

CITY OF SAGINAW

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL

333 West McLeroy Boulevard, Saginaw, Texas 76179

September 1, 2026, 6:00 PM

Roll Call: *(The following members were in attendance)*

- Todd Flippo, Mayor
- Paul Felegy, Mayor Pro-tem, Councilmember, Place 1
- Nick Lawson, Councilmember, Place 2
- Valerie Junkersfeld, Councilmember, Place 3
- Brack St. Clair, Councilmember, Place 4
- Shawn Morrison, Councilmember, Place 5
- Mary Copeland, Councilmember, Place 6
- Gabe Reaume, City Manager
- Lee Howell, Asst. City Manager
- Kim Quin, Finance Director
- Vicky Vega, City Secretary
- Russell Ragsdale, Police Chief
- Doug Spears, Fire Chief
- Pedro Zambrano, Director Economic & Community Engagement
- Ronnie Horton, Adult Services Librarian
- Trenton Tidwell, P.E. City Engineer
- Melanie McManus, Director of Human Resources
- Brice Goin, Water Quality Specialist
- Ellen Ritchie, Library Director
- Luisa Pina, PW Admin Coordinator
- Maria Hernandez, Planner I
- Jarred Coursey, Asst. Director of Public Works
- Ronnie Martinez, Superintendent of Water Utilities
- Vickie Weldon, Recreation Services Manager
- Robin Espinosa, Sergeant
- Brandon Badovinac, Asst. Police Chief
- Lieutenant Crippen
- Lieutenant Pruitt
- Jacob Rodriguez, Sergeant
- Officer Bowman
- Officer McKainnon
- Corporal Sotello

Absent

- Bryn Meredith, City Attorney

Visitors at the Meeting

- Lori Allen
- Matt Letkeman

- Brian Gil
- Renee Willis-Davis
- Benjamin Guttary
- Judy Deler
- Ana Villalobos
- Chris Villalobos
- Lorne Taylor Stockum
- Mark Towns
- Jerry & Melissa Rodriguez
- Christina Noone
- Abel Moreno

1. Call To Order

1.A. Call To Order -- Todd Flipppo, Mayor

Mayor Flipppo called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**1.B. B. Pledges--Pledge of Allegiance to the United States; Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas--
"Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one State under God, one and indivisible**

1.C. Invocation--Dr. Mark Towns, First Baptist Church

Pastor Mark Towns gave the invocation.

1.D. D. Audience Participation--Anyone wishing to speak during the discussion of an item listed on the agenda must complete an audience participation form. These forms are located by the Police Chief. After completing the form, give it to the City Secretary. She will give it to the Mayor. The Mayor will call on you when that item is discussed. You will have three (3) minutes to make your comment.

2. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Paul Felegy and seconded by Valerie Junkersfeld to approve 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I and 2J from the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously. 7-0-0-0.

2.A. Action Regarding Minutes from August 4, 2026 Meeting--Vicky Vega, City Secretary

Council approved the minutes from August 4, 2026 meeting.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.B. Action Regarding Minutes from August 11, 2026 Meeting--Vicky Vega, City Secretary

Council approved the minutes from August 11, 2026 meeting.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.C. Action Regarding Minutes from August 25, 2026 meeting--Vicky Vega, City Secretary

Council approved the minutes from August 25, 2026 meeting.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.D. Action Regarding Approving a Purchase Order with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for the Rainbow Trout Program -- Maria Hernandez, Planning Tech

Council approved a purchase order with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) for the Rainbow Trout Program. Each year, TPWD's Rainbow Trout Stocking Program stocks ponds across the state during the winter months to expand accessible fishing opportunities for Texans and to support local fishing events. To participate, the City must receive TPWD approval for the selected pond and demonstrate that the site has adequate parking and public access.

City staff have identified East Beltmill Pond, a 1.7-acre pond located at the northeast corner of Beltmill Parkway and Bailey Boswell Road. The site meets TPWD's desired criteria: it is publicly accessible and can accommodate additional amenities for an event, including placement of a restroom trailer and temporary parking in adjacent vacant lots.

The Beltmill Ponds were stocked earlier this year with catfish, black bass, coppernose bluegill, minnows, and fathead minnows. However, the fish are not yet mature enough to be harvested this year.

TPWD staff conducted a site visit of East Beltmill Pond on August 17, 2026, and will prepare a detailed report based on their observations. The report will include site conditions, the environmental suitability of the current fish stock, and recommendations for maintaining an appropriate habitat.

TPWD recommended stocking 1,000 trout per pond to ensure a successful program. The estimated cost is approximately \$2 per fish, or about \$2,000 total to stock East Beltmill Pond. An order must be placed in September, along with the selection of a stocking date for the upcoming winter season.

The Parks Board reviewed this item at its June 15, 2026 meeting and recommended approval of an order with TPWD not to exceed \$3,000. The Board also recommended the purchase of 20 bags of sinking fish food to support the existing fish population in the pond.

This item was approved through the consent agenda.

2.E. Action Regarding Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with North Central Texas Council of Governments for Regional Traffic Signal Timing Program--Randy Newsom, Director of Public Works

Council approved Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with North Central Texas Council of Governments for Regional Traffic Signal Timing Program. The purpose of this agreement is to improve traffic flow and enhance safety at signalized intersections in Saginaw as part of a broader initiative approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to promote mobility and improve air quality throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Under the agreement, NCTCOG will manage the project, including oversight, monitoring, and engineering services, while the City of Saginaw will provide local funding based on the number of intersections improved. The full project

cost will be covered by Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds, with the local share satisfied through Transportation Development Credits (TDCs).

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.F. Action Regarding Right-of-Way Dedications for City Owned Properties for the McLeroy Boulevard Phase 3 Project--Randy Newsom, Director of Public Works

Council approved the Right-of-Way Dedications for City owned properties for the McLeroy Boulevard Phase 3 Project. The right of way dedications for the McLeroy Boulevard Phase 3 project include the addresses, 601 & 605 W McLeroy Boulevard, 505 W McLeroy Boulevard, 333 W McLeroy Boulevard and 102 Opal Street.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.G. Action Regarding Multiyear Agreement with First Choice Lights -- Luisa Pina, PW Admin. Coordinator

Council approved the multiyear agreement with First Choice Lights. This agreement allows the City to continue utilizing First Choice Lights for the terms of the Grapevine agreement (cooperative purchasing/piggybacking) while retaining flexibility for annual renewals and the ability to cancel services shall the terms of service not be satisfied. Additionally, the agreement does not commit the City to the same scope of decorations each year, which may continue to be reviewed and adjusted annually based on the City's priorities, available funding, and desired holiday displays.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.H. Action regarding Interlocal Agreement with Fort Worth Transportation Authority ("Trinity Metro") for Tarrant County Transportation Services for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities for the Period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027--Kristi Sinclair,

Council approved an Interlocal agreement with Fort Worth Transportation Authority ("Trinity Metro") for Tarrant County transportation services for the elderly and persons with disabilities for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027. The weekly allocated day for Saginaw residents is Monday. By participating in this program, qualifying residents of Saginaw are entitled to a one-way trip fare of \$2.50. The annual cost for the City's participation is \$1,795. There is no additional cost because the Federal Transit Administration has granted Trinity Metro funding under Section 5310 of Title 49 of the United States Code. The goal of the Section 5310 program is to provide transportation for elderly and disabled persons residing in cities that do not have public transportation available to them.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.I. Action Regarding Approval of a Purchase of Fitness Equipment for the Recreation Center--Vickie Weldon, Recreation Services Manager

Council approved a purchase of fitness equipment for the Recreation Center. The current fiscal year (FY 2025/2026) capital outlay fund has an available savings of \$52,848.67. The majority of the surplus funds resulted from cost savings associated with painting and repairs completed at the Aquatic Center. The total cost for the delivery and installation of one recumbent bike, one treadmill, and four ellipticals will be \$35,833.69.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

2.J. Action Regarding Ordinance No. 2026-29, approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex division regarding the company's 2026 rate review mechanism filing.

Council approved a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex division regarding the company's 2026 rate review mechanism filing. The City, along with 181 other Mid-Texas cities is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee ("ACSC"). On or about April 1, 2026, the Company filed a rate request pursuant to the RRM Tariff adopted by ACSC members. The Company claimed that its cost-of-service in a test year ending December 31, 2025, entitled it to additional system-wide revenues of \$291.1 million. Application of the standards set forth in ACSC's RRM Tariff reduces the Company's request to \$273.6 million. After reviewing the filing and conducting discovery, ACSC's consultants concluded that the system-wide deficiency under the RRM regime should be \$253.4 million instead of the claimed \$291.1 million. After several settlement meetings, the parties have agreed to settle the case for \$260.5 million. This is a reduction of over \$30 million to the Company's initial request. This includes payment of ACSC's expenses. The Effective Date for new rates is October 1, 2026.

This item was approved through the Consent Agenda.

3. Proclamations-Presentations-Discussions

3.A. Presentations/Recognitions--Gabe Reaume, City Manager

Police Chief Ragsdale recognized and introduced Corporal Sotello in honor of her most recent promotion and presided over her swearing-in ceremony and pinning of her badge.

Superintendent of Water Utilities Martinez honored Brice Going, with the 212 Award in recognition of his hard work and dedication to the City.

3.B. Discussion Regarding Flock Cameras--Lorne Taylor Stockum, Saginaw Resident

Saginaw resident Lorne Taylor Stockum led the discussion regarding Flock Cameras. During the meeting, Mr. Stockum briefed the Council and shared his perspective on the issue, offering insight to help frame the conversation for the members present. His presentation provided the Council with an informed viewpoint and an opportunity to consider the potential implications, and concerns associated with Flock Cameras.

Mayor Flippo received four requests to speak on this topic from Lori Allen, Matthew Lefkeman, Jackson Glodich, and Christe Noone. Each of the speakers voiced opposition to the use of Flock Cameras and took the opportunity to explain their concerns in detail. Their comments focused on the issues of data access, including who is able to view the information collected by the cameras, how that information is stored, and the ways it may be shared with others or misuse. The speakers emphasized that their objections were not only about the cameras themselves, but also about the broader privacy implications associated with the technology.

Chief Ragsdale provided an overview and clarification regarding the Flock cameras in the City. He explained that the City has maintained a contract since 2024 for 20 cameras, which are installed on the exteriors of locations throughout the city. The annual cost of the contract is \$67,500. He further explained that the cameras capture still images only; they do not record video footage or use facial recognition technology. However, they do capture license plate numbers and record the vehicle's color, make, type, and any visible damage. He also discussed who has access to the data, explaining that administrative support staff, sergeants, and corporals are able to access it. In addition, he noted that a policy is in place with appropriate safeguards and audit measures.

Council discussed and raised questions about whether the data could be accessed by individuals or agencies beyond the immediate users, and whether adequate safeguards were in place to prevent misuse. In addition, they expressed concern about how long the information might be retained and whether residents would have sufficient transparency regarding how the system operates. It was noted for staff to return the 1st City Council meeting in November and reconvene regarding topic.

3.C. Workshop--Regarding Police Recruitment, Recruitment Plan/Process, and Plan to Fill Police Vacancies

The Police Chief led the discussion on police recruitment and retention, offering a clear overview of the department's current staffing efforts and the challenges involved in attracting and keeping qualified officers. The conversation included a detailed look at hiring trends, employee turnover, and the factors that influence whether officers choose to remain with the department over time.

In addition, the Police Chief provided overall comparisons to surrounding cities, helping place the department's situation in a broader regional context. These comparisons highlighted how the department's recruitment practices, compensation, benefits, and retention rates measure up against neighboring communities. By reviewing these similarities and differences, the discussion helped identify both strengths and areas where improvements may be needed.

The presentation also emphasized the importance of maintaining a stable and well-trained police force in order to support public safety and effective community service. Overall, the discussion served as an informative update on the department's workforce needs and the ongoing efforts to ensure it remains competitive with other cities in the region.

4. Business

4.A. Discussion and Action Regarding Waste Connections Garbage and Recycling Pickup Services - Lee Howell, Assistant City Manager

Assistant City Manager Howell introduced Abel Moreno and Zach McPherson of Waste Connections. Mr. Moreno and Mr. McPherson presented an overview of the proposed options for garbage and recycling

pickup services. Waste Connections outlined its proposed residential waste collection services for Saginaw.

The presentation highlighted a transition to automated trash and recycling collection using standardized 95-gallon carts, designed to improve safety, efficiency, and neighborhood appearance. Four service options were provided, each with different pricing structures and collection frequencies. A coordinated rollout plan was also described, including a communication strategy that uses social media and community events to keep residents informed. In addition, Waste Connections noted a partnership with a nonprofit organization to pursue a \$120,000 grant for recycling improvements. The company emphasized safety, the use of existing resources, and continued resident education as key benefits of its proposed services.

Council members discussed the idea of gathering more information before moving forward with a final decision on the proposal. To support this process, they considered informational videos and holding a town hall meeting. This meeting would give Saginaw residents an opportunity to ask questions, and share their thoughts before any decision is made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Lawson and seconded by Councilmember Junkersfeld to Table item 4A. Motion passed unanimously. 7-0-0-0.

5. Executive Session

Mayor Flippo called the meeting into Executive Session at 8:46 pm

5.A. 551.071. Texas Government Code. Consultation with Attorney. The City Council may convene in executive session to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on any legally posted agenda item, when the City Council seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the provisions of Chapter 551, including the following items:

5.B. Any Item Posted

5.C. 551.087. Texas Government Code. Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations. The City Council may convene in executive session to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City, and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations; or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described above, including:

5.D. The Square Project.

6. Adjournment

6.A. Adjournment--Todd Flippo, Mayor

Mayor Flippo called the meeting back into Regular Session at 8:58 pm.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Felegy and seconded by Councilmember Lawson to Adjourn the meeting. Motion approved 7-0-0-0

Mayor Flippo adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Vicky Vega, City Secretary

Todd Flippo, Mayor