

City Council
March 16, 2026

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, March 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Council Members Absent: Tres Atkins, Council Member Place 1

Others Present: Ricky Boyd, 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

Mayor Wallace gave the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Announcements/Presentations

- a. Introduce Honorary Council Member
- b. Recognize Nicholas P. Sims Library for being selected as a recipient of the *National Medal for Museum and Library Services*

There was not an Honorary Council Member in attendance.

Library Director Jen Graf announced the Nicholas P. Sims Library in Waxahachie received the 2025 National Medal for Museum and Library Service from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This national medal is one of the highest honors a library in the United States can receive. It recognizes libraries that make an extraordinary impact on their communities. The award highlights the library's long history (121 years) and its community programs, including:

- A historic performance hall used for events and programs
- A bookmobile delivering "honor books" to children around the city
- New privacy booths funded through a Library Infrastructure Facility Improvement (LIFI) Grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Ms. Graf thanked Councilman Chris Wright and patron Lamella Benitez for writing support letters, and she recognized library staff and Board members for their support.

5. Public Comments

Paul Bailey, 544 Washington Avenue, Waxahachie, Texas, requested City Council to start developing public transportation linking Waxahachie to DART, pointing to rapid population growth (from 50,000 to over 115,000) and worsening congestion on I-35. He argues buses could significantly reduce traffic, accidents, and costs, and urges proactive planning for mobility, affordability, and quality of life.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the City Council meeting of March 2, 2026
- b. Event application for Annual Waxahachie Rotary's Charitable Dog Walk/Parade to be held on April 18, 2026 at Railyard Park/Hike & Bike Trail
- c. Event application for Gingerbread Trail Car Show to be held June 13, 2026 at Getzendaner Park
- d. Event application for Wheels of Fire Bike Ride to be held June 27, 2026
- e. Event application for Cars in the Park Car Show to be held July 11, 2026 at Getzendaner Park
- f. Event application for Summer Soul Affair to be held July 18, 2026 at Railyard Park
- g. Event application for Waxahachie Fun Run Car Show to be held August 8, 2026 at Getzendaner Park
- h. Event application for Texas Heat 5K to be held August 15, 2026 at Getzendaner Park
- i. Event application for St. Jude Car Show to be held September 12, 2026 at Getzendaner Park
- j. Event application for Walk to End Alzheimer's to be held October 3, 2026 at Getzendaner Park/Hike & Bike Trail
- k. Ordinance approving a request by Cody Wagner, Arbuckle Real Estate, for a Petition for ETJ Release for approximately 10.04 acres, located at 1545 FM 1446 (Property ID 225304, 225305) – Owner: Leewayne, LLC (ETJ-PTN-18-2026)
- l. Joint Election Services Contract with the Ellis County Elections Administration
- m. Consider approval of 2026 City of Waxahachie Events Calendar
- n. Parking/Loading Zone renewals from April 1, 2026-March 31, 2027
- o. Construction contract for the WISD New High School 18-inch Gravity Sewer Construction Project in the amount of \$474,623
- p. Engineering Professional Services Agreement with Grantham & Associates for the Cardinal Road 24 Inch Water Line and Southwest Interceptor Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$258,310
- q. Professional Design Services Contract for 820 Ferris Avenue building renovation in the amount of \$581,560
- r. Land Exchange Agreement between the City of Waxahachie and Accru Family Limited Partnership, LTD
- s. Construction contract for the Indian Hills Alley Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$659,490
- t. Accept the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation Annual Financial Report for year ended September 30, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 3711

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF AN APPROXIMATELY 10.04 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, LOCATED AT 1545 FM 1446, KNOWN AS PROPERTY ID 225304, 225305, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION BOUNDARY MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

Action:

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

7. Consider City of Waxahachie Annual Financial Report for year ended September 30, 2025

Assistant Finance Director Mariana Dunn introduced the item for the Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2025. She expressed gratitude to several members of the Finance Department for their hard work in ensuring a smooth audit process. Ms. Dunn introduced Paula Lowe, a partner with Patillo Brown and Hill, to discuss the financial details.

In keeping of the City's commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the City has completed its annual reporting and audit process for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the City's financial position and overall fiscal health. The independent audit ensures compliance with accounting standards and verifies the accuracy of the City's financial statements. The financial report and audit process requires approximately seven months of commitment from the Finance Department, working closely with our audit firm.

The audit firm, Pattillo, Brown & Hill LLP, completed the annual audit of the City's financials for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and has found the City's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City, as of September 30, 2025.

Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, LLP also completed the Single Audit Report for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and has found the City complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs.

Upon acceptance by City Council, the reports will be made available on the City website and provided to various reporting agencies.

Ms. Lowe praised the City's finance team for handling staff turnover well and ensuring a smooth audit process. The City received an unmodified (clean) audit opinion, the highest rating, meaning its financial statements are accurate and properly presented. The audit is required annually and was completed on time.

Key financial highlights:

- General fund balance: approximately \$44 million, with \$35 million unassigned, indicating strong financial health (about 45% of annual expenditures).
- Utility funds (water, sewer, etc.) also show positive balances, though much of the City's assets are tied up in infrastructure.

Councilman Travis Smith clarified that the audit is not a detailed review of every expense, but a high-level check that financial reporting is accurate and complies with standards.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to accept the Annual Financial Report and the Single Audit Report for the period ending September 30, 2025. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

8. Public Hearing on a request by Jorge Restrepo, for a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for a Short-Term Rental use within a Single Family-3 zoning district located at 810 S College Street (Property ID 172443) - Owner: Jorge Restrepo (ZDC-175-2025)

Trenton Robertson, Director of Planning, presented the Item. The applicant requests a SUP for short-term rental use at 810 S College Street because it is located within the SF-3 zoning district. The subject property consists of a primary structure being approximately 2,844 square feet in size with four (4) bedrooms and a detached 2-car garage. The garage will not be accessible to guests, but there is sufficient space in the driveway to accommodate four cars, which is the maximum number of allowed vehicles. A gate currently separates portions of the driveway. Guests will have access to open and park behind the gate. There will be a maximum of ten guests allowed. The subject property is situated on an approximately 0.36 acres (15,681 square foot) lot. The applicant has not been operating the subject property as a short-term rental; therefore, they have not been paying local hotel occupancy taxes. The Ellis County Appraisal District (ECAD) identifies the subject property as a Homestead. At the time of this report, the owner has agreed to remove the Homestead exemption prior to operating the STR, if the proposed SUP is approved.

The existing driveway for the subject property along Dewberry Street can accommodate the required number of vehicles but does not actually connect to Dewberry Street. The concrete driveway is separated from the street by approximately 6' of grass. Staff has added a condition that would require the applicant to extend the concrete driveway to connect to Dewberry Street in the event this SUP is approved.

During the planning analysis, staff inquired with the Waxahachie Police Department and discovered that there were no nuisance-related calls at this address. The applicant's local emergency contact is Camillo Restrepo, 815 College Street, Waxahachie, 75165, which is located approximately 110' from the subject property.

To comply with State law contained in Local Government Code Chapter 211 and the City's public hearing notice requirements, 24 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. At the time of the publishing this staff report, a total of zero (0) letters of support and zero (0) letters of opposition were received by staff.

Mayor Wallace opened the Public Hearing at approximately 7:24 p.m.

Councilman Smith requested additional measures to prevent street parking, and Mr. Robertson responded that he will coordinate with the Street Department to install “No Parking” signs.

There being no others to speak for or against ZDC-175-2025, Mayor Wallace closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:26 p.m.

9. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-175-2025

ORDINANCE NO. 3712

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT (SUP) TO PERMIT A SHORT-TERM RENTAL USE WITHIN A SINGLE-FAMILY-3 (SF-3 ZONING DISTRICT ZONING DISTRICT, LOCATED AT 810 S COLLEGE STREET, BEING PROPERTY ID 172443, IN THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING LOT 1, BLOCK 28 OF THE BULLARD REVISION, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE ZONING MAP THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve ZDC-175-2025, a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for a Short-Term Rental use, subject to the conditions the staff report, authorizing the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute all documents accordingly. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

10. Public Hearing on a request by Roger Thornton for a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for an Accessory Structure +700 Square Feet use within a Single Family-1 (SF-1) zoning district located at 811 Broadhead Road (Property ID 207656) - Owner: Roger Thornton & Melissa Thornton (ZDC-10-2026)

Mr. Robertson presented the Item. The applicant proposes a Specific Use Permit to allow for the construction of a 900 square foot accessory structure for use as a two-car garage and personal storage space. An approximately 500 square foot carport currently exists on the property in the location of the proposed accessory structure. The applicant plans to remove the carport and replace it with the proposed metal structure. The location of the structure meets all setback requirements and is already accessible via the existing concrete driveway. The applicant has confirmed that the structure will have electricity, but will not be separately metered. No plumbing is proposed for the structure and the applicant has confirmed that the structure will not be used as a dwelling, Short-Term Rental, or for commercial purposes.

To comply with State law contained in Local Government Code Chapter 211 and the City’s public hearing notice requirements, 13 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 SUP request.

Mayor Wallace opened the Public Hearing at approximately 7:29 p.m.

There being no others to speak for or against ZDC-10-2026, Mayor Wallace closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:29 p.m.

11. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ZDC-10-2026

ORDINANCE NO. 3713

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT (SUP) TO PERMIT AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE +700SF USE WITHIN A SINGLE FAMILY-1 (SF-1) ZONING DISTRICT, LOCATED AT 811 BROADHEAD ROAD, BEING PROPERTY ID 207656, IN THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING LOT 3A, BLOCK A IN THE MUSTANG MEADOWS PHASE 1 SUBDIVISION, AND ORDERING THE CHANGING OF THE ZONING MAP THEREOF IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID CHANGE.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve ZDC-10-2026, a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for an Accessory Structure +700 Square Feet, subject to the conditions the staff report, authorizing the Planning & Zoning Commissioner to sign the associated documents accordingly. Motion was seconded by Chris Wright and carried unanimously (4-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Souter rescinded his motion.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve ZDC-10-2026, a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for an Accessory Structure +700 Square Feet, subject to the conditions the staff report, authorizing the City Manager and/or Mayor to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Travis Smith and carried unanimously (4-0).

12. Public Hearing on a request by Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services & Walton Texas LP for Voluntary Annexation of approximately 206.72+/- acres situated off of Brookside Road in the Elijah Bellow Survey, Abstract Number 10, Ellis County, Texas (ANX-DNX-164-2025)

The amended minutes correct a typographical error in both the minutes and the agenda, confirming that the correct case number is ANX-DNX-164-2025, rather than ANX-DNX-164-2026.

Mr. Robertson presented the Item. Representatives from Minto Communities have submitted requests for Voluntary Annexation, of approximately a 206-acre tract, with the City for portions of property in the Waxahachie ETJ previously owned by Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services and Walton Texas LP. The properties in question fall within the Kemp Tract PD (Ordinance 3704). This land was previously included as part of a larger development plan and will follow the same regulations, development agreements, and planned development standards as the rest of the project. A public hearing is required by state law for the annexation, and the item did not need to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilman Smith confirmed that the annexed acreage is not new and will not increase the number of homes. Mr. Robertson clarified the land was already included in prior approvals and the overall project remains unchanged.

Mayor Wallace opened the Public Hearing at approximately 7:32 p.m.

There being no others to speak for or against ANX-DNX-164-2025, Mayor Wallace closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:33 p.m.

13. Consider proposed Ordinance approving ANX-DNX-164-2025

The amended minutes correct a typographical error in both the minutes and the agenda, confirming that the correct case number is ANX-DNX-164-2025, rather than ANX-DNX-164-2026.

ORDINANCE NO. 3714

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY ID 193815, 193822, AND A PORTION OF 303652 LOCATED IN THE JONATHAN E. PRINCE SURVEY, ABSTRACT 845, THE ELIJAH BELLOW SURVEY, ABSTRACT 101, AND THE JOHN BARKER SURVEY, ABSTRACT 40, APPROXIMATELY 206.72 ACRES, GENERALLY SITUATED WEST OF INTERSTATE 35E AT BROOKSIDE ROAD, OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve the Voluntary Annexation of approximately 206.72 acres, generally located west of Interstate 35E at Brookside Road. Motion was seconded by Travis Smith and carried unanimously (4-0).

14. Consider supplemental appropriation for roof repairs at Robert W. Sokoll Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$90,765

Kumar Gali, Director of Utilities, presented the Item. The Robert W. Sokoll Water Treatment Plant is a microfiltration membrane plant located at 1900 Howard Road. From a recent high wind event, the edge trim of the Sokoll roof was damaged. Staff reached out to multiple vendors for inspection and filed a claim with TML. TML reimbursed \$6,000 to the City for the edge trim repairs, but vendors have found multiple deficiencies in the facility's roof system that require immediate attention to prevent further damage to the building and its contents. These deficiencies were not related to the high wind event.

The major scope of repair items include installing 70 linear feet of metal edge trim, installing four standing seam pipe boots, re-attach loose lightning rods, re-sealing two sides of tower wall flashing at both towers, fabricating and installing standing seam expansion flashing system, and seal flashing.

Robert W. Sokoll Water Treatment Plant is jointly owned by the City and the Rockett Special Utility District (Rockett). The expenditures associated with the plant operations and capital purchases are shared with Rockett, which is split 50/50 between the two entities.

The roof repair total cost is \$90,765 and will be funded from the unreserved Water Fund balance through a supplemental appropriation to Sokoll's FY26 operating budget. Rockett will reimburse the City for half of this cost.

Councilman Smith noted the roof should not be leaking after 18 years. Mr. Gali confirmed nothing significant was installed on the roof besides lightning rods. Mr. Gali also confirmed that a different contractor, rather than the original installer, will perform the roof repairs.

The City's insurance claim will only cover a small portion related to wind damage, and they denied the rest of the repair costs.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$90,765 from the Water Fund unrestricted reserve fund balance to fund the roof repairs at Robert W. Sokoll Water Treatment Plant and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

15. Consider contract and supplemental appropriation for disposal of wastewater treatment plant sewage sludge in the amount of \$145,000

Mr. Gali presented the Item. On September 8, 2020, the City Council approved the award of a contract with Waste Connections for the disposal of biosolids from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The agreement subsequently became effective on April 1, 2021. The contract provided a disposal rate of \$17.44 per ton for a five-year term at the Turkey Creek Landfill in Alvarado, Texas. The City has experienced rate increases as allowed under the contract, and the current disposal rate is \$20 per ton.

On January 29, 2026, the City opened responses to its Request for Proposals (RFP) for the disposal of biosolids. Waste Connections - Turkey Creek Landfill submitted the only responsive proposal in the amount of \$38.94 per ton. City staff reviewed the proposal, verified qualifications, and recommends awarding the contract to Waste Connections - Turkey Creek Landfill. The proposed agreement includes an initial one (1) year term with three (3) additional one (1) year renewal options available at the City's discretion.

Staff allocated \$187,800 in the FY2026 adopted budget to support expenditures under the current contract. The rate established in the new agreement exceeds the amount appropriated, resulting in a funding shortfall. To meet the financial obligations of the new contract, a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$145,000 from the Wastewater Fund unrestricted reserve is necessary to ensure funding for the new contract. The proposed agreement establishes updated unit pricing based on the City's competitive solicitation and reflects current market conditions. Expenditures under this contract will be made on an as-needed basis and will not exceed the amounts appropriated in the annual operating budget for the Wastewater Department. Future-year costs associated with this agreement will be appropriated through the City's annual budget process.

The Council discussed sludge disposal bids, noting the City received only one RFP at \$38.94 per ton, while previous emergency deliveries ranged \$55–\$60.

Mr. Gali suggested approving a one-year contract and reissuing the RFP next year to attract more vendors. Efforts to reach additional bidders and explore interlocal agreements with nearby cities were mentioned, but no reasons were given for why other vendors declined to bid.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve a contract with Waste Connections - Turkey Creek Landfill for the disposal of Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewage Sludge at a unit price of \$38.94 per ton and authorize a supplemental appropriation of \$145,000 from the Wastewater Fund unrestricted reserve to support the contract and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

16. Consider an Engineering Professional Services Agreement with Huitt-Zollars, Inc. for the North Jackson Street Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$415,120

Justin Stoker, Director of Public Works and Development Engineering, presented the Item. The proposed North Jackson Street Reconstruction Project consists of 2,600 linear feet of pavement and drainage improvements on North Jackson Street from MLK Jr. Blvd to E. Marvin Avenue. The project includes the replacement of existing water from MLK Jr. Blvd to E Marvin Ave, sanitary sewer from MLK Jr. Blvd to Union Pacific Railroad.

The professional services agreement with Huitt-Zollars is \$415,120. The roadway and drainage design portion is under budget, with \$236,442 to be funded from the General Fund as part of the approved FY26 Jackson Street Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Project.

Funding for the design of utility improvements shall include the transfer of funds from the Water and Sewer bonds savings to the Jackson Street CIP project as follows: \$139,271 from Water bonds (\$60,000 from the FY20 Water Bond and \$79,271 from FY21 Water Bond), and \$39,407 from the FY20 Wastewater Bond.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to approve the engineering design professional services agreement with Huitt-Zollars, Inc. for the North Jackson Street Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$415,120 and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

17. Consider the authorization of a work order with Ellis County for road work in an amount not to exceed \$631,078

Mr. Stoker presented the Item. The City maintains an Interlocal Agreement with Ellis County to facilitate collaborative chip seal roadway improvements. Ellis County is currently planning to repave a portion of Marshall Road using a chip-seal application and has expressed its willingness to partner with the City to include the segment of Marshall Road and Longbranch Road located within the city limits.

As part of this partnership, the County is prepared to re-grade the roadway, apply two coats of chip seal, and install a final sealant on the following segments:

Segment 1: Road repair on Marshall Road from FM 664 to Longbranch and Blackchamp intersection (1.6 miles city responsibility) - \$312,963.

Segment 2: Road repair on Longbranch from Blackchamp intersection to the Waxahachie and Midlothian city boundary (1.7 miles city responsibility) - \$318,115.

The cost for Chip Seal Paving for this project is \$631,078, and will be funded from the Streets Capital Fund. At the County's request, the cost of the sealant portion of the project would be paid directly to Innovative Roadway Solutions, a contractor of Ellis County. The City has an interlocal agreement with Ellis County and Innovative Roadway Solutions is a contractor that bid for these services through the county. The amount to be paid to Innovative Roadway Solutions is \$122,767 and the amount to be paid to Ellis County is \$508,311.

Councilman Smith emphasized the need to address drainage issues in the area to ensure the chip sealing investment achieves its expected lifespan.

Councilman Wright added that any additional improvements would need to be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Plan.

Action:

Chris Wright moved to authorize a work order under an Interlocal Agreement with Ellis County for road work in an amount not to exceed \$631,078 and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

18. Consider proposed Resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization Program

Sandy Rehkopf, Downtown Redevelopment & Historic Preservation Manager, presented the Item. The City of Waxahachie has the opportunity to apply for grant funding through the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Downtown Revitalization Program – Main Street Set-Aside, administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture in partnership with the Texas Historical Commission.

This program provides funding for projects that address blighted conditions, improve pedestrian safety, and enhance walkability and accessibility in historic downtown areas. Eligible projects typically include improvements such as sidewalks, alleys, streetscapes, drainage, accessibility upgrades, lighting, and other infrastructure that supports a vibrant and safe downtown environment.

The proposed resolution authorizes the City to submit an application for this funding opportunity and establishes the official downtown district boundaries for the purposes of the program.

As required by the program, the City must commit to providing a minimum of \$50,000 in matching funds should the project be awarded. Approval of this resolution does not obligate the City to expend funds immediately; rather, it allows the City to move forward with the application and demonstrate the required local commitment. The specific project scope and funding source for the match would be determined prior to accepting any award.

Participation in this grant program aligns with the City's ongoing efforts to strengthen Downtown Waxahachie by improving infrastructure, supporting economic vitality, and preserving the historic character of the district. If awarded, the grant could significantly leverage local investment to address priority improvements within the downtown area.

Councilman Smith inquired whether there is sufficient time to update the downtown boundary map, and Ms. Rehkopf responded that it must be submitted to the State by April 7th.

Mayor Pro Tem Souter noted Waxahachie Partnership, Inc. (WPI) identifies transformation projects each year, though it has no budget to fund them. He noted the alley transformation project previously discussed is one of several initiatives the organization champions, and funding would require using tax dollars. WPI hopes this project is the first of many, focusing not only on alleys but also on broader connectivity and community improvements.

RESOLUTION NO. 1399

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM.

Action:

Patrick Souter moved to approve the Resolution authorizing application for the Downtown Revitalization Grant from the Texas Community Development Block Grant Main Street Set-Aside. Motion was seconded by Chris Wright and carried unanimously (4-0).

- 19. 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 the appointment, evaluation, duties or dismissal of any member of a City board or commission, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.074; to review performance evaluation for City Secretary as permitted by Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; to consult with City Attorney regarding legal issues associated with City Code and Charter provisions and consultation with City Attorney regarding pending and anticipated litigation, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, and all matters incident and related thereto**

Mayor Wallace announced at 8:12 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 the appointment, evaluation, duties or dismissal of any member of a City board or commission, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.074; to review performance evaluation for City Secretary as permitted by Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; to consult with City Attorney regarding legal issues associated with City Code and Charter provisions and consultation with City Attorney regarding pending and anticipated litigation, as permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, and all matters incident and related thereto.

20. Reconvene and take any necessary action

The meeting reconvened at 10:04 p.m.

Action:

Travis Smith moved to approve a new three (3) year employment contract with the City Secretary, as discussed to the terms during the Executive Session, with all documents to be executed by the City Manager and/or Mayor. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (4-0).

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

This item was discussed before Executive Session.

Council Member Chris Wright congratulated the library staff for their outstanding work, noting that the library received a prestigious national award rarely given to small-town libraries, previously only awarded in Texas to larger libraries like Houston and San Antonio. He also addressed Mr. Paul Bailey's comments on public transportation, explaining that Waxahachie isn't included on the DART map until 2040, and given rising costs and local challenges, DART may not be the best solution for the City's transit needs.

Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Souter praised the library staff, volunteers, and community for the increased usage and success of the library's programs over the past few years, emphasizing the impact on children and the community. He also thanked the Finance staff for their hard work on the City's financial audit, noting the favorable results and recognizing the effort it took to achieve them.

Council Member Travis Smith thanked Finance Director Chad Tustison and his team for successfully implementing the citywide step pay program despite challenges, expressing pride in their efforts. He also praised the library, noting its dynamic programs and expressed hope that the adjacent park could be activated to further enhance the community space.

City Manager Ricky Boyd thanked Library Director Jen Graf, Finance Director Chad Tustison, and their respective teams for their hard work.

Mayor Billie Wallace echoed the Council's appreciation, thanking everyone for their hard work and for taking excellent care of the city and its finances.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amber Villarreal, City Secretary