

MINUTES FOR MARCH 18, 2026: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jared Hillier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Jared Hillier, Council President Nick Hainline, Council Member Bob Bonning, Council Member Erika Cornett, Council Member LuAnne Coates, and City Attorney Tim Stover (via zoom) were present.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Nick Hainline made a motion to accept the consent agenda (Minutes for 3-4-2026 and Treasurer's Report) as written. The motion was seconded by Erika Cornett. A roll call vote was held. The Council votes are officially recorded as:

Nick Hainline: aye

Bob Bonning: aye

Erika Cornett: aye

LuAnne Coates: aye

Motion passed.

ANIMAL CONTROL/CODE OFFICER REPORT: Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer Brenna McLean was present to give the report. The report is on file. Office McLean has also recommended an update to Hagerman City Code §5-3-2(3).

LIBRARY UPDATE REPORT: Library Director Geri Omohundro was present to give the report. The report is on file.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A.** Frontier Community Resources SMILES Grant Presentation & Contract-Action Item: Frontier Community Resources Director or Community and Economic Development and Dr. Michele MacFarlane and President Jeff McCurdy presented the City with grant funds in the amount of \$8,900.00. The grant was originally for \$5,000.00, but there were extra funds available and a noted kudos was given to the application submitted by City Clerk Ashley Cook. These grant funds will be allocated to updating the street crossing at State Street and Salmon Street. Nick Hainline made a motion to accept the grant funds and authorize the mayor to sign the contract for the Frontier Community Resources SMILES Grant 202617. Erika Cornett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held.

Nick Hainline: aye

Erika Cornett: aye

LuAnne Coates: aye

Bob Bonning: aye

Motion passed.

- B.** ICDBG-24-IV-06-PF Pay Request #3-Action Item: Nick Hainline made a motion to approve ICDBG-24-IV-06-PF Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$24,981.00. Bob Bonning seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held.

Nick Hainline: aye

Erika Cornett: aye

LuAnne Coates: aye

Bob Bonning: aye

Motion passed.

- C. Resolution 2026-01: Fair Housing Proclamation-Action Item: Bob Bonning made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-01: Fair Housing Proclamation. Erika Cornett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held.

Nick Hainline: aye
Erika Cornett: aye
LuAnne Coates: aye
Bob Bonning: aye

Motion passed.

- D. Residential Trash Rates-Discussion: This conversation continued from the discussion during the workshop/special meeting. Mayor Hillier discussed with the city attorney that the City of Hagerman is bringing in revenue/profit from trash bills and asked if there is a cap or percentage for how much the City can make. City Attorney Tim Stover stated that any enterprise fund, including trash services cannot profit off its residents just to do so and there is not set percentage, but you have to be reasonable. Mayor Hillier asked the City Attorney who defines reasonable, and the answer was the City Council until the rates are challenged. Bob Bonning stated that he is challenging the rates. City Attorney Tim Stover asked Councilman Bob Bonning if he is appealing the decision of the Council. Councilman Bob Bonning responded that there is no decision but he is seeing that we profited approximately \$36,000 and it looks like we are in a business. The City Attorney said he would tend to agree, and there was a discussion amongst the council regarding what it costs to operate trash services, administrative costs, and what the City is billed by PSI as well. It was specifically noted by the City Attorney that it is not as simple as comparing what PSI charges the City and what the City charges residents, and that there are costs associated with said services. LuAnne Coates asked what this is costing the City this month. The answer is \$985.20 this month, and over a year without a rate increase it will cost the City \$11,822.40 loss in the General Fund just for contract costs, not including hours, staff, office supplies, street maintenance, copying expenses, or other associated costs classified as administrative costs. Mayor Hillier will look into this further with the City Attorney to ensure compliance. This item will be on the next agenda.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENT: Resident Connie Flinders made several statements/asked several questions to the council. Her statements and comments, and the council responses are:

1. Mrs. Flinders asked if she can pay her bill with auto withdrawal from her bank directly to the City's bank account.
2. Mrs. Flinders stated that the rumor mill is running rampant, and she is being told the City is out of water. She then asked why the city would allow high-density low-income housing to be built on the corner of West Valley Road and East Avenue North.

*City Clerk Ashley Cook updated Mrs. Flinders that the 5 lots she was referring to have 3 active building permits for 3 single family homes and it was not high-density housing, and there could be up to 5 single family homes built there.

3. Mrs. Flinders stated that building homes on the two lots facing East Avenue North would be a violation of City Code and setbacks.

* Mayor Hillier and City Clerk Ashley Cook informed Mrs. Flinders that there was a variance issued to a previous owner of those properties which allow homes to be built there.

4. Mrs. Flinders asked about a planning and zoning committee.

*The variances were issued under an active planning and zoning committee.

MAYOR'S COMMENT: Mayor Hillier stated that he is happy to see several new businesses opening in town. Over the last several weeks the Farmers Bank ITM, a restaurant called Sweet Alex B's, and a public gym in the local chiropractic office have all opened.

ADJOURNED: 6:40 PM.

Jared Hillier, Mayor

Ashley Cook, City Clerk & Treasurer