

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

On the 3rd day of August 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 Lange 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 a Public Hearing:** N/A
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approve Minutes from July 6, 2026 City Council Meeting.
 - b. Tamale Fest October 2026 Request for ½ of the City Park to hold event.
Councilmember Gray moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Fulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Regular Agenda Items for Discussion, Consideration and/or Action:**
 - a. **FY2026 Budget Amendment for the purchase of a John Deere Motorgrader, accept the trade in of 2008 Volvo G946 Motor grader @ \$28,000 for the purchase of JD Grader** Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
 - b. **Lease of 2024 JD 620G Grader at the amount of \$42.30 per hour until the 2026 JD Grader arrives.** Councilmember Gray made a motion to approve. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
 - c. **Interlocal Agreement with Runnels County for Dispatch Services FY2027**
After discussion of the proposed formula and city taxpayers already being taxed county taxes for dispatch council wants to discuss more prior to FY2028 to

determine a formula for the citizens to compare the cost. Councilmember Akins made a motion to enter into the interlocal with Runnels County for dispatch services at the amount of \$91,000 for FY2027. Councilmember Fulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- d. **Joint Election Agreement and Contract for election services between Runnels County Elections Administrator and the City of Ballinger for the November 3, 2026 General Election** Councilmember Akins moved to approve the election agreement. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. **Ordinance cancelling special election for November 3, 2026 on measure to create an MDD.** After more discussion and a meeting with Robert at Zac tax the election is moot as there are no available sales tax funds for the MDD and the best option for the City of Ballinger would be to utilize the general funds and appoint a board to oversee funds of a non-profit Local Gov Corp for current local and future businesses. This will allow the city to apply for grants that most MDD and Economic Developments receive. More discussion to come. Councilmember Lange made a motion to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- f. **City Park Board discussion on Hotter than Hell Cookoff update** Park board members that have been running the cookoff for the past 10 years, but some are ready to turn it over to someone else due to the extensive work. Other members are discussing that they would like to help to keep the fundraiser. This fundraiser is the only one that brings money to the park board fund. Council took no action but will look at options available.

7. BUDGET ITEMS WORKSHOP

- a. **Fee Schedule FY2027**
 - i. **Splash Pad**
- b. **Review of the Budget and Tax Rates for FY 2027**
- c. **Set Public Hearing for Budget FY2027**
- d. **Approve the proposed Tax Rate and set public hearing date**

Councilmember Fulton moved to approve the proposed tax rate at .567900 and to set the date on August 24, 2026. Councilmember Gray seconded.

Roll call for votes:

Councilmember Akins Place 1 Yes
Councilmember Fulton Place 2 Yes
Mayor Kelly Yes
Councilmember Lange Place 3 Yes
Councilmember Gray Place 4 Yes

8. Future Agenda Items – Discuss and Consider: Bank RFP

- 9. **Executive Session:** Council Convened into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code.

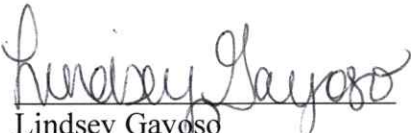
- a. **Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney.**
 - a. **BALLINGER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**
- b. **Section 551.072 Deliberations about Real Property.**
- c. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.**
 - a. **Personnel update**

10. Reconvene and take Action if needed from Executive Session: The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:51 p.m. Mayor Kelly stated that no votes or actions were taken. Councilmember Lange made a motion to approve sending all invoices to Attorney for BVFD to confirm items presently in the BVFD possession that should be returned to the City and authorize any legal actions if the BVFD fails to return said items by September 1, 2026 which may include equipment reimbursement. Councilmember Fulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Adjourn: Councilmember Lange made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Fulton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Darlene Kelly
Mayor

ATTEST:


Lindsey Gayoso
City Manager, City Secretary