Rescheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas
216 Walnut Street
Minutes - Tuesday, December 16, 2025 - 6:00 PM

Mayor Allen Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Allen Brown, Ward 1 Director Terry Roberts, Assistant Mayor Ward 2 Laney Harris, Ward 3 Director Steven Hollibush, Ward 4 Director Ulysses Brewer, Ward 5 Director Danny Jewell, and Ward 6 Director Steve Smith.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Mayor Allen Brown.

Director Smith arrived at 6:01 PM.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Israel Gamble, 611 Ferguson Street, wanted to see what had done about the freight truck parked in the neighborhood.

Tony McKnight, 406 Dundee Road, needed help in the College Hill area with a couple of dogs who jumped out of their fence and attacked other dogs and humans.

PRESENTATION(S):

1. Proclamation to Become a Military and Veteran Friendly Community presented to the Chamber of Commerce. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

CONSENT

Assistant Mayor Harris requested item 5. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an engineering contract with A.L. Franks Engineering for the Design of 2025 Street Bond Rehab Projects: E. 24th Street, E. 48th Street and Oats Street. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee, be removed from the Consent agenda.

Director Roberts made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda, Seconded by Director Smith. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

2. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting December 2, 2025. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

3. Resolution No. 2025-102 authorized the City Manager to approve change orders required for the 24 Inch Transmission Main to Tennessee Road Pump Station Project. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith
4. Resolution No. 2025-103 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Plummer Associates, Inc. for the development of a hydraulic analysis of the sewer collection system and a sewer collection system master plan serving the Cities of Texarkana, Texas and Texarkana, Arkansas. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

REGULAR

5. Resolution No. 2025-104 authorized the City Manager to enter into an engineering contract with A.L. Franks Engineering for the Design of 2025 Street Bond Rehab Projects: E. 24th Street, E. 48th Street and Oats Street. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Brewer.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

6. Resolution No. 2025-105 authorized the approval for a one-time ten percent (10%) increase for all employees in the Arkansas Retirement Plan and an ongoing three percent (3%) COLA for retirees in the Texarkana Water Utilities Arkansas Retirement Plan. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

7. Ordinance No. 29-2025 approved the Police Department Fee Schedule for the Training Facility and Training Course. (TAPD) Chief Ed Chattaway

After a brief discussion, the ordinance was read for the first time in title form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Smith.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Smith, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Smith, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this ordinance.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

The applicant requests an emergency clause. An emergency clause requires a separate and distinct vote of the board and is valid only if there is a two-thirds vote of approval by the board. (Hdbk. Const. Amend 7)

Motion to enact the emergency clause made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Brewer.

Mayor Brown asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the emergency clause.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

Voting Nay: Assistant mayor Harris.

The motion carried 6-1 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause enacted.

8. Resolution No. 2025-106 approved the FY2026 Budget. (ADMIN) City Manager Tyler Richards

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Brewer.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Roberts gave a special thank you to the many organizations who helped with the breakfast with Santa at the Rec. Center.

Director Smith apologized for being late.

Assistant Mayor Harris said the 2nd Annual Aaron Bruce Fishing Derby would be this weekend at Bobby Ferguson Park.

Director Brewer wanted to thank SWEPCO for the limbs they cut down and picked up around town. He also said this past weekend "We are Washington" had a great Christmas celebration.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, January 5, 2026

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Smith.

The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

APPROVED on this 5th day of January 2026.

Allen L. Brown, Mayor

Heather Soyars, City Clerk