

City Council
November 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, November 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Billie Wallace, Mayor, Council Member Place 4
Patrick Souter, Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 2
Tres Atkins, Council Member Place 1
Chris Wright, Council Member Place 3
Travis Smith, Council Member Place 5

Others Present: Ricky Boyd, Interim City Manager
Albert Lawrence, Deputy City Manager
Terry Welch, City Attorney
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

Lieutenant Michael Gutierrez, Salvation Army, gave the invocation. Mayor Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Announcements/Presentations

- a. Introduce Honorary Council Member
- b. Present Proclamation recognizing the Salvation Army's Annual Mayoral Challenge from early November-December 23rd
- c. Present Proclamation proclaiming November 19, 2025 as "GIS Day"
- d. Recognize Rick Keeler for his service on the Planning and Zoning Commission
- e. Recognize the Waxahachie Police Department for receiving the award of *Accredited Law Enforcement Agency* from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

Council Member Chris Wright introduced November Honorary Council Member Brad Elliott. Mr. Elliott has served in law enforcement for 25 years, most of them in Ellis County, where he currently works as a sergeant with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office overseeing the civil division, fugitive transport, warrants, and animal control. Deeply committed to community service, Sergeant Elliott has served on the boards of the Ellis County Children's Advocacy Center and Italy Shop with a Hero, and he currently chairs the Bridges Training Foundation in Midlothian, which supports individuals and families through advocacy, education, and vocational programs.

He is also in his third year as a board member for the North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA), helping ensure access to quality, recovery-oriented mental and behavioral health services for all. In addition, Brad is collaborating with local organizations, Pet Coalition of Ellis County and Snip it in the Bud, to develop sustainable solutions following the SPCA's departure from Ellis County.

He and his wife, Brittany, in her 17th year of teaching in Midlothian ISD, are proud parents to their daughter, Boston, who shares their family's passion for serving others and is involved in their Church Renovation Kidz service projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Souter presented a proclamation recognizing the Salvation Army's Annual Mayoral Challenge from early November-December 23rd.

Mayor Wallace presented a proclamation recognizing November 19, 2025 as "GIS Day."

Rick Keeler will be recognized at the December 1st City Council meeting for his 20 years of service to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Retired Police Chief Mike Alexander, on behalf of the Texas Police Chiefs Association, recognized the Waxahachie Police Department for receiving the award of *Accredited Law Enforcement Agency* from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

5. Public Comments

Linda Brooks expressed opposition to the recently adopted overnight-camping ordinance, stating that it has hindered her ability to minister to people in need. She explained that she lives in a bus in order to travel and provide ministry, and noted that she has served as an unpaid public servant for eight years, assisting the homeless and helping prevent crimes. She requested permission to continue overnight camping at key locations in Waxahachie so she can continue her ministry work.

Bob Ferris, 6059 E FM 875, Waxahachie, Texas, requested to work with James Gaertner, Executive Director of Public Works and Engineering, to resume efforts to establish quiet zones in Waxahachie.

Kyle Cooper, Senior Director of Parks and Recreation, thanked the City Council for their support and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Parks Director. He announced that this would be his final City Council meeting.

Wallace Swayze, 311 Lone Elm Road, Waxahachie, Texas, spoke on behalf of the community near the proposed ZDC-232-2024 development. He requested more detailed information on the project, including its anticipated timeline, and asked to be kept informed of any changes.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the City Council meeting of November 3, 2025
- b. Proposed Ordinance approving a request by Bob Cao, for a Petition for ETJ Release for approximately 11.026 acres, located at 2800 N 77 Waxahachie (Property ID 189296) – Owner: Bob Cao (ETJ-PTN-138-2025)
- c. Purchase of Replacement Wheel Loader for Convenience Station in the amount of \$225,137.16
- d. Resolution Adopting a Policy and Procedures for the Installation and Content of Building Plaques

- e. Receive and accept the FY 2025 Impact Fee Revenue and Expenditure Activity End-of-Year Report
- f. Interlocal Agreement with Ellis County for maintenance of roads, bridges, waterways and ditches

ORDINANCE NO. 3685

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF A 11.026 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, LOCATED AT 2800 N US HIGHWAY 77, KNOWN AS PROPERTY ID 189296, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION BOUNDARY MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

RESOLUTION NO. 1394

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS, ADOPTING A POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE INSTALLATION AND CONTENT OF BUILDING PLAQUES IN NEWLY CONSTRUCTED OR SUBSTANTIALLY REHABILITATED CITY FACILITIES.

Action:

Tres Atkins moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented and authorize the Interim City Manager and/or Mayor to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (5-0).

- 7. Consider a request by Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services for an annexation agreement for approximately 204.94+/- acres situated off of Brookside Road in the Elijah Bellow Survey, Abstract Number 10, Ellis County, Texas**

Trenton Robertson, Senior Director of Planning, announced that the applicant has requested to continue this item to the December 15th City Council meeting. This case is associated with ZDC-232-2024.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to continue the Presbyterian Children's Homes annexation agreement to the December 15th City Council Meeting. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (5-0).

- 8. Public Hearing on a request by Dr. Haroon Rasheed, for a Zoning Change from a General Retail (GR) zoning district to Planned Development-General Retail (PD-GR) zoning district with reduced minimum parking requirements, located at 600 Ferris Avenue (Property ID 170756) - Owner: HR Waxahachie Land LP (ZDC-143-2025)**

Mr. Robertson presented the Item. The applicant proposes to rezone the subject property from a General Retail (GR) zoning district to a Planned Development-General Retail (PD-GR) zoning district to reduce the minimum parking requirements for the subject property to 69 spaces. The

number of parking spaces currently present on the subject property is 69. No other modifications to the typical requirements of the GR zoning district are proposed with this PD request.

The subject property was originally developed in 1965. At that time, approximately 69 parking spaces were developed with the subject property. The property was purchased by the current owner in 2015 and the building on the subject property was significantly remodeled at that time. The parking count and configuration was not changed as part of the remodel, but a portion of the parking lot was improved to concrete along Ferris Avenue and the rest of the parking lot was resurfaced as asphalt. Since the remodel of the site was completed, the building has been partially occupied by medical office users.

Since the time of the original development of the property in 1965, minimum parking requirements have changed. The site is fully developed and no additional parking can be added to the property. The current parking count prevents full occupancy of the building. For example, if the entire building were to be occupied by medical office users, the current GR zoning would require a minimum of 290 parking spaces to be present on site. The proposed PD reduces the minimum parking requirement for the property to 69, the current number of existing parking spaces on the property. Approval of the PD would eliminate minimum parking requirements as a barrier to full occupancy of the building.

Mr. Robertson noted that the subject property has historically been adequately supported by the current number of parking spaces on the site. The property owner has submitted a letter with this PD request noting that approximately 40% of the building is currently occupied. The applicant states that current occupants routinely use less than 50% of the current parking on the subject property. Due to the limited use of the existing parking on the property, and the history of the existing parking being sufficient to support past tenants, staff is supportive of the PD request.

To comply with State law contained in Local Government Code Chapter 211 and the City's public hearing notice requirements, 19 notices were mailed to property owners within 200 feet of the request. In addition, a notice was published in The Waxahachie Sun and a sign was visibly posted at the property. Staff has received zero (0) letters of support and zero (0) letters of opposition for the PD request.

Dr. Haroon Rasheed, of 3620 Ranchero Road in Plano, Texas, requested approval, stating that efforts to coordinate shared parking with the neighboring property were unsuccessful.

Mayor Wallace opened the Public Hearing at approximately 7:48 p.m.

There being no others to speak for or against ZDC-143-2025, Mayor Wallace closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:48 p.m.

9. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-143-2025

ORDINANCE NO. 3686

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A ZONING CHANGE FROM GENERAL RETAIL (GR) TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-GENERAL RETAIL (PD-GR) LOCATED AT 600 FERRIS AVENUE IN THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING

1.239 ACRES KNOWN AS A PORTION OF LOT 5, BLOCK 27, ALL OF BLOCK 28, AND LOT 1, BLOCK 29 OF THE TOWN ADDITION, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE ZONING MAP THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve ZDC-143-2025, a Planned Development zoning change request for 600 Ferris Avenue and authorize the Interim City Manager and/or Mayor to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Tres Atkins and carried unanimously (5-0).

- 10. Public Hearing on a request by Lexi Cassels, Kimley-Horn, for a Zoning Change from a Commercial (C) zoning district to Planned Development-Multi-Family-2 and Planned Development-Commercial (PD-MF-2 & PD-C) zoning district, for a mixed-use development, located directly east of 2050 Conquest Boulevard, (Property ID 191630 & 191636) - Owner: B&T Realty Services Inc (ZDC-91-2024)**

Mr. Robertson announced the applicant has submitted a request to withdraw the Item at this time.

- 11. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-91-2024**

No action taken.

- 12. Consider Development Agreement for ZDC-91-2024**

No action taken.

- 13. Public Hearing on a request by Matthew Smith, Darwood Partners, for a Zoning Change from a General Retail (GR) zoning district to Planned Development – Neighborhood Services (PD-NS) zoning district located directly east of 365 Broadhead Road (Property ID(s): 242234, 231109 – Owner(s): WP Legacy LTD (ZDC-24-2025)**

Mr. Robertson presented the Item. The subject property was zoned to General Retail (GR) as part of the Garden Valley planned development in 2002 (ZA2002-21) to promote commercial development properties along the entrance corridor. The subject property is currently situated on an unplatted lot.

Previously, the applicant submitted a Specific Use Permit (SUP) application to allow a Convenience Store with Gasoline Sales use (ZDC-139-2024). However, the SUP request was disapproved by City Council on December 2, 2024.

The applicant is now proposing to rezone the subject property from General Retail (GR) zoning district to a Planned Development – Neighborhood Services (PD-NS) zoning district to lower the intensity of uses that would typically be allowed on the subject property under the GR zoning district but not the NS zoning district. Therefore, the applicant proposes to rezone the subject property to allow non-residential uses on a smaller scale to serve the adjacent properties without compromising the characteristics of the existing development(s). The application includes a concept plan to reflect how the owner visualizes for the subject property to be developed. A site

plan application is required to be submitted for administrative approval prior to the development of each lot.

The Neighborhood Service (NS) Zoning District is defined as a limited retail category intended for the use of nearby neighborhood areas for the purpose of supplying day-to-day needs and personal services. Establishments should include small, freestanding retail structures, such as convenience stores and neighborhood oriented personal service establishments. Sites zoned NS should generally utilize an existing or small corner lot within a logical neighborhood area.

The applicant has revised the proposed 7-Eleven proposal since the disapproval of the previous SUP request in 2024. Specifically, the proposal has been updated by shifting the structures towards the center of the western tract of land of the subject property. The applicant has provided a different set of elevations/façade that utilizes over 80% of masonry throughout the building and redesigned the structure to incorporate some of the existing architectural features of the adjacent subdivision (Garden Valley and Buffalo Ridge).

The applicant proposes to specifically allow for a Convenience Store with Gasoline Sales use with this PD request while maintaining other requirements of the existing NS zoning district. The proposed 7-Eleven is an approximately 4,800 square foot single-story building. The proposal includes a gasoline canopy with five (5) dual-sided pumps. The site plan proposed by the applicant includes a sufficient number of parking spaces to support the development.

The applicant has provided one set of elevations/façade. The proposed elevations/façade includes a combination of brick, stone, and stucco.

The lot(s) located on the eastern and western sides of the subject property will both have one access point onto Garden Valley Parkway and one access point onto Broadhead Road. The subject property will have private drives covered by mutual access easements for cross access between lots. The access easements shall be dedicated by plat prior to each lot being developed. The applicant also proposes to install pedestrian sidewalks along Garden Valley Parkway and Broadhead Road, connecting to the existing sidewalks. In addition, the applicant is proposing to install 4' decorative iron fencing along the sidewalks located at all entrances and corners of both thoroughfares to provide a safety barrier for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, and to redirect traffic flow for pedestrians and cyclists.

The applicant proposes to preserve the existing mature trees that are located within the subject property by acquiring more land to shift the proposed location of the structure and gas canopy to install required trees without disturbing the existing trees. The applicant proposes to meet the landscape requirements as required. The applicant proposes to construct an eight-foot (8') masonry screening wall and a 40' landscape buffer with installation of additional canopy trees adjacent to the Garden Valley neighborhood to the north to provide a buffer between the existing residential subdivision.

To comply with State law contained in Local Government Code Chapter 211 and the City's public hearing notice requirements, 40 notices were mailed to property owners within 200 feet of the request. In addition, a notice was published in the Waxahachie Daily Light, and a sign was visibly posted at the property. Staff has received five (5) letters in opposition and two (2) letters in support for the proposed Zoning Change request.

Matthew Smith, 1008 Macon Street, Fort Worth, Texas, explained that Darwood Partners, applicant, has spent nearly a year collaborating with staff to address neighborhood concerns. He noted that the proposed 7-Eleven building has been shifted westward, further from the intersection, and that sidewalks and fencing have been incorporated to enhance pedestrian safety. Additional site plan improvements include meeting an 80% masonry requirement for the building, increasing landscaping with a 40-foot buffer adjacent to single-family residences, requiring a 24-hour enhanced security system for all buildings, preserving the majority of existing trees on the site, and upgrading the 7-Eleven elevations to better complement the surrounding neighborhood.

City Council discussed the proposed loop in the sidewalk at Garden Valley, which was the applicant's proposal to address safety concerns from neighboring residents and discourage pedestrians from darting across the street. Councilman Travis Smith expressed doubt about its effectiveness, suggesting that children might still ignore the loop and cross unsafely. Alternatives, such as keeping the sidewalk straight, were proposed.

Discussion continued to address lighting and crosswalk safety. It was noted that no sidewalk or crosswalk lighting is currently planned, though some lighting exists nearby. City Council agreed that adding streetlights, particularly at intersections and crosswalks, would improve safety, while flashing lights were considered ineffective and maintenance-heavy.

City Council discussed the width of the crosswalks. Current standards are typically 5–6 feet, but there was consensus to widen them at key intersections, such as Garden Valley, to improve visibility and safety for pedestrians.

A crosswalk and sidewalk design at the Broadhead and Garden Valley intersection is currently under review and City Council considered discussion on safety concerns and potential improvements. A new six-foot-wide crosswalk is proposed on the south side of Broadhead, connecting to existing paths, with white stripes used to designate the crossing. While pavers exist on parts of Broadhead and Garden Valley, they are inconsistent. Sidewalks may be meandered slightly to move pedestrians further from Broadhead traffic, though straighter paths are preferred for practicality. Near the Knights of Columbus property, the sidewalk will shift slightly onto private property and continue north. Most existing trees will be preserved, with a 40-foot buffer along Garden Valley, and shrubs and lighting, including two pole lights at the entrance, are planned. Current stop signs may cause congestion as development increases, so electrical conduits for future traffic signals could be installed now, though full signal installation isn't recommended yet due to uncertainty in placement.

James Gaertner, Executive Director of Public Works and Utilities, noted a traffic circle is likely impractical due to space constraints, and signals, while more cost-effective, are expensive, with installation costs estimated around \$400,000–\$475,000. Signal takeover is planned when traffic exceeds 50,000 vehicles, projected around 2030–2031. Overall, the plan prioritizes pedestrian safety, preserves greenery, and prepares for future traffic increases while balancing cost and feasibility for traffic control measures.

Staff is preparing for TxDOT to hand over traffic signal responsibilities, and efforts are underway to upgrade systems and address staffing for ongoing maintenance. Currently, the City has no responsibility for traffic signals, and existing stop signs are insufficient for high-traffic areas, especially with significant residential growth in the county.

City Council agreed on planning for a future traffic signal, contingent on securing the necessary right-of-way for installation. Crosswalk improvements are a priority, including widening them, using reflective thermoplastic paint for visibility, and adding sidewalks on both sides of Garden Valley to enhance pedestrian safety. City Council expressed concerns about children's safety, particularly at Broadhead and Garden Valley, emphasizing the need for clear pedestrian zones and effective crosswalks.

Councilman Wright requested relocating the ATM to reduce theft risk while maintaining a 24/7 operation. Mr. Smith explained that 7-Eleven plans on implementing a vehicle ID and license plate monitoring system for enhanced safety.

It was the general consensus of City Council to focus on balancing growth, traffic control, pedestrian safety, and security measures.

Mayor Wallace opened the Public Hearing at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Those who spoke in opposition:
Scott Quirin, 255 Bear Trail, Waxahachie, Texas
Ryan Young, 230 Mockingbird, Waxahachie, Texas

There being no others to speak for or against ZDC-24-2025, Mayor Wallace closed the Public Hearing at approximately 8:29 p.m.

14. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-24-2025

ORDINANCE NO. 3687

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A ZONING CHANGE FROM GENERAL RETAIL (GR) TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES (PD-NS) AND LOCATED DIRECTLY EAST OF 365 BROADHEAD ROAD IN THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING 6.721 ACRES KNOWN AS PROPERTY ID 231109 & 242234, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE ZONING MAP THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve ZDC-24-2025, a Zoning Change for a General Retail zoning district to a Planned Development – Neighborhood Services zoning district, subject to the conditions of the staff report and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

Travis Smith amended the motion to include added street lights on all eight (8) corners where it intersects the two main thoroughfares, apply our street light requirements for any new neighborhood development, widen the crosswalks across Garden Valley Parkway and Broadhead Road to a minimum of eight feet with striping, continue working with staff to address future light signal needs, and incorporate the traffic diagram presented by James Gaertner on the configuration of the sidewalk along Garden Valley. Chris Wright accepted the amendments.

The applicant confirmed they are agreeable to working with staff on the street improvements.

Motion was seconded by Tres Atkins and carried unanimously (5-0).

Councilman Smith expressed hesitation about the 24/7 operation but recognized the zoning request is tied to allowing gas pumps, which would otherwise be restricted. He emphasized that securing approval allows the City to implement safety and walkability improvements, benefiting residents. While City Council acknowledges concerns, the development is already underway and comparable to other existing 24/7 businesses in the area, and that continued growth in the region is inevitable. Councilman Smith noted this plan represents the best and most productive use of the property in the broader context.

15. Consider Development Agreement for ZDC-24-2025

Action:

Travis Smith moved to approve the Development Agreement for ZDC-24-2025 and include the amendments and offsite improvements included in the Planned Development. Motion was seconded by Tres Atkins and carried unanimously (5-0).

16. Public Hearing on a request by Dennis Church, Minto Communities Texas, LLC, for a Zoning Change from Planned Development-Mixed Use Residential (PD-MUR), Single Family-1 (SF-1), Future Development (FD), and General Retail (GR) zoning districts to a Planned Development (PD) zoning district, located at 300 Brookside Road (Property ID's 179468, 179534, 182520, 187960, 189323, 189326, 189333, 189336, 192306, 193815, 193822, 193823, 234203, 263786, 264568, 303651, 303652) – Owners: Walton Texas LP, United Presbyterian Homes, William & Leanne Kelley (ZDC-232-2024)

Mr. Robertson announced the applicant requested to continue the Public Hearing to the December 15, 2025 City Council meeting.

Action:

Tres Atkins moved to continue the Public Hearing for ZDC-232-2024 to the December 15, 2025 City Council Meeting. Motion was seconded by Travis Smith and carried unanimously (5-0).

17. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-232-2024

No action taken.

18. Consider Development Agreement for ZDC-232-2024

No action taken.

19. Consider approval to carry forward prior year encumbrances and make corresponding adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Chad Tustison, Senior Director of Finance, presented the Item. The item requests City Council approval to carry forward outstanding encumbrances from Fiscal Year 2025 into the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Carrying forward encumbrances ensures that funds that have been committed for

goods and services but not yet received by the end of FY 2025 remain available for their intended purpose in FY 2026.

This adjustment aligns with standard accounting practices and maintains accurate budgetary control by properly reflecting prior-year obligations. Approval of this item will authorize staff to amend the FY 2026 budget to include these encumbrances as part of the City's continuing financial commitments. Attached is a summary schedule listing all prior-year encumbrances requested to be carried forward.

The carry forward of prior year encumbrances does not result in any net increase to the City's anticipated expenditures or budget authority. These amounts were already appropriated, committed, and encumbered in the prior fiscal year's budget. Carrying them forward allows for the completion of existing contractual obligations using the previously approved funds, ensuring continuity of operations without requiring additional appropriations in the current fiscal year.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve the carry forward of prior year encumbrances and making corresponding adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Motion was seconded by Travis Smith and carried unanimously (5-0).

- 20. Convene into Executive Session to deliberate economic development incentives, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.087; to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for municipal purposes, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.072; to deliberate personnel matters, including selection of a City Manager, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.074; to consult with the City Attorney regarding legal issues related to the city manager transition, pending or contemplated litigation, and seek legal advice regarding council procedural issues, all as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, and all matters incident and related thereto**

Mayor Wallace announced at 8:53 p.m. the City Council would convene into Executive Session to deliberate economic development incentives, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.087; to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for municipal purposes, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.072; to deliberate personnel matters, including selection of a City Manager, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.074; to consult with the City Attorney regarding legal issues related to the city manager transition, pending or contemplated litigation, and seek legal advice regarding council procedural issues, all as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, and all matters incident and related thereto.

- 21. Reconvene and take any necessary action**

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

Action:

Travis Smith moved to authorize the Interim City Manager and City Attorney to execute any and all documents related to the nonsuit of the lawsuit styled City of Waxahachie v. Fleming, et al.,

Cause No. 118767 in the 40th Judicial District Court of Ellis County. Motion was seconded by Tres Atkins and carried unanimously (5-0).

22. Comments by Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and City Management

City Attorney Terry Welch wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilman Chris Wright thanked residents near the 7-Eleven for their feedback and assured them that their concerns were heard and addressed as best as possible. Local resident, Paul Box, is currently in Antarctica participating in the “seven marathons on seven continents in seven days” challenge. Councilman Wright praised the GIS team for their impressive mapping work, acknowledged community involvement with the Salvation Army, and commended Police Chief Joe Wiser and his team. Mr. Wright announced Global High School’s achievement in winning an international science and engineering competition. He thanked Deputy Sheriff Brad Elliott for his extensive community involvement. Mr. Wright mentioned ending up with three new puppies after from the Animal Shelter and encouraged the community to adopt from the shelter because kennel space is limited.

Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Souter praised Brad Elliott for his exceptional character and public service, expressed pride in the police department’s accreditation, and commended the GIS team for their impressive work and contributions across city projects. He then voiced strong frustration with developers or applicants who submit changes to staff right before Council or P&Z meetings, leading to repeated continuances. He emphasized that last-minute delays are disrespectful to staff and to residents who attend meetings to voice concerns, and he warned that this issue will factor into his questioning moving forward.

Planning Director Trenton Robertson thanked the GIS staff, echoing others’ praise. He emphasized that while people often only see the map, they don’t realize the extensive data, research, and analysis behind it, and he commended the GIS team as some of the best in the industry for their hard work.

Deputy City Manager Albert Lawrence praised Chief Joe Wiser and the entire police department, emphasizing that Chief Wiser’s leadership earns deep respect both within the department and across the entire organization. He noted that many employees appreciate the chief’s support and example, and he highlighted the positive, organization-wide impact of Chief Wiser’s leadership.

Councilman Travis Smith reiterated his strong support for Chief Joe Wiser, commending his exceptional leadership of the police department and his calm, dignified approach to addressing community concerns—qualities that set a standard for the entire force. Mr. Smith praised his longtime friend Brad Elliott, emphasizing his deep commitment to faith, family, and community. Councilman Smith expressed strong confidence in Mr. Elliott’s bid for Justice of the Peace, noting his integrity, service-minded attitude, and reputation for always taking the high road. Mr. Smith announced he is looking forward to the Mayor’s Hometown Huddle on Thursday, November 20th at 10 a.m.

Councilman Tres Atkins expressed his support for Brad Elliott, praising him as a great individual and wishing him well in his continued public service. Mr. Atkins spoke highly of the Salvation Army, sharing a personal story from Hurricane Ike when they were the first to help his family, and

he encouraged others to volunteer with the organization. Councilman Atkins also commended Chief Wiser, expressing deep appreciation for his often-unseen work and leadership.

Interim City Manager Ricky Boyd thanked the GIS Department and Chief Joe Wiser's team for their hard work, as well as Finance Director Chad Tustison for helping enhance transparency. Mr. Boyd announced that the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation is holding its 100th annual conference in Waxahachie for the first time. He praised Sport Complex Director James Villarreal and Civic Center Director April Ortiz for hosting the event and shared that Waxahachie won the Small Cities Award for its number of athletic events. He also congratulated James Villarreal for receiving an individual award recognizing 20 years of service, including five years on the softball committee. Mr. Boyd concluded by noting the strong performance of Mr. Villarreal's team at the Sports Complex, which brings significant activity and visitors to the city.

Mayor Billie Wallace praised Chief Joe Wiser for his hands-on leadership, noting that he works alongside his officers and remains accessible rather than hidden behind layers of administration. Mayor Wallace commended the police department for earning accreditation for the fourth time and expressed pride in their work to keep the community safe. Mayor Wallace wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked citizens for attending the meeting.

23. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary