

City Council
February 17, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie was held at the Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Meeting Rooms A and B, Waxahachie, Texas, on Monday, February 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Billie Wallace, Mayor, Council Member Place 4
Chris Wright, Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 3
Tres Atkins, Council Member Place 1
Patrick Souter, Council Member Place 2

Council Member Absent: Travis Smith, Council Member Place 5

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Amber Villarreal, City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mayor Billie Wallace called the meeting to order.

2. Invocation

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge of Allegiance

Jason Curry, Texas Baptist Home for Children, gave the invocation. Mayor Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the City Council meeting of February 3, 2025
- b. Minutes of the City Council Work Session of February 4, 2025
- c. Event application for Easter Sunrise Service to be held April 20, 2025 at Railyard Park
- d. Event application for Corpus Christi Procession to be held June 22, 2025
- e. Event application for C10s in the Park to be held September 20, 2025 at Getzendaner Park
- f. Event application for C10s in the Park - Party on the Square to be held September 20, 2025 in Downtown Waxahachie
- g. Proposed Ordinance approving a request by Steve Crowe for a Petition for ETJ Release for approximately 7.94 acres, located at 1615 North Oak Branch Road (Property ID 190970 and 190971) – Owner: Steven & Leisha Crowe (ETJ-PTN-235-2024)
- h. Proposed Ordinance approving a request by Michael Strength & Mary Strength, for a Petition for ETJ Release for approximately 95.302 acres, located at 729 FM 876. (Property ID 190453) – Owner: Michael Strength & Mary Strength (ETJ-PTN-8-2025)

- i. Proposed Ordinance approving a request by Fredy Martinez and Sophia Gonzalez, for a Petition for ETJ Release for approximately 2.705 acres, located at 243 Butler Lane (Property ID 296625) – Owner: Fredy Martinez and Sophia Gonzalez (ETJ-PTN-15-2025)
- j. Supplemental appropriation for Ellis County Woman’s Building landscape improvements in the amount of \$34,000 from the WCDC Fund unreserved balance
- k. Consider contract with Fidencio Macedo for the Baseball Outfield Fence Project

ORDINANCE NO. 3599

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF A 7.94 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, LOCATED AT 1615 NORTH OAK BRANCH ROAD, KNOWN AS A PORTION OF PROPERTY ID 190970 AND 190971, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION BOUNDARY MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

ORDINANCE NO. 3600

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF AN APPROXIMATELY 95.302 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, LOCATED AT 729 FM 876, KNOWN AS PROPERTY ID 190453, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION BOUNDARY MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

ORDINANCE NO. 3601

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF A 2.705 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, LOCATED AT 243 BUTLER LANE KNOWN AS PROPERTY ID 296625, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE’S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION BOUNDARY MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, as presented, and authorize the City Manager and/or Mayor to execute all associated documents as necessary. Motion was seconded by Tres Atkins and carried unanimously (4-0).

6. Introduce Honorary Council Member

Council Member Patrick Souter introduced Wally Mendez as the February Honorary Council Member. Mr. Mendez has dedicated over 25 years of service to the City of Waxahachie, contributing to the growth and development of the community. He started his career in the Utilities Department before transitioning to the Parks Department. In 2007, Wally took on the role of a newly created position aimed at revitalizing and supporting the heart of Waxahachie’s downtown area.

Over the years, Wally has played a key role in organizing numerous downtown events, including the Texas Country Reporter Festival and the Cinco de Mayo celebration, for which he is a founding committee member. His efforts have been integral in bringing these vibrant events to life, helping to foster a strong sense of community and pride in the city. Wally was honored with the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Waxahachie Award in 2016 and received the Exemplary Service Award from the Waxahachie Police Department in 2022.

Outside of his work with the city, Wally enjoys spending time with his family and friends. He's an avid golfer, enjoys traveling, and loves watching sports (a faithful three-generation Dallas Cowboys fan).

Wally's dedication to his family, his work, and the City of Waxahachie has made him a respected and cherished member of the community.

7. Recognize Waxahachie Citizens Academy Class of 2025

Alice Jauregui, Director of Communications and Marketing, recognized the Waxahachie Citizens Academy Class of 2025. The goal is to help residents understand the roles and responsibilities of City Council, City staff, and learn more about City of Waxahachie departments, programs, and activities. The Academy includes an introduction to municipal government, an overview of various City departments, and tours of key facilities.

8. Receive "Tourism Friendly Certified Community" Proclamation from the State of Texas

Council Member Souter presented a proclamation recognizing Waxahachie as a "Tourism Friendly Community." Laurie Mosley, Director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, explained the process that led to Waxahachie receiving the "Tourism Friendly Certified Community" designation from the State of Texas.

The Tourism Friendly Community initiative, launched by the State Tourism Office, aims to support Texas communities in using tourism as a strategy for economic growth. Through the yearlong Tourism Friendly Certified Community Program, participating cities receive resources and guidance to achieve certification. Starting in January 2025, cities completing the process will be designated by the Governor's Office. The program, similar to the Music Friendly Texas and Film Friendly Texas certifications, is open to local governments or non-profits leading tourism efforts. Benefits include fostering tourism relationships, educating leaders, and accessing state resources to support local tourism and economic development.

9. Comments by Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and City Manager

City Manager Michael Scott acknowledged the outstanding efforts of Laurie Mosley, Monica Boyd, and Danielle Guinn, Convention and Visitors Bureau Department, and other local community members who contribute to the tourism in Waxahachie. He expressed gratitude to Alice Jauregui for her dedication in improving the Waxahachie Citizens Academy program. Additionally, he announced that a City Council Work Session is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on February 18th.

Honorary Council Member Wally Mendez thanked Council Member Patrick Souter, and City Council, for the opportunity to serve as the February Honorary Council Member.

Council Member Patrick Souter expressed his appreciation to Wally Mendez for his contributions as an Honorary Council Member. He welcomed members of the Waxahachie Citizens Academy in attendance, encouraging more citizens to participate in the program to gain a deeper understanding of the city. Additionally, he extended his gratitude to the CVB team for their efforts in securing the Tourism Friendly Certified Community designation.

Mayor Billie Wallace expressed her sincere gratitude to Wally Mendez for his dedicated service to the City of Waxahachie. She congratulated the participants of the Waxahachie Citizens Academy for their commitment to the community and also recognized the CVB team for their outstanding achievement on earning the “Tourism Friendly Certified Community” designation.

10. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary