

**City of Trinidad**  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 2, 2025 6:00 pm**

**TRINIDAD CITY HALL, 100 PARK STREET**

A regular session of the governing body of the City of Trinidad was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall in Trinidad, Texas, at which time the following subjects were discussed:

1. **Call to order:** Mayor Dennis Haws called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Members present were Marie Bannister, Melvin Thompson, Velma Womack, Leah Melton, Paul Kern.
3. **Invocation:** Invocation was led by Lindsey Patterson.
4. **Citizen Comments** - None
  
5. **Item 4 - Discuss & consider removing resigned Mayor Pro Tem Clayton Gaddis from bank accounts and adding Mayor Dennis Haws onto the bank account** – Marrie Bannister motions to remove Clayton Gaddis from Bank account and add Mayor Dennis Haws. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried
  
6. **Discuss & Consider a \$1.50 raise for employees that have been present for more than a year. To include Colby Estrada, Shellena Bivens, Alex Estrada, Kenneth Minchew, Nicolas Moreno.** City Administrator speaks on the excellent performance, commitment and growth of the “skeleton crew”. Marrie Bannister motions to provide \$1.50 raise to the listed employees. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried
  
7. **Discuss & Consider TMI Consultant agreement providing the below for \$19,000.00** - Melvin Thompson inquires about the necessity of taking care of the issue. City administrator explains that this dam had been evaluated in January of 2024 and found to be in dilapidated state. Trinidad needed to at least start the process. Marie Bannister makes motion to sign agreement with TMI and utilized services for \$19000.00. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried
  
8. **Discuss and consider obtaining bids for security door in the main lobby area of City Hall for the safety and security of staff.** Several council members comment on how there is a significant lack of security within the City Hall Building and the open access to office posed a threat to staff. There had already been several instances of disrupted business and attempt by unauthorized personnel to access city offices. Paul Kern asked if personnel carried. City Administrator stated it was a “God Given right”. Chief Gregory suggests getting quotes on bullet proof glass or film Marrie Bannister makes motion to get bids on security doors for city hall. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried
  
9. **Discuss & Consider Aqua Services bid of \$6220.18 for water plant lab area improvement** - Pictures of the lab area were show. Council Person Melvin Thompson

notes that this area had been is a terrible state for a lot of years and poses a risk to anyone working in the area. Councilman Paul Kearn asks if there were any other bids. None available. Marrie Bannister makes motion to move forward with improvement and repairs and accept Aqua Services bid. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried

10. **Discuss & consider additional bank account to separate municipal funds from the general account.** - Mayor Dennis Haws inquiries about the importance of having the separation of municipal funds from the general account. Municipal Judge Bivins explains that there are specific municipal funds that are to be utilized for certain purposes legally. Leah Melton makes motion to add a municipal account. Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5-0 Motion carried
11. **Discuss & consider animal ordinances-** Several of the council members disagree with creating an ordinance to force registration and “chipping” of their dogs. Chief Gregory attempts to explain the exorbitant cost associated with seizing, taking in “relinquished” dogs, and dealing with the “dumped dog” population in Trinidad. Mayor Dennis Haws suggests that the discussion continue another time and the council should move on to the next agenda item. Council woman Marie Bannister moves to table the discussion. Council woman Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5/0 Motion Carried
12. **Discuss and consider action on adopting an ordinance to reinstate the 1:1 TMRS matching rate, as previously discussed and approved by the City Council on September 4, 2025, and authorize the Mayor to sign the ordinance.** Councilwoman Marie Bannister motions to approve ordinance returning the city TMRS rate to 1:1. Council woman Leah Melton 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5/0 Motion carried
13. **Dusty Bannister to speak on consideration of Event Committee formation** - Dusty Bannister speaks on the creation of the Event Committee. She states that she already has several applicants from people that would like to be involved. Council members discuss posting a notice for additional people to apply. The agenda item is postponed until the next meeting after public posting to create opportunity for more to formally apply.
14. **Discuss and consider proposal by Hannah Foster to rent parking and back area of Trinidad City Hall on December 20, 2025 between 3:00pm – 7:00pm for a pop-up Christmas vendor market.** Hannah Foster speaks on the agenda item stating that they have near 30 vendors that would like to participate in the potential event on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Mayor Haws states that “Trinidad is ready for business”. Hannah Foster discusses that they carry the insurance along with all pertinent licensing information for each vendor. Council Woman Marie Bannister makes motion to rent the City Hall Parking Lot area for a Christmas Vendor Market. Councilwoman Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5/0 Motion carried.
15. **Discuss & consider Trinidad Farmers Market. Discuss (Months of the year, days of the week, time for operation-Start/end, location, vendor fees).** City administrator

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requests additional time for market research and to put on the up coming agenda.  
Discussion postponed until next city council meeting

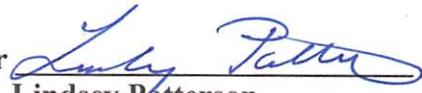
**Council Members Inquiry Time:** Pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code Sec. 551.042 the Mayor or Council Members may inquire about a subject not specifically listed on this agenda. Responses are limited to a recitation of existing policy or a statement of specific factual information given in response to the inquiry. Any deliberation or decision shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda of a future meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Councilwoman Marie Bannister motions to approve the minutes of November 6, 2025, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 & November 18, 2025. November 25<sup>th</sup> 2025 minutes not available. Councilwoman Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>. 5/0 motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT** – Councilwoman Marie Bannister motions to adjourn meeting. Councilwoman Velma Womack 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Haws

City Secretary/Administrator

  
Lindsey Patterson

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