

**City of East Bernard**  
**Board of Alderman**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**21 July 2025**

**Present:**

Lance Rejsek, Mayor  
David Tomchesson, Alderman Pos 1  
Andrew Webster, Alderman Pos 3  
Ryan Woodward, Alderman Pos 4  
Brad Crist, Alderman Pos 5  
Renee Norton, City Secretary

**Absent:**

Richie Domel, Alderman Pos 2

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum of the Board members present, Mayor Lance Rejsek called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 21, 2025 in the Union Room of the Prosperity Bank Building.

**INVOCATION**

Joel Torres gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rejsek led the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The following is the mayor's report for the July 2025 meeting.

- Representatives from Texas Pride visited City Hall on Monday, July 21, 2025, to discuss the current solid waste collection contract. During the meeting, they informed the City that they no longer permit contracts to auto-renew. They also explained that the original pricing was based on operations from a closer facility, but they have since relocated to a more distant location.

As a result of the increased operational distance, they indicated that the current rate of **\$18.85 per month** would need to rise to **over \$33 per month**.

Given this significant change, the City will issue a **Request for Proposals (RFP)** for the collection and disposal of residential and commercial solid waste.

- Renee and I attended the Houston-Galveston Area Council's comprehensive workshop for public servants, where we gained the following insights:
  - Starting September 1, 2025, competitive bids thresholds will be increased and only be required for projects over \$100,000 instead of the previous \$50,000.
  - Starting September 1, 2025, agendas for meetings will need to be posted three business days prior to the meetings. If the meeting is held in the evening, that day can be counted as one of the three days.
- I am considering a location next to the city pool as a potential site for the new City Hall. An individual is currently working on a rough draft of the layout, which will be presented at a later date.
- A second sinkhole has formed at the intersection of Otto and Brandes. I've spoken with Mr. King, who will be able to repair the intersection as soon as he completes the bridge project at the industrial park.
- Since the donation bin ordinance was enacted, three property owners have informed the city that their bins will be removed. The bin at Foodtown has already been taken down. Of the four remaining bins, three currently have items such as used tires, lamps, and coolers left outside them. Identifying the property owners of two of these bins has been challenging, but the city is continuing efforts to locate them.

- The city has taken on the responsibility of maintaining the abandoned Diamond Shamrock property. We will be filing the necessary paperwork with the county to ensure a lien is placed on the property for the work being performed. Additional properties are also being considered as part of our ongoing effort to beautify the city.
- I am currently working with Chris Morse to design welcome signs for each of the four entrances to the city. The goal is to create signs that are simple yet elegant, cost-effective, easy to maintain, and built to last. More to come.
- While at our meeting with Judge Spenrath and both the cities of Wharton and El Campo, it was discussed that following the devastating flooding in Central Texas, they are hopeful that Austin will allocate funding to municipalities for the implementation of siren and speaker systems. The City of Wharton currently operates a system that covers most of the community, combining both sirens and an intercom feature to alert residents of various threats, such as tornadoes, chemical spills, and other emergencies.
- Some of you may have noticed the recently installed mobile home on Wallace Street. Under the current city ordinance, individuals who own mobile homes are permitted to replace them with a newer unit within 90 days of the original home's removal.

### **CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The following is the Secretary's report for the month of July 2025.

\*We held another Animal Welfare Committee meeting on the 15th. Christine from SPOT joined us and provided valuable insights on how to begin setting goals for East Bernard. Our follow-up meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, the 22nd. SPOT generously assisted the City with the feral cats at 291 by covering the costs of their spay/neuter procedures. We've taken six cats to the vet so far and plan to bring in the kittens as soon as possible. Additionally, we were able to successfully rehome four of the cats."

\*The Planning Commission Committee met July 15<sup>th</sup> and discussed tiny homes in the city. There will be a follow-up meeting to finalize discussions.

\*Would the Alderman be available to attend a permits meeting on September 8th at 6:00 p.m.? Safebuilt will be present to address any questions.

### **CONSTABLE'S REPORT**

Not present

### **MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Mr. Moreno provided the maintenance update:

- Assisted with replacing the flags along Main Street
- Installed temporary plates at Otto and Brandes
- Removed debris from the back side of the berm near the river

### **ANIMAL REPORT**

Mr. Torres delivered the Animal Control report.

### **PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DANE BREITENWISCHER FOR COMPLETION OF EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT-PARK BENCHES.**

Mayor Rejsek presented that Dane Breitenwischer completed his eagle scout project which was wooden benches that he placed at the park. Mr. Breitenwischer was unable to make the meeting. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to table the proclamation, seconded by Alderman Webster. The motion passes unanimously.

### **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2025 MEETING.**

Mayor Rejsek asked if there were any corrections or concerns about the minutes as read. There was no discussion of the minutes. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Webster to approve the June 23, 2025 minutes. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

### **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL QUOTES ON REPAIRING CLUBSIDE DR.**

Mayor Rejsek presented the quotes that were received on repairing sections of Clubside Dr. Clubside Dr. is a road on the list to redo next budget year. Alderman Crist asked if we were planning on redoing the road soon, then why spend money on patching now. Alderman Webster suggested getting a bid on the entire road. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to table the motion, seconded by Alderman Crist.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL BUDGET WORKSHOP CALENDAR.**

Secretary Norton presented the Budget workshop calendar. Alderman Webster made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Crist. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

Mayor Rejsek presented the letter of commitment of program income to the Texas Community Development Block Program. With this program, the City will be able to pick a project to better the community. Alderman Webster made a motion, seconded by Alderman Woodward. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL ORDINANCE 2025-006-DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE SEALED BID OF CHEVROLET TAHOES OWNED BY THE CITY OF EAST BERNARD.**

Mayor Rejsek presented the Ordinance declaring certain property as surplus and authorizing the sealed bids of Chevrolet Tahoe. The City would like to sell the two 2018 Chevrolet Tahoes. Alderman Webster made a motion, seconded by Alderman Crist. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL QUOTE TO REPAIR AND ADD LIGHTS TO THE SWIMMING POOL.**

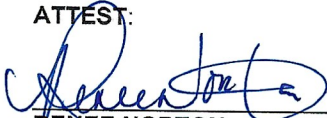
Mayor Rejsek presented the quote to repair and add lights to the deep end of the pool. Alderman Woodward made a motion, seconded by Alderman Tomchesson. The motion carries 3-1 with Alderman Webster against.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Tomchesson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Crist to adjourn the Regular session. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

These minutes are approved on the 18th day of August, A.D. 2025.

ATTEST:

  
RENEE NORTON  
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED:

  
LANCE REJSEK  
MAYOR