

**Flatonia City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Present:**

Mayor	Travis Seale
Mayor Pro Tem	Joanye Eversole
Councilmembers	Ginny Sears
	Allen Kocian
	Josh Homan
	Donna Cockrell
City Secretary	Jacqueline Ott
Utility Director	Jack Pavlas
Utility Supervisor	Steve Cobler
Police Chief	Lee Dick
Fire Chief	Chris Swenning
City Attorney	Barbara Boulware-Wells (via telephone)

**Call to Order**

Mayor Seale called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States and State of Texas**

Councilman Kocian led the invocation and pledges.

**Presentation Agenda**

**CARTS/AMTRAK Depot** – Mark Eversole and Dennis Geesaman gave an update on Flatonia Mobility, Inc.'s procurement of a TxDOT grant for the CARTS/AMTRAK depot. This is a three-phase grant, the first phase being environmental work on the lot where the depot will be located. The second phase grant is planning and designing, which Flatonia Mobility, Inc. was recently awarded. Mr. Eversole presented architectural drawings of the proposed depot to the City Council.

**Staff Reports**

1. Fire Chief Swenning added to his report that the department sold a truck to Goliad County. The funds will be used to supplement a grant the department was awarded in 2024 to purchase a brush truck.
2. Police Chief Dick added to his report that the department was not able to obtain a grant for body cameras, and a deeper discussion will need to take place in the near future to find a solution.
3. Utility Director Pavlas added to his report that the Hi-Ranger is back in use after repairs. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole asked about the timeline for sludge removal. City Secretary Ott and Utility Director Pavlas confirmed the project is on schedule and will go for construction bid in April.
4. City Secretary Ott added to the Code Enforcement report that she is working to get Ms. Hernandez some training on the citation process. Mayor Seale reiterated the need to involve the police department since they will be issuing citations.
5. City Secretary Ott went through the City Manager's report. Mayor Seale informed the Council that he has been added as the primary signatory on the current grants, but major decisions will still come before the Council for approval. He also updated the Council on the decision to reduce the scope of the generator

grant application to Water Plant 3/Water Well 10 and the police station. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole requested an update from City Secretary Ott on vacation overages. Councilwoman Cockrell requested an updated grant sheet, which City Secretary Ott will email out after the monthly grant meeting on March 19.

6. Councilman Homan and Councilwoman Sears provided an update on the CPRC meeting held in February. He mentioned that he plans to meet with small groups over the next few weeks to focus on specific sections of the comprehensive plan.

#### **Consent Agenda**

1. **Minutes** – Consider and take appropriate action on the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on February 11, 2025.
2. **Minutes** – Consider and take appropriate action on the Special City Council Meetings held on February 17 and March 3, 2025.
3. **Financial Reports** – Consider and take appropriate action on the financial reports from February 2025.
4. **Appointment for the Parks Committee** – Consider and take appropriate action on appointing Juan “Beto” Manzano to the Parks Committee for a two-year term.

Mayor Pro Tem Eversole moved, seconded by Councilman Kocian, to approve the consent agenda items. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

#### **Discussion Agenda**

1. Mayor Seale presented an idea to create emergency kits for the city hall and police department. Each kit should contain a laptop or tablet, a printer with Wi-Fi capability, a Wi-Fi generating device, all appropriate cords and chargers, a power strip, an extension cord, printing paper, pens, and lighting devices. The kits should be organized in waterproof containers. These kits will enable business operations to continue during power outages. Mayor Seale clarified this is not an immediate project and a proposal should be written to present during the budget discussions for the next fiscal year.
2. City Secretary Ott presented the proposal from Records Consultants, Inc. to organize old City records. She informed the Council that the company is highly recommended and used by several entities in our area. They are trained for the specific purpose of governmental record-keeping and can help the City return to a manageable setup. The Council agreed to review this during budget discussions for the next fiscal year.
3. Mayor Seale presented options for hiring an interim city manager, including a few companies that offer interim services. He informed the Council that the former mayor, Dennis Geesaman, offered to step into the role at no cost to the City until the end of May. Mr. Geesaman would be available to the staff for help as needed but does not plan to be at City Hall during the business day. This item will be added to the agenda for the special council meeting on March 27.
4. City Secretary Ott reviewed the benefits of hiring a contracted CPA to help manage the City’s finances over the next few months, ensuring business continues as usual. The Council agreed and instructed City Secretary Ott to add this item to the agenda for the special council meeting on March 27.
5. City Secretary Ott presented the Notice of Eligibility letter for the Regional Mitigation Program Application 2022-100516-RMP.


## **Deliberation Agenda**

1. Councilwoman Sears moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eversole, to approve Ordinance 2025.3.1, an ordinance approving the agreement dated March 11, 2025, between the State of Texas and the City of Flatonia for the maintenance, control, supervision, and regulation of certain state highways and/or portions of state highways in the City of Flatonia and providing for the execution of said agreement; and declaring an emergency. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
2. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole moved, seconded by Councilman Kocian, to approve a contract with TxDOT to maintain state roadways inside the City of Flatonia. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
3. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole moved, seconded by Councilwoman Sears, to approve Ordinance 2025.3.2, an ordinance revising the prices of the burial plots in the city cemetery, also known as the Oak Hill Cemetery. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
4. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole moved, seconded by Councilman Kocian, to approve Ordinance 2025.3.3, an ordinance revising the prices of the burial plots in the city mausoleum, also known as the Oak Hill Cemetery Mausoleum. City Secretary Ott clarified the cost adjustment is to make the purchaser responsible for the cost of the crypt plaque. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
5. Mayor Pro Tem Eversole moved, seconded by Councilman Homan, to approve Resolution 2025.3.1, a resolution designating authorized signatories for contractual and financial documents pertaining to the 2020 Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Supplemental Program, Contract #22-119-001-D359. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

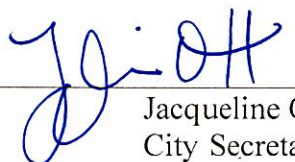
## **Adjournment**

Mayor Seale adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

**Signed**

  
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Travis Seale  
Mayor

**Attest**

  
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Jacqueline Ott  
City Secretary

