

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF RUNNELS §
CITY OF BALLINGER §

On the 6th day of July 2026, the Ballinger City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall located at 700 Railroad Avenue with the following members present:

Darlene Kelly
Martin Akins
John Fulton
Ryan Lange
Steve Gray

Mayor
Councilmember Place #1
Councilmember Place #2
Councilmember Place #3
Councilmember Place #4

Staff Present:

Lindsey Gayoso
Sharon Hicks
Cord Bowman
David Brem
Ray Cornutt

City Manager
City Attorney
Public Works Director
Public Utilities Director
Chief of Police

1. **Call meeting to Order:** Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Prayer and Pledges:** Councilmember Akins gave the invocation and led the pledges.
3. **Citizen Presentations for Items not on the Agenda:** Citizen Delores Ferguson reported her concerns on the streets as well as the big trucks that take 14th street. Citizen Stella Gonzales reported she had concerns about her alley where the garbage truck drives there is a huge hole as well as interest in purchasing the lot next to her. City Park Board Rep Elaine Paske inquired about having the splash pad open after the pool is closed as well as replacing the damaged feature.
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items other than Public Hearing:** N/A
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approve Minutes from June 1, 2026 City Council Meeting. Councilmember Gray moved to approve the minutes. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Regular Agenda Items for Discussion, Consideration and/or Action:**
 - a. **Chamber of Commerce request for \$1000 of HOT Funds to use for the advertisement of the Hotter Than Hell Cookoff-** Councilmember Akins moved to approve the request. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
 - b. **Actor Christopher Henry- Request to shoot film/movie in Ballinger and locations.** No longer requested, no action necessary

c. Resolution and Order for General Election of November 3, 2026, for Council Place 3 and Council Place 4-

Councilmember Lange moved to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

d. Ordinance: consider calling a special election and contracting with Runnels County Elections Office for a special election on Tuesday November 3, 2026 for the purpose of voting for or against the proposition:

"Authorizing the creation of the Ballinger Municipal Development District and the imposition of a sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent in the ETJ for the purpose of financing development projects beneficial to the district."

City Manager Gayoso presented this as a way to generate some funds for business development. Councilmember Lange moved to approve the Ordinance. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

e. Consider allowing American Legion to use the Girl scout hut in return will provide maintenance and upkeep at the facility.

American Legion Member Danny Halmark requested to utilize the facility. Maintenance such as painting and mowing would be done along with placing a sign freestanding outside of the building. They are open to sharing the building with the Park Board during Easter when stuffing eggs. Councilmember Akins moved to approve the use of the facility. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

f. Budget FY2027 Draft

- i. Approve 3% increase in rates for garbage services beginning October 1, 2026
- ii. Review Fee Schedule
- iii. Updates, Discussions on Budget FY2027

City Manager Gayoso presented information to the Council. No action taken on the fee schedule or Budget. Councilmember Lange moved to approve the 3% increase for garbage services and Councilmember Gray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Future Agenda Items – Discuss and Consider: Councilmember Lange inquired about property on the Colorado River, Citizen Stella Gonzales interested in the purchase of 403 Ball Ave

8. Executive Session: Council Convened into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code.

a. Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney.

a. Ballinger Volunteer Fire Department

b. **Section 551.072 Deliberations about Real Property.**

c. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.**

a. **Appointment of City of Ballinger Fire Reserves Pension Board**

9. **Reconvene and take Action if needed from Executive Session:** The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:28 p.m. Mayor Kelly stated that no votes or actions were taken.

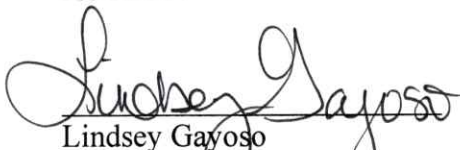
a. **Appointment of City of Ballinger Fire Reserves Pension Board.**

Councilmember Lange made a motion to appoint Ray Cornutt as the City Representative, Citizens Terilyn Bowman and Steve Gray, Reserves Representatives Edward Garcia, Wacey Cason, and Brent Allen. Councilmember Akins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. **Adjourn:** Councilmember Fulton made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.


Darlene Kelly
Mayor

ATTEST:


Lindsey Gayoso
City Manager, City Secretary