benefits to adopting the Resolution prior to the upcoming September 11 discharge permit public meeting. **A motion was made by Council Member Mack McClung to approve Resolution 2025-R-012, Supporting Innovative One Water Strategies, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
6. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Budget Amendment to Fiscal Year 2024-2025, Professional Fees to Pay for Sign Pole, Budgeting Software and Website in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. Warren Escovy spoke and the Council discussed. The staff recommends making a budget amendment from unused funds from professional fees, account 100-02-5633 in the 2024 fiscal year budget to cover cost of sign pole, budgeting software, and website in an amount not to exceed \$18,000. **A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Moore to approve the budget amendments as recommended by the Staff, seconded by Council Member Thrailkill, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Certificate of Obligation Series 2024A Update on Use of Funds to include Action on Rock Wall Issue and on the Sewer Lines. Warren Escovy asked the Council to table this item. **No Action Taken.**
2. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action to Revise the City's Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan. The current plan was approved under Ordinance 2024-O-006. Jerry Hendricks with SPI discussed with the Council. **No Action Taken.**
3. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Contract Extension between the City of Blanco and the Harbison's. Tim Tuggey discussed the current contract. Tonight the request is for a one-year contract extension. Still need to assess the value of the easement versus the value of the effluent.

A motion was made by Council Member Mack-McClung to exercise the option to extend approval of contract extension between the City of Blanco and the Harbison's, seconded by Council Member Thrailkill, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on City Communications with TXDOT on Planning for Highway 281 Relief Route. Warren Escovy discussed with the Council and Mr. Jay Palmer shared his presentation with the Council. He asked the Council to express their intent in one unanimous voice to TxDOT regarding the US 281 relief route. **No Action Taken.**

Closed regular meeting 9:01 pm and convened into executive session.

Executive Session in accordance with Texas Government Code: in accordance with the authority contained in the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, 551.072, and 551.074.

1. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding legal issues associated with the Water Treatment Plant Project; Bids, Contract. Award and Notice to Proceed.
2. Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney), 551.072 (Real Estate) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct; Confer with City Attorney regarding Sewer Line Extension(s).
3. Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct; Consultation with City Attorney regarding Inframark Contract.

Closed executive session at 10:28 pm and convened into regular meeting.:


Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council Member Moses to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Behrends, all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 pm.


Candy Cargill, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie Cassidy, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

These minutes were approved on the 9th day of September, 2025.

