



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026
12:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Cris Blackburn
Pat Shelbourne
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Vacant
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem Place 2
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
Randy Barkley
Paul Hackelman
Kevin Mead
Jennifer Calvert
Timothy Hamilton
Julie Rodriguez
Lana Ewell

City Manager
City Secretary
Asst. City Manager/Fire Chief
Asst. City Manager/Public Works Director
Asst. Police Chief
Finance Director
Parks Director
Human Resources/Civil Service Director
Library Director

INVOCATION

Associate Pastor Mark Lofton of Northside Nazarene Church gave the invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE United States and Texas Flags

Mayor Miner led the Pledge of Allegiance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Blackburn encouraged citizens to take advantage of upcoming shot clinics for animal vaccinations and noted that animal control officers are available to provide helpful resources to the community. The councilmember also shared that there are dogs at the local animal shelter in need of outings and encouraged residents to stop by and volunteer their time to help.

Councilmember Neal reported that Wataugafest is 122 days away and will begin on May 14. He also announced that sign-ups for Watauga 101 are now open and encouraged residents to participate. Additionally, he encouraged residents to visit the local animal shelter.

Mayor Miner also announced that applications for Watauga 101 will be accepted until Thursday.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of Service Awards for the City of Watauga Employees celebrating a Milestone Anniversary during the month of January

Sandra Gibson and Mayor Miner presented Lana Ewell, Library Director, with a service award in recognition of 25 years of service.

2. Presentation of Employee of the Month Award for the month of January

Sandra Gibson and Mayor Miner presented Tommy Sanders, Storm Drain Supervisor, with the Employee of the Month Award.

3. Presentation of the 2025 City of Watauga Annual Award Recipients.

Sandra Gibson and Mayor Miner presented the annual awards to the following recipients: Scott Orwig from the Animal Services Department, who received the Above and Beyond Award; Derek Plunkett from the Fire Department, who received the Employee of the Year Award; Natalie Cadavid, also from the Fire Department, who received the Rising Star Award; Aimee Chestnut from the Finance Department, who received the Making a Difference Award; and Chief Jim Lewis, who received the Leadership Award.

4. Spooktacular Yard Decorating Contest and Holiday of Lights Decorating Contest winners

Timothy Hamilton thanked the Parks Board members and staff who assisted in judging the contest, as well as Councilmember Hill, who has provided prizes for the winners for multiple years by purchasing gift certificates from local Watauga businesses.

The Spooktacular contest awards went to 6056 Judy Drive for the Animation Award; 6128 Skylark Lane for the Spookiest Award; and 6805 Bluff View Drive for the Judge's Favorite Award. There were no applicants for the Best Block Award.

For the Holiday of Lights contest, the Griswold Award was presented to 6464 Ridglea Drive; the Character Award to 6104 Brookside Court; the Animation Award to 7209 Kary Lynn Drive East; and the Judge's Favorite Award to 6625 Starnes Road. There were no applicants for the Best Block Award.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no request for public comment

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

There was no request for public testimony

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Consider action on approval of the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending November 30, 2025.**
- 2. Consider action on approval of a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas approving the advanced funding agreement (AFA) between the City of Watauga, Texas and the Texas Department of Transportation for the Green Ribbon Program Phase 4; providing for Severability, providing an effective date (for right-of-way landscaping improvements from Basswood Blvd to Starnes Road along Highway US377)**
- 3. Consider action on approval of an Ordinance amending the classifications and number of positions in the City of Watauga Police Department**
- 4. Consider action on approval of a resolution to adopt the Tarrant County Hazard Mitigation Action Plan 2025.**

5. **Consider action on approval of a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Watauga and Dunaway Associates, LLC for the Capp Smith Food Truck Project design and construction plans**
6. **Consider action on approval of the December 8, 2025, City Council Meeting minutes.**
7. **Consider action on approval of the November 17, 2025, Special Council Meeting to Canvass the Bond Election.**
8. **Consider action on approval of the November 10, 2025, City Council meeting minutes**
9. **Consider action on approval of the May 31, 2025 Special Meeting Budget Retreat minutes**
10. **Consider action on approval of massage renewal permits for Golden Foot Spa and Hightower Salons**
11. **Consider action on approval of the appointment of Mia Whitham to Place 4 on the Planning and Zoning Commission.**
12. **Consider action on approval of the appointment of Jacob White to Place 3 on the Civil Service Commission.**

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to accept as presented. Councilmember Blackburn seconded the motion

With no further discussion Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion passed 6-0-0-0.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consider action on approval of a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Watauga and Burgess & Niple, Inc. for Quail Meadow Storm Drain Engineering Design Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works**

Paul Hackleman, Public Works Director, presented an agenda item to approve an engineering contract with Burgess and Niple for a major drainage project

affecting Quail Meadow, which drains onto the 26-acre Chapman Road Horse Farm and continues along Harrison Way, Lyndale, and Echo Hill Drive. The project could have addressed past drainage issues in Hightower Estates. A potential partnership with developers of the Chapman Road property may allow the system to run along their street instead of Quail Meadow, saving costs and preserving the existing system. The project's engineering is budgeted at \$825,000 from 2025 certificates of obligation, with total costs of \$1.25 million, leaving a \$425,000 shortfall. Moving forward aligns with the developer's design process and mitigates risk of design stoppage if future CO funding is unavailable.

A video presentation showed proposed storm drain lines, utilities replacement, new pavement, curb inlets, and sidewalks, as identified in the city's drainage master plan.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Downey seconded the motion

With no further discussion Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion passed 6-0-0-0.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Pursuant to section 551.074 of the Texas Local Government Code (Personnel) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. To discuss and provide feedback regarding the annual performance evaluation of the City Manager.**

Mayor Miner recessed into executive session at 7:12 pm

RECONVENE

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 7:41 pm

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION

1. Consideration and possible action relating to the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. To discuss and provide feedback regarding the annual performance evaluation of the City Manager.

No action was taken.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Approved: this 9 day of March, 2026

Signed: this 9 day of March, 2026

APPROVED:

/s/ Arthur L. Miner

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Linda Proskey

Linda Proskey, City Secretary

