

fc City of Trinidad
Minutes
Tuesday, December 16, 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 16th 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 Mayor Dennis Haws.
 4. **Citizen Comments** – None
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1. **Report from City Administrator** – City administrator explains that there is a lot taking place right now with Trinidad Public Works and a public works director is necessary to move the city forward. Stated that this was needed for overall oversight. The water infrastructure needed to be taken care of. Explained that the mayor went to the bank with her in order to address the lien on the old city hall.
 2. **Report from Chief of Police** - 152 Citation, 59 warnings, 195 traffic stops, 63 city ordinance violation, 6 Health and safety code violations. 1 impounded vehicle, 3 agency assist. Updated council and what will be installed in the new vehicles.
 3. **Report from Municipal Court** Judge Biven expressed being excited about the new software and how it would greatly reduce the work load of both herself and Colby in processing the tickets. \$22857 was brought into the city where the city would keep \$14534
 4. **Report from Water Plant Operator** - Jerney not present- working on forehand rd. Mayor Haws explained that he had recently toured the water plant and Jason Barber was present during the walkthrough. Jason Barber signed off on what Jeremy Crocker had been taking care of.
 5. **Report from Street Dept.** Alex Estrada explains that he fixed manholes and pipes needed to be sewer on peach street. 2 inch main on 274 as the fiber optic crew had hit it and was repaired. Birdsong at the housing authority, the original valve was not placed correctly. There is a lot of vegetation on Birdsong. The leak on birdsong had been previously been reported to the former city administrator however nothing had been done or shared until this repair was made
 6. **Report from the EDC** –

Lisa Hebrank committee is working on getting EDC computer updated with Microsoft word and downloaded QuickBooks. Taking bids on work that needs to be done, mowing properties. Working on audit paperwork. 2 Openings on EDC

5. **The council discussed & considered utilizing SafeBuilt services for Planning & Zoning guidance with Brad Bond** Brad Bond and his associate spoke on the issue of being able to assist Trinidad with Planning and zoning. This was one of many services they offer. Marie asked if she worked with the planning and zoning or were the planning and zoning. SafeBuilt acts as building administrator. Help run meetings, power points and inspections. Per mayor Dennis Haws, the discussion was going to be postponed until everyone had an opportunity to review SafeBuilt's services
6. **Review and consider appointments to the Planning and Zoning Committee – Council** accepted Jerry Bannister, Scott Hample, Dan Pass, Jake Jones,
7. **Review and consider the bids provided for City Hall Security Doors – Council** members discussed the bids and the scope of construction needed in the new city hall along with legal reasonings for the security doors. The construction of the drop box, the mold and wall that the new city hall Dropbox/drive through window also needs to be reconstructed to the damage that has already occurred due to bad workmanship of the original contractor. Councilman Melvin Thompson motions to approve Jake Jones bid to install security doors. Councilwoman Leah Melton 2nds the bid
8. **Review the current ordinances pertaining to city committee and administrative appointments.** Marie Bannister speaks that she was wanting to have a workshop prior to the city council meetings in order to discuss the ordinances that the planning and zoning bring to the council, so they have time to thoroughly discuss. Mayor Dennis Haws states that the P&Z committee should focus on ordinances and no action should be taken. The matter was tabled. Marie Bannister motions to table the motion, Velma Womack 2nds the motion
9. **Discuss the roles and responsibilities associated with each committee and administrative position.** Councilwoman Marie Bannister discussed new policy to define what exactly everyone's roles and responsibilities are. This is to include the employees as well as the city council. Over the years the oversight with the administration is the responsibility of the city council and the department heads. Councilwoman Marie Bannister motions to table the motion, Council Velma Womack 2nds the motion
10. **Discuss and consider the hiring of a Public Works Director** -The council discussed the importance of the defined roles and making the city works and admin more efficient. The administrator explains what she is looking for in a city public works director. Accountability will be paramount. She stated that the water plant and the underground infrastructure require a lot of work. There is a lot that goes into the position. The water

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plant we currently have will not last more than 40 years. Scott Hample explains that Trinidad is not the only city that has issues with documentation and plants. Marie Bannister makes a motion to establish the Event committee and accept the applicantsj

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

CONSENT AGENDA: No minutes to approve

ADJOURNMENT – Councilwoman Marie Bannister motions to adjourn meeting. Councilwoman Velma Womack 2nd.

Mayor: _____
Dennis Haws

City Secretary/Administrator


Lindsey Patterson

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