CITY OF DENTON
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.
Location: City Hall East, Human Resources Training Room
601 E. Hickory Street, Denton, TX 76205

After determining that a quorum was present, the Civil Service Commission of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Special Called Meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the Human Resources Training Room, at City Hall East, 601 E. Hickory Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Commissioners Darhyl Ramsey and John Baines

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Commissioner Dianne Baker

Also present were First Assistant City Attorney Susan Keller, Deputy City Attorney Michael Cronig, Director of Human Resources/Civil Service Director Megan Gilbreath, Police Chief Jessica Robledo, Acting Police Chief Tony Salas, Deputy Police Chief Derek Bradford, Attorney Lance Wyatt, Police Sergeant Fermin J.R. Velasquez, Police Sergeant Donnie Carr, Human Resources Business Partner/Civil Service Secretary Carri Byrd, and Assistant Director of Human Resources Lisa Collins.

1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. CSC26-001 Introduction of guests.

Police Administrative Supervisor Dinora Velasquez

B. CSC26-002 Receive public comments.

None

C. CSC26-003 Consider approval of the minutes from the November 19, 2025, meeting.

The Commissioners considered approval of minutes from the November 19, 2025, Civil Service Commission meeting. Commissioner Baines motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion carried, 2 – 0 – 1.

AYES (2): Commissioners Ramsey and Baines
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Commissioner Baker

D. CSC26-004 Hold discussion and take action on the election of the Chair Commissioner and Vice-Chair Commissioner.

The Commissioners discussed electing a Chair Commissioner and Vice-Chair Commissioner for the 2026 Civil Service Commission. Commissioner Baines motioned to elect Commissioner Ramsey as Chair Commissioner. Commissioner Ramsey made a motion to elect Commissioner Baines as Vice-Chair Commissioner. The motion carried, 2 – 0 – 1.

AYES (2): Commissioners Ramsey and Baines
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Commissioner Baker

C. *CSC26-005 Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 143.054 and Local Rule Chapter D.054, consider and take action to determine if probable cause exists for ordering the Chief of Police's involuntary demotion of Sergeant Fermin (J.R.) Velasquez to the Civil Service Classification of Police Officer, and if probable cause exists for ordering the demotion, schedule a public hearing.*

The City of Denton Police Department's representative in this hearing, City of Denton Deputy City Attorney Michael Cronig presented a summary of the documents he previously provided to the Civil Service Commission for review. Police Sergeant Fermin J.R. Velasquez's representative, CLEAT Attorney Lancy Wyatt requested a 5-minute break at 11:18 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 11:23 a.m. Mr. Wyatt was given the opportunity to present a summary of the documents he previously provided to the Civil Service Commission for review; however, he declined to do so at this time.

CLOSED MEETING

The Commission convened into a Closed Meeting at 11:26 a.m. consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, as follows:

Deliberated

OPEN MEETING

The Commission reconvened the Special Called Meeting at 11:47 a.m. Commissioner Baines made a motion that the Civil Service Commission finds that probable cause exists for ordering the Chief of Police's involuntary demotion of Sergeant Fermin J.R. Velasquez to the Civil Service Classification of Police Officer. Sergeant Velasquez was notified to appear before the Civil Serivce Commission for a public hearing on January 28, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the Denton Police Department Public Safety Training Center, at which time the Civil Service Commission shall decide whether to grant or deny the request for the involuntary demotion. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 143.057(a), Sergeant Velasquez may elect to have this appeal/public hearing conducted by an independent third-party hearing examiner and if so, must notify the Civil Service Director in writing within 10 calendar days. Commissioner Ramsey seconded the motion. The motion carried, 2 – 0 – 1.

AYES (2): Commissioners Ramsey and Baines
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Commissioner Baker

D. *CSC26-006 Hold discussion and take action on the meeting schedule for 2026.*

The Civil Service Commission plans to meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in 2026 and as needed. The Civil Service Commission will meet next on January 28, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Baines made a motion to adjourn at 11:50 a.m.; Commissioner Ramsey seconded the motion.

AYES (2): Commissioners Ramsey and Baines
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Commissioner Baker

Darhyl R. Ramsey — Feb 25, 2026

DARHYL RAMSEY, CHAIR — DATE

Lindsey Sanders 2/25/26

LINDSEY SANDERS, INTERIM CIVIL SERVICE SECRETARY DATE