CITY OF DENTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 4, 2026

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 2:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Nick Stevens and Council Members George Ferrie, Joe Holland, Jill Jester, Suzi Rumohr, and Jordan Villarreal

ABSENT: None

Also present were Interim City Manager Cassey Ogden and City Attorney Mack Reinwand.

The posted agenda noted the registration process for in-person and public participation at this meeting. While citizen commentary received via the online registration process was not read, each member for the City Council received each online commentary as it was submitted. In-person and online comments received are reflected in the exhibit to the minutes of this meeting.

WORK SESSION

1. Citizen Comments on Consent Agenda Items

None

2. Requests for clarification of agenda items listed on this agenda for public hearing and individual consideration.

A. ID 26-0070 Meeting Questions, Responses & Handouts

- Clarification:
  - o Council Member Ferrie: Item Q and S
  - o Mayor Watts: Item U

- Pulled For Individual Consideration:
  - o Council Member Villarreal: Items 4.C - E, and G

3. <u>Work Session Reports</u>

A. ID 26-1084 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding a policy on data center developments, including a temporary moratorium. [Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 45 minutes]

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

Following discussion, City Council consensus was to move forward with both options initiating public hearings and next steps for a moratorium and modify the Denton Development Code for land use and add specific use standards to address concerns raised regarding data centers.

Council Member Villarreal arrived.

B. ID 26-0969 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the City of Denton's 90th State Legislative Program. [Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 60 minutes]

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

Following discussion, Council consensus was to move forward with the Staff recommendation with the addition of EDC sales tax, local control over cannabis regulation, and inclusivity language.

C. ID 26-1196 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Fiscal Year 2026-27 preliminary Capital Improvement Program. [Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 60 minutes]

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

Following discussion, there was no direction provided as the item was for presentation/discussion purposes.

D. ID 26-0628 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on pending City Council requests for:
1) Quakertown Memorial Fund
[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]

1) ID26-0628 1) Quakertown Memorial Fund
   o Consensus for an Informal Staff Report (ISR).

The work session ended at 3:52 p.m.

CLOSED MEETING

1. The City Council convened into a Closed Meeting at 3:52 p.m. consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, as follows:

A. ID 26-1102 Consultation with Attorneys - Under Texas Government Code Section 551.071. Consult with the City's attorneys on the legal status, strategy and options for resolution of litigation in Cause No. 26-1202-477 styled "Robert Garcia v. McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., Courtney Kelly and City of Denton" pending in the 477th Judicial District Court, Denton County, Texas; where public discussion of these legal matters would conflict with the duty of the City's attorneys to the City of Denton and the Denton City Council

under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, or otherwise compromise the City's legal position in pending litigation.
DELIBERATED

The closed meeting started at 3:52 p.m. and ended at 4:07 p.m. No votes or actions were taken during the closed meeting.

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Nick Stevens and Council Members George Ferrie, Joe Holland, Jill Jester, Suzi Rumohr, and Jordan Villarreal

ABSENT: None

Also present were Interim City Manager Cassey Ogden and City Attorney Mack Reinwand

The posted agenda noted the registration process for in-person, call-in, and public participation at this meeting. While citizen commentary received via the online registration process was not read, each member for the City Council received each online commentary as it was submitted. In-person, call-in, and online comments received are reflected on the exhibit to the minutes of this meeting.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. U.S. Flag
B. Texas Flag

2. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

A. ID 26-1203 Proclamation - New Driver Safety Week
PRESENTED

B. ID 26-1204 Proclamation - Gun Safety Awareness Month
PRESENTED

3. PRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1) Scheduled Citizen Reports from Members of the Public

A. ID 26-1067 Pat Smith regarding an update on Serve Denton.
PRESENTED

B. ID 26-1179 Tracy Duckworth regarding homelessness.
PRESENTED

C. ID 26-1209 Anna Taus regarding Mass Surveillance and ALPR contracts the city/police have.

PRESENTED

D. ID 26-1212 Miles Bedlan regarding tax incentive for Krateo Sky.
PRESENTED

E. ID 26-1213 Willie Hudspeth regarding the selection for City Manager.
NOT PRESENTED

F. ID 26-1217 Larry Lawrence regarding keeping Ms. Ogden permanent as City Manager.
PRESENTED

2) Additional Citizen Reports (Open Microphone)

Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of Items 4. A through Z. During the Work Session held earlier in the day, Items 4.C - E, and G were pulled for Individual Consideration by Council Member Villarreal. Item 4.X was removed from consideration.

During the Work Session held earlier in the day, no items were pulled for Individual Consideration. Council Member Villarreal moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, now consisting of Items 4.A, B, F, H-M, O, R, T, V-Z. Motion seconded by Council Member Jester.

Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr, and Villarreal
NAYS (0): None

A. ID 26-0046 Consider approval of the minutes of the July 14, 2026, Special Called Meeting and the July 21, 2026, Regular Meeting.
APPROVED

B. ID 26-1183 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton appointing one member to the Denton County Housing and Homelessness Leadership Team; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1183

F. ID 26-1215 Consider a nomination/appointment to the City of Denton Zoning Board of Adjustment.
APPROVED
APPOINTMENTS LISTED ON EXHIBIT B

H. ID 26-1171 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton excusing the July 13, 2026 meeting absence of a Historic Landmark Commission Member; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1171

I. ID 26-1172 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton excusing the June 8, 2026 meeting absence of a Public Utilities Board Member; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1172

J. ID 26-1173 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton excusing the June 10, 2026 meeting absence of a Planning & Zoning Commission Member; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1173

K. ID 26-1175 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton excusing the July 6, 2026 meeting absence of a Parks, Recreation & Beautification Board Member; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1175

L. ID 26-1214 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton excusing the July 22, 2026 meeting absence of a Planning & Zoning Commission Board Member; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 26-1214

M. ID 26-1180 Consider adoption of an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute and administer Affordability Incentive Agreements on behalf of the City of Denton, for zoning incentives as described in Section 2.12 of the Denton Development Code as eligible; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1180

N. ID 26-1098 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute a development agreement with Denton Enterprise Owner, LLC ("Developer") wherein the Developer will design and construct certain street perimeter improvements along Westcourt Road and Springside Drive as a requirement of the Denton Enterprise Logistics development; construct two lanes of Westcourt Road extending to Airport Road in lieu of constructing a bridge at Corbin Road; the City will acquire the necessary Right-of-Way for the Westcourt Road extension; with city participation not-to-exceed $866,067.00 for the construction of the roadway improvements; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1098

O. ID 26-1060 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton a Texas Home-Rule Municipal Corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a temporary License between the City of Denton and North Texas State Fair Association, a Texas nonprofit corporation, for the use of temporary housing and grazing of horses for the installation of a temporary agricultural/security fence during the annual North Texas Fair and Rodeo, being

5.603 acres of land situated in the Robert Beaumont Survey, Abstract No. 31, in Denton County, Texas; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1060

P. ID 26-1142 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a fifth amendment to a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Denton and Halff Associates, Inc., amending the contract approved by the City Council on November 15, 2022, in the not-to-exceed amount of $1,144,280.00; amended by Amendments 1-4 approved by City Council and Purchasing; said fifth amendment to provide for additional right-of-way acquisition services in relation to the Westgate Drive Reconstruction Project Phase 2 for the Capital Projects Department; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (File 7599-011 - providing for an additional fifth amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed $98,600.00, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed $1,386,570.00). The Public Utilities Board recommends approval (4 - 0).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1142

Q. ID 26-1148 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, rejecting any and all competitive proposals under RFP 9015 for School Crossing Guard Program Services for the Transportation Services Department, and providing an effective date (RFP 9015).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1148

R. ID 26-1146 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a second amendment to a contract between the City of Denton and Howroyd-Wright Employment Agency, Inc. dba AppleOne Employment Services, primary vendor, and Cogent Infotech Corporation, secondary vendor, amending the contract approved by City Council on November 2, 2021, in the not-to-exceed amount of $700,000.00; said second amendment to continue to provide temporary professional labor services and additional spending authority for the Procurement Department; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFP 7717 - providing for an additional second amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed $126,000.00, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed $875,000.00).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1146

S. ID 26-1145 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a second amendment to a contract between the City of Denton and Mustang Apparel, Inc. dba Incentive Brands, amending the contract approved by City Council on July 28, 2020, in the not-to-exceed amount of $1,450,000.00; said second amendment to continue to provide additional spending authority for workwear for the Procurement Department; amended by Amendment 1 approved by City Council; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFP 7315 - providing for an additional second amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed $362,500.00, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed $1,812,500.00).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1145

T. ID 26-1144 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with McKim & Creed, Inc. as the primary vendor, and Prime Controls, L.P., as the secondary vendor, for SCADA Maintenance and Services for the Water Utilities Department; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFP 9011 - awarded to McKim & Creed, Inc. and Prime Controls, L.P., for three (3) years, with the option for two (2) additional one (1) year extensions, in the total five (5) year not-to-exceed amount of $400,000.00). The Public Utilities Board recommends approval (4-0).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1144

U. ID 26-1143 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, ratifying the expenditure of funds by the City Manager for the emergency purchase of the turbo repair and overhaul for the Denton Energy Center; and providing an effective date (File 9094 - awarded to Accelleron US Inc., in the not-to-exceed amount of $354,615.84). The Public Utilities Board recommends approval (4 - 0).
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1143

V. ID 26-1080 Consider the adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton granting Denton Parks Foundation a noise exception for the Dog Days of Denton event on Saturday, September 12, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Quakertown Park and the Civic Center Pool; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1080

W. ID 26-1082 Consider the adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton granting Denton High School Bronco Band a noise exception for the DHS Bronco Band Summer March-a-thon event on Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Downtown Courthouse Lawn; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1082

Y. ID 26-1083 Consider the adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton granting Andersons Eatery and Distillery a noise exception for the Sabor y Motor Fest event on Sunday, October 4, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Andersons Eatery and Distillery; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1083

Z. ID 26-1039 Consider approval of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager, or their designee, to protest water rights applications filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality or its successor agency; ratifying past water rights application protests; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1039

ITEMS PULLED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

X. ID 26-1081 Consider the adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton granting Ganesh Immersion a noise exception for the Ganesh Immersion event on Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at North Lakes Park; and providing an effective date.

NOT CONSIDERED

C. ID 26-1236 Consider a nomination/appointment to the City of Denton Airport Advisory Board.
Denied

All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item. The summary of public commentary/registrations are noted on Exhibit A.

Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

Following discussion, Council Member Villarreal moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ferrie.

Motion failed.

AYES (1): Villarreal
NAYS (6): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr, and

D. ID 26-1234 Consider a nomination/appointment to the City of Denton Board of Ethics.
POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item. The summary of public commentary/registrations are noted on Exhibit A.

Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

Following discussion, Council Member Villarreal moved to postpone the item indefinitely adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ferrie.

Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr, and Villarreal
NAYS (0): None

E. ID 26-1233 Consider a nomination/appointment to the City of Denton Planning and Zoning Commission.
DENIED

All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item. The summary of public commentary/registrations are noted on Exhibit A.

Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

Following discussion, Council Member Villarreal moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Watts.

Motion failed.

AYES (1): Villarreal
NAYS (6): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr

G. ID 26-1237 Consider a nomination/appointment to the City of Denton Zoning Board of Adjustment.
POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

There were no online registrations or call-ins on the item.

The item was presented, and discussion followed.

Following discussion, Council Member Villarreal moved to postpone the item indefinitely adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ferrie.

Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr, and Villarreal
NAYS (0): None

5. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

A. ID 26-1153 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton authorizing the execution of an agreement and the expenditure of General Funds to support the development of a Strategic Plan by the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for the 90th Texas State Legislature for the implementation of a Denton County Mental Health & Jail Diversion Center Pilot; authorizing the expenditure of funds in an amount not to exceed $10,000.00; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 26-1153

All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item. The summary of public commentary/registrations are noted on Exhibit A. OR There were no online registrations or call-ins on the item. The item was presented, and discussion followed. Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

Following discussion, Council Member Jester moved to adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Rumohr.

Motion carried.
AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Stevens and Council Members Ferrie, Holland, Jester, Rumohr, and Villarreal
NAYS (0): None

2) Additional Citizen Reports (Open Microphone)
Citizen comments received are noted on Exhibit A.

6. CONCLUDING ITEMS

Council Members expressed items of interest.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

CHRIS WATTS
MAYOR
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

KRISTI FOGLE
INTERIM CITY SECRETARY
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

MINUTES APPROVED ON: August 18, 2026

EXHIBIT A - August 4, 2026 City Council Regular Meeting

Speaker Commentaries/Registrations
Online, Email, Phone

Name	Address	City	Agenda Item	Position	Method	Comments
Carley Walker	908 Monterey Drive	Denton	Open Mic	Opposed	In person	See video for comment.
Taylor Brown	1108 Coit Street	Denton	26-1234	Support	In person	See video for comment.
Vicki Byrd	Not Stated	Denton	26-1233	Support	In person	See video for comment.
Eva Grecco	802 W Oak Street	Denton	Open Mic	Not Stated	In person	See video for comment.
William Bass	215 E Oak Street	Denton	26-1236	Support	In person	See video for comment.