

**MINUTES  
AGENDA  
PUBLIC MEETING  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
THE TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, TEXAS  
Tuesday, August 12, 2025, 6:00 PM**

Notice is hereby given that a Regular City Council Meeting of the Town of Horizon City, Texas was held on **Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM**, at City Council Chambers Room, 15001 Darrington Road, Horizon City, TX 79928, at which time the following was discussed and considered:

**1. Call to order; Pledge of Allegiance; Establishment of Quorum**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. City Council Member Quiroz was absent. Quorum Established.

**2. Open Forum:**

The following individuals signed up to speak regarding issues with animal services and the lack of response to loose and stray dogs within Horizon City: Shiloah Warren; Ron Comean; Conrad Guevara and Marisol Sanchez.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*All matters listed under the CONSENT AGENDA are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member(s) of the City Council requests one or more items be removed from the CONSENT AGENDA to the REGULAR AGENDA for separate discussion and action prior to the City Council's vote to adopt the CONSENT AGENDA.*

**3. Approval of Minutes from:**

Mayor/City Clerk  
August 5, 2025 Special City Council Meeting.

**4. Request to Excuse Absent Council Members:**

**5. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:**

A motion was made by Council Member Ames and seconded by Council Member Mendoza to approve the consent agenda and excuse absent Council Member Quiroz.

Council Member Gardea requested that the motion be amended to include an update to the minutes reflecting Elva Ramos and Josue Mendoza speaking during the budget workshop (Item #7).

Council Members Ames and Mendoza agreed to amend their motion to include that the minutes be updated to include Elva Ramos and Josue Mendoza speaking during the budget workshop. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**6. PRESENTATION:**

Mayor/RIOCOG Executive Director

On a presentation by Annette Guitierrez, Rio Grande Council of Governments Executive Director, on the development of a new five-year Comprehensive Economic Strategy (CEDS).

Rio Grande Council of Gov'ts Executive Director, Annette Gutierrez and City of El Paso International Business and Trade Development Manager, Adriana Pulecio spoke regarding this item.

**7. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

On the approval of the FY2026 El Paso County 911 District annual budget.

El Paso County 911 District Director, Scott Calderwood was not present at the meeting so staff requested this item be tabled and brought back at a later time.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Gardea to table this item and brought back for discussion at a later time. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**8. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/CIP Manager

On an update on the Capital Improvement Program.

CIP Manager, Terry Quezada spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Ames to accept the report as presented. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**9. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/CIP Manager

That the Mayor be authorized to sign a First Amendment to the Engineering Services Agreement for the N. Darrington Road Reconstruction Project with Huitt Zollars to extend the term of the Agreement to May, 2027 and to increase the compensation paid to Huitt Zollars to an amount not to exceed \$44,601.90.

CIP Manager, Terry Quezada spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Avila to authorize the Mayor to sign a First Amendment to the Engineering Services Agreement for the N. Darrington Road Reconstruction Project with Huitt Zollars to extend the term of the Agreement to May, 2027 and to increase the compensation paid to Huitt Zollars to an amount not to exceed \$44,601.90. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**10. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/CIP Manager

On a resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to sign an Interlocal Agreement in form and substance approved by the City Attorney with the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) for the RMA to provide geotechnical studies and services associated with the N. Darrington Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

CIP Manager, Terry Quezada spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Gardea and seconded by Council Member Mendoza to approve the resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to sign an Interlocal Agreement in form and substance approved by the City Attorney with the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) for the RMA to provide geotechnical studies and services associated with the N. Darrington Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**11. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

To ratify the Town of Horizon City Police Department's acceptance of an award from the Texas Facilities Commission to purchase 2 vehicles from the State of Texas, State and Federal Surplus Property Office for the amount of \$1,000.00 each, in accordance with the authority granted to Texas Facilities Commission through HB 229 (84th legislature) Texas Government Code 2175.308.

Police Chief, Marco Vargas spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member R. Ortega and seconded by Council Member Gardea to approve ratifying the Town of Horizon City Police Department's acceptance of an award from the Texas Facilities Commission to purchase 2 vehicles from the State of Texas, State and Federal Surplus Property Office for the amount of \$1,000.00 each, in accordance with the authority granted to Texas Facilities Commission through HB 229 (84th legislature) Texas Government Code 2175.308. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed.

**12. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

That the Chief of Police is authorized to sign an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Horizon City and El Paso County, Texas to provide for radio interoperability between the HCPD and the El Paso County Sheriffs Department.

Police Chief, Marco Vargas, Communications Specialist Manager, Elva Ramos and Communications Specialist Asst. Manager, Irlanda Huerta spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member R. Ortega to authorize the Chief of Police to sign an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Horizon City and El Paso County, Texas to provide for radio interoperability between the HCPD and the El Paso County Sheriffs Department. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**13. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

That the Chief of Police be authorized to purchase capital equipment in the amount of \$81,166.30 using Public Safety funds from the Police Department.

Asst. Chief, Jose Kluge and IT Specialist Josue Mendoza spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member R. Ortega to authorize the Chief of Police to purchase capital equipment in the amount of \$81,166.30 using Public Safety funds from the Police Department. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**14. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

That the Chief of Police be authorized to purchase capital equipment in the amount of \$89,770.00 using Public Safety Communications funds from the Dispatch budget.

Communications Specialist Manager, Elva Ramos and Communications Specialist Asst. Manager, Irlanda Huerta spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Gardea and seconded by Council Member R. Ortega to authorize the Chief of Police to purchase capital equipment in the amount of \$89,770.00 using Public Safety Communications funds from the Dispatch budget. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**15. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

On the award of solicitation 2025-124RFP for Emergency Vehicle Equipment and Maintenance f/PD - Re-Bid Project to One Stop Mobile Technology Specialist & Communication, LLC.

Police Chief, Marco Vargas, and Purchasing Agent, Araceli Gonzalez spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Avila and seconded by Council Member R. Ortega to approve the award of solicitation 2025-124RFP for Emergency Vehicle Equipment and Maintenance f/PD - Re-Bid Project to One Stop Mobile Technology Specialist & Communication, LLC. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**16. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

To authorize the Town of Horizon City Police Chief to sign an MOU with the Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations for the reimbursement of overtime worked for by the Task Force Officer currently assigned there.

Police Chief, Marco Vargas spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member R. Ortega to authorize the Town of Horizon City Police Chief to sign an MOU with the Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations for the reimbursement of overtime worked for by the Task Force Officer currently assigned there. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**17. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Chief Vargas

On a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Police Chief to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for the use of their incinerator for the safe and proper disposal of seized narcotics by the Horizon City Police Department at a rate of \$1.25 per lb.

Police Chief, Marco Vargas, and Police Lieutenant Kaycee Valdez spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Ames and seconded by Council Member Gardea to approve the resolution authorizing the Mayor and Police Chief to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for the use of their incinerator for the safe and proper disposal of seized narcotics by the Horizon City Police Department at a rate of \$1.25 per lb. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

***The Mayor called for a 5 minute recess at 8:49 pm at the request of City Council Member Gardea. Meeting resumed at 8:53 pm.***

18. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Mayor/Finance Director

The Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2025 - 2026 Budget will be conducted on August 26, 2025 and the Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate will be conducted on September 9, 2025 at 6:00 pm at 15001 Darrington Road. The adoption of the FY 2025 Budget and Tax Rate will be on September 9, 2025.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item.

19. **Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Finance Director

On a motion to authorize the Finance Director to publish notice of the intent of the City Counsel to adopt the Voter-Approval Tax Rate of \$0.535368 for FY 2025-2026.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Ames to authorize the Finance Director to publish notice of the intent of the City Counsel to adopt the Voter-Approval Tax Rate of \$0.535368 for FY 2025-2026. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

20. **Discussion:**

Mayor/Finance Director

**1st Reading of Ordinance** \_\_\_\_\_, An Ordinance of the City Council of the Town of Horizon City, Texas, approving the 2025 ad valorem tax rate and levy of assessed valuation of all taxable property within the corporate limits of the city; providing for penalties and interest; and providing for the following: findings of fact; severability; savings clause; publication and effective date.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item.

21. **Discussion:**

Mayor/Finance Director

**1st Reading of Ordinance No.** \_\_\_\_\_, An Ordinance of the Town of Horizon City, Texas enacting the municipal budget for fiscal year 2025-2026; funding municipal purposes; authorizing expenditures; providing for repealer and severability clauses.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item.

22. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor/Finance Director

**2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 0313 Amendment No. 03**, An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0313 of the Town of Horizon City, adopting the municipal budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, to allow for the transfer of funds in the 2025 Storm Water and Streets Department Budget; and providing for repealer and severability clauses.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item. No one from the public spoke.

23. **Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Finance Director

**2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 0313 Amendment No. 03**, An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0313 of the Town of Horizon City, adopting the municipal budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, to allow for the transfer of funds in the 2025 Storm Water and Streets Department Budget; and providing for repealer and severability clauses.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Gardea to approve the ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0313 of the Town of Horizon City, adopting the municipal budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, to allow for the transfer of funds in the 2025 Storm Water and Streets Department Budget. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

24. **Discussion:**

Mayor/Finance Director

**1st Reading of Ordinance No. 0313 Amendment No. 04**, An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0313 of the Town of Horizon City, adopting the municipal budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, to allow for the transfer of funds in the amount of \$55,000.00 from the Police Department Budget to the Administration Budget for the purchase of 2 city vehicles; and providing for repealer and severability clauses.

Finance Director, Lily Gaytan spoke regarding this item and informed council that amount in this budget amendment was incorrect and would be modifying it to reflect a funds transfer of \$58,000 instead of \$55,000.

***Items #25 and #26 were taken together.***

25. **Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Planning Director

***This item was postponed at the 6/10/25 and 7/8/25 Regular City Council Meetings.*** On the **Final Subdivision Plat** application for **Rancho Desierto Bello Unit 16 (Case No. SDO25-0001)** to reaffirm approval and to allow recording of the plat prior to the completion of all required improvements secured by sufficient bond. The subject property is legally described as a Portion of Leigh Clark Survey No. 297, Town of Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas. Containing 21.481 acres ±. Application submitted by TRE & Associates, LLC.

26. **Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Planning Director

***This item was postponed at the 6/10/25 and 7/8/25 Regular City Council Meetings.*** On a **Resolution for Rancho Desierto Bello Unit 16 Subdivision Plat** to authorize the issuance of conditional building permits for eleven (11) new residential structures.

Planning Director, Art Rubio spoke regarding this item and requested approval on postponing Items #25 and #26 until the next regular city council meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Gardea and seconded by Council Member Mendoza to postpone items #25 and #26 as requested by staff. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

***Item #27 was taken after Item #15.***

27. **Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Planning Director

On a Resolution authorizing the Town of Horizon City to sponsor the Veterans Day Expo Celebration to be held at Desmond Corcoran Park by waiving the Special Event Permit application fee of \$500.00.

Planning Director, Art Rubio and Horizon City Resident, Fred Lopez spoke regarding this.

A motion was made by Council Member Gardea and seconded by Council Member Mendoza to approve the resolution authorizing the Town of Horizon City to sponsor the Veterans Day Expo Celebration to be held at Desmond Corcoran Park by waiving the Special Event Permit application fee of \$500.00. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**Items #28 and #29 were taken after item #12.**

**28. PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor/Planning Director

**2nd Reading of Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**, An Ordinance adopting a Zoning change within the municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas; rezoning 66.86 acres. Lots 1 through 11, Blocks 7 and 8, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and R-2 (Single-Family Dwelling), to Ponding area. Lots 1 through 23, Blocks 8 through 10 and Block 9, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T3 (Suburban). Lots 1 through 27, Blocks 4, 5, 6, 11 through 14, and Block 12, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T4 (Urban). Lots 1 through 30, Blocks 1 through 3 and Blocks 17 through 22, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, Two, and Three, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and C-1 Commercial, to T5 (Mixed-Use). Lots 1 through 10, Block 16, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit Two, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling), to be Rezoned to Civic. Authorizing the notation of the change on the official zoning map of the Town; providing for the following: findings of fact; repealer; severability; and proper notice and hearing.

Planning Director, Art Rubio, Abel City Partner, Mario Pena and Abel City Planner, Victoria Chavez spoke regarding this item.

**29. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Planning Director

**2nd Reading of Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**, An Ordinance adopting a Zoning change within the municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas; rezoning 66.86 acres. Lots 1 through 11, Blocks 7 and 8, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and R-2 (Single-Family Dwelling), to Ponding area. Lots 1 through 23, Blocks 8 through 10 and Block 9, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T3 (Suburban). Lots 1 through 27, Blocks 4, 5, 6, 11 through 14, and Block 12, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T4 (Urban). Lots 1 through 30, Blocks 1 through 3 and Blocks 17 through 22, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, Two, and Three, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and C-1 Commercial, to T5 (Mixed-Use). Lots 1 through 10, Block 16, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit Two, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling), to be Rezoned to Civic. Authorizing the notation of the change on the official zoning map of the Town; providing for the following: findings of fact; repealer; severability; and proper notice and hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member Gardea to approve the ordinance adopting a Zoning change within the municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas; rezoning 66.86 acres. Lots 1 through 11, Blocks 7 and 8, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and R-2 (Single-Family Dwelling), to Ponding area. Lots 1 through 23, Blocks 8 through 10 and Block 9, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T3 (Suburban). Lots 1 through 27, Blocks 4, 5, 6, 11 through 14, and Block 12, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) to T4 (Urban). Lots 1 through 30, Blocks 1 through 3 and Blocks 17 through 22, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit One, Two, and Three, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling) and C-1 Commercial, to T5 (Mixed-Use). Lots 1 through 10, Block 16, Horizon Country Club Estates Unit Two, from R-4 (Single/Two Family Dwelling), to be Rezoned to Civic. Authorizing the notation of the change on the official zoning map of the Town. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

**30. Discussion and Action:**

Mayor/Asst. City Atty

On a resolution to reject the rate increase proposed by Texas Gas Service.

Asst. City Atty, Sylvia Firth explained that the Resolution for Council's consideration contained two specific actions: (1) deny the rate increase requested by Texas Gas Service; and (2) join the coalition of cities represented by the Herrera Law Firm. The City Council decided to vote on each part separately.

A motion was made by Council Member Gardea and seconded by Council Member G. Ortega to deny the increase requested by Texas Gas Service. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

A 2<sup>nd</sup> motion was made by Council Member Avila and seconded by Council Member G. Ortega to join the coalition of cities represented by the Herrera Law Firm. The CITY CLERK polled the Council: G. ORTEGA – Aye; QUIROZ – Absent; R. ORTEGA – Aye; AVILA – Aye; AMES - Aye; GARDEA – Aye; MENDOZA – Aye. Motion passed

31. **Executive Session**

The City Council of the Town of Horizon City reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices,) and 551.087 (Economic Development).

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Council Member Mendoza and seconded by Council Member G. Ortega to adjourn at 9:41 PM.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elvia Schuller, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andres Renteria, Mayor