

**Flatonia City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 12, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**

**Present**

Mayor	Travis Seale
Mayor Pro Tem	Ginny Sears
Council	Allen Kocian
	Josh Homan
	Jeff Brazill
	Kevin Laney
City Manager	Ray Miller
City Secretary	Jacqueline Ott
Utility Director	Jack Pavlas
Fire Chief	Chris Swenning
Police Chief	Lee Dick

**Call to Order**

Mayor Seale called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilman Kocian led the invocation and pledges.

**Citizen Participation**

1. Mike Whitten spoke on the status of open work orders submitted by the American Legion to the City.
2. Kate Horn spoke on the importance of a bigger budget for the Parks department.

**Proclamations**

1. Mayor Seale read a proclamation declaring August 2025 as CAPCOG Emergency Management Awareness and Appreciation Month.

**Consent Agenda**

Consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

1. Minutes from the Regular City Council meeting held on July 8, 2025.
2. Minutes from the Special City Council meeting held on July 22, 2025.
3. Minutes from the Special City Council meeting held on July 29, 2025.
4. Financial reports from July 2025.

Councilman Homan moved, with a second from Councilman Brazill, to approve the consent agenda items. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

**Staff Reports**

1. Fire Chief Swenning had nothing to add to his report.

2. Police Chief Dick gave an update on the School Resource Officer position at Flatonia ISD.
3. Utility Director Pavlas gave an update on the Hi Ranger equipment truck.
4. City Manager Miller had nothing to add to the code enforcement report.
5. City Manager Miller gave an update on the TxDOT sidewalk project and drainage study.

#### **Discussion Agenda**

1. City Manager Miller gave a brief update on HB 4765, which goes into effect on September 1, 2025, and how it will change the code enforcement position. He plans to do some more research into whether Ms. Hernandez can continue to work as the code enforcement official without additional training.

#### **Regular Agenda**

1. This item was tabled until after the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.
2. Mayor Seale postponed the deliberation on renewing the annual contract with no changes for Flatonia Fire and Rescue. Fire Chief Swenning stated he would like more time to meet with City Manager Miller and go over some requests. No action was taken.
3. Mayor Seale addressed the representatives present from the various organizations regarding their Promotion and Tourism contracts. Mrs. Judy Pate from the EA Arnim Museum stated she is not requesting any changes. Ms. Leisha Kolb from the Flatonia Chamber of Commerce informed the Council that the Czhlispiel Committee has officially split from the Chamber of Commerce, and the Chamber is not requesting any changes. Ms. Dawn Wulf from the Czhlispiel Committee addressed the Council regarding funding, and it was decided that it may be best to give the Czhlispiel Committee their own contract. City Secretary Ott informed the Council that the Special Projects did not request any changes.

Mayor Pro Tem Sears moved, with a second from Councilman Laney, to approve renewing the Promotion and Tourism contracts with the EA Arnim Museum and Archives and Flatonia Special Projects. The contract with the Flatonia Chamber of Commerce will be discussed at the next regular meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Mayor Seale placed the meeting in recess at 5:56 p.m.

#### **Public Hearing**

1. Mayor Seale opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m. for a variance request to the minimum building setback requirements for Juan Manzano at 309 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Mr. Manzano stated his driveway reaches the property line, which allows him to drive into his backyard since there is not an alleyway behind the property. He wishes to add a cover to the parking area in front while still allowing him to access the backyard.

Mayor Seale closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Mayor Seale brought the meeting out of recess at 6:03 p.m.

**Regular Agenda (continued)**

1. Mayor Pro Tem Sears, with a second from Councilman Kocian, moved to approve the variance request to the minimum building setback requirement for Juan Manzano at 309 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
  
4. Councilman Laney moved, with a second from Councilman Brazill, to approve the following projects to be completed with the unexpended funds originally allotted for the sludge removal project: 1. A new AC unit for the Chamber of Commerce building; 2. A water truck for the utilities department; 3. A new computer server for the police department; 4. A new laptop for the City Manager; 5. A new AC unit for the American Legion Hall, with additional funds for other maintenance; and 6. The purchase of two digital radios for the police department.

**Executive Session Agenda**

Mayor Seale opened the executive session at 6:45 p.m. as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.074 (Personnel). The Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following matters:

1. Discuss payment of accrued vacation leave balance to the Utility Director upon retirement.

Mayor Seale closed the executive session at 7:07 p.m.

**Regular Agenda (continued)**

Councilman Laney moved, with a second from Councilman Kocian, to approve payment of all accrued vacation leave for Utility Director Jack Pavlas upon retirement. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

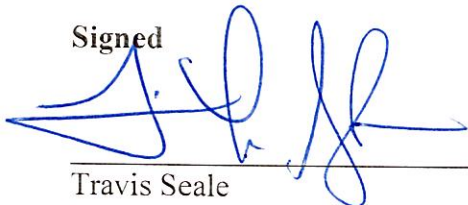
**Budget Workshop**

The City Council began the budget workshop at 7:08 p.m. to review the general fund proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Seale closed the budget workshop and adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Signed



Travis Seale  
Mayor



ATTEST



Jacqueline Ott  
City Secretary