

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

On the 4th day of August 2025, 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:

Dawni Seymore
Richard "Rick" Morrish
Darlene Kelly
Ryan Lange
Steve Gray

Mayor
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember Place #1
Councilmember Place #3
Councilmember Place #4

Staff Present:

Lindsey Gayoso
Sharon Hicks
Ray Cornutt

City Manager
City Attorney
Chief of Police

Absent:

Cord Bowman
David Brem

Public Works Director
Public Utilities Director

1. **Call meeting to Order:** Mayor Seymore called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Prayer and Pledges:** Councilmember Kelly gave the invocation and led the pledges.
3. **Citizen Presentations for Items not on the Agenda:** N/A
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items other than Public Hearing:** N/A
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approve Minutes of July 14, 2025 City Council Meeting. Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of spelling of his name. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Regular Agenda Items for Discussion, Consideration and/or Action:**
 - a. Lions Club and Rotary request for park for tamale fest- No Action due to no specific date
 - b. Christmas in Ballinger Chamber approval to decorate City Hall lawn and Pioneer Plaza- Manager Gayoso presented ideas from the Chamber of Commerce regarding the use of the City of Ballinger Hall lawn as part of the Christmas lighting displays. The proposal would involve local businesses and citizens purchasing decorated and lighted display spaces, to be included in the downtown tree lighting event. Councilmember Morrish expressed concern about the availability of electrical

outlets to support the displays. More specific details will be provided as planning progresses. Additionally, the Chamber requested that Pioneer Plaza be decorated for the entire Christmas season rather than just one weekend.

Councilmember Kelly moved to approve the Chamber's requests. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- c. Ballinger All School Reunion requested to close downtown 8th street for 5th quarter September 12, 2025- Reunion Committee member Misti Uckert requested to have the 8th street downtown be blocked off for overflow for 5th quarter celebration from 8pm-12am. She also requested to use tables and chairs from the community center. Councilmember Gray moved to approve the request. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Ratify and approve participation in the Opioid Settlement with Purdue and Sackler Family and ratify signing of documents via docusign- Attorney Hicks informed council of the recurring opioid settlement that can pay and goes into the Police Department funds to help stop opioid addiction and drug related matters per each agreement reached. Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve. Councilmember Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Approve Audit FY2023- Caitlin Park with GMS, Doug Martella Financial Advisor via phone, presented the Audit for FY2023-Councilmember Morrish made a motion to approve the FY2023 Audit. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Budget Items

- a. Recommendations/discussion for the Fee Schedule FY2026- Councilmembers will email or call about their recommendations of the fee schedule
- b. Recommendations/discussion on the Employee Policy- Councilmembers will email their recommendations on the employee policy
- c. Review of the Budget and Tax Rates for FY2026
- d. Set public hearing for Budget FY2026 – Councilmember Lange moved to set a public hearing for August 25, 2025. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Approve the Proposed Tax Rate and set public hearing date- Councilmember Morrish moved to approve the proposed tax rate of \$0.567900 and set a public hearing for August 25, 2025 (**changed to September 8, 2025 as noted below**). Councilmember Gray seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

- i. Place 1 Darlene Kelly – Yes
 - ii. Place 2 Richard Morrish – Yes
 - iii. Place 3 Ryan Lange – Yes
 - iv. Place 4 Steve Gray – Yes
 - v. Mayor Dawni Seymore - Yes
- The motion carried unanimously.

8. Future Agenda Items – Discuss and Consider:

9. Executive Session: Council Convened into Executive Session at 6:56 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code.

a. **Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney.**

a. **Runnels County Mutual Aid Agreement**

b. **Interlocal Agreements with Runnels county for Dispatch and Fire Suppression**

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

a. **Airport House**

c. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.**

a. **Airport Board nomination of member**

10. Reconvene and take Action if needed from Executive Session: The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:47 p.m. Mayor Seymore stated that no actions or votes were taken.

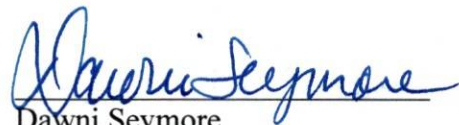
a. Councilmember Gray made a motion to terminate the Runnels County Mutual Aid Agreement. Councilmember Kelly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Councilmember Lange made a motion to nominate Gary Wilson to the Airport advisory board. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Councilmember Kelly made a motion to change the budget workshop from August 12, 2025 to August 25, 2025. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

d. Councilmember Lange made a motion to set the Public hearing for the Budget FY2026 and Proposed tax Rate hearing on September 8, 2025 from its prior set date of August 25, 2025. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Adjourn: Councilmember Gray made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.



Dawni Seymore
Mayor

ATTEST:



Lindsey Gayoso
City Manager, City Secretary