

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, TEXAS, CITY COUNCIL HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2600 ROOSEVELT DRIVE, DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, TEXAS.

While the order of some agenda items may have been changed, the following represents all items discussed and acted upon by the City Council.

WORK SESSION AND/OR EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bianco called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Members Present

Laura Bianco, Mayor
Steve Lafferty, Alderman, Place 2
Cathy Stein, Alderman, Place 3
Ed Motley, Mayor Pro Tem; Alderman, Place 4
Paul Sweitzer, Alderman, Place 5

Member Absent

John King, Alderman, Place 1

Staff Present:

Greg Petty, DPS Director/City Administrator
Sandra Ma, City Secretary/Court Administrator
Jeff Brown, Finance Director

2. WORK SESSION

a. 51st CDBG Project on Madrid Court IPO

Ivan Lopez from Kimley-Horn and Associates gave presentation

Work session on listed agenda items, if time permits.

The following agenda items were discussed.

8d. Approval of Mayor's Monarch Challenge action item for 2026.

9b. Discussion and possible action on an application for a final plat submitted by Karla and Gabriel Sechere for a tract of land recorded in instrument Number D224057658, Deed of Tarrant County, Texas in the Leonard Randall Survey, Abstract No. 1311, 1.5 acres of land located in the City of Dalworthington Gardens, Tarrant County, Texas, and locally known as 3312 Sunset Lane

9c. Discussion and possible action to address the wording of a letter provided by the City Administrator regarding an approved special exception application for motor vehicle sales- indoor: Showroom wholly within a building; no vehicle display visible from outside the building; detailing for sale but no mechanical work allowed; no outside storage, in accordance with the City of Dalworthington Gardens Zoning Ordinance subsection (a)(15) of Section 14.02.224, Business located at 2227 Michigan Ave Suite B, Dalworthington Gardens, Texas.

9d. Discussion and possible action regarding a budget for DWG's 90th celebration.

9e. Update and discussion on the audit completed by Brooks and Watson for fiscal year 2024-2025.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Any action may be deferred until the 7:00 p.m. Regular Session

a. Recess into Executive Session

City Council recessed into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m.

i. Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, Attorney Consultation and 551.074, Personnel Matters, regarding the Finance Director.

b. Reconvene into Regular Session for discussion and possible action on:

i. Personnel Matters regarding the Finance Director.

City Council reconvened from Executive Session at 6:22 p.m.

No Action Taken.

REGULAR SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bianco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following present:

Members Present

Laura Bianco, Mayor

Steve Lafferty, Alderman, Place 2

Cathy Stein, Alderman, Place 3

Ed Motley, Mayor Pro Tem; Alderman, Place 4

Paul Sweitzer, Alderman, Place 5

Member Absent

John King, Alderman, Place 1

Staff Present:

Greg Petty, DPS Director/City Administrator

Sandra Ma, City Secretary/Court Administrator

Jeff Brown, Finance Director

2. INVOCATION, AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

A student from Arlington Classics Academy gave the invocation. Pledges were said.

3. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

a. Presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Dalworthington Gardens Historical Committee.

Mayor Bianco read aloud a proclamation recognizing Maria Cardenas as the 2025 DWG Volunteer of the Year.

b. Recognition of parties who participated in the Salvation Army Mayoral Red Kettle Challenge.

Mayor Bianco presented certificates to parties involved in the Salvation Army Mayoral Red Kettle Challenge.

4. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

The following items were presented.

a. Pictures with the Easter Bunny – Sunday, April 6, 2026 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens who wish to speak to the City Council will be heard at this time. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, unless the subject matter of the presentation is on the agenda, the City staff and City Council members are prevented from discussing the subject and may respond only with statements of factual information or existing policy.

Pam Miller, 3112 Roosevelt Drive, Park Board Chair.

In regards to Consent Agenda item 8d. Mayor's Monarch Challenge action item, she would like to strike number 3 leaving 8 challenge items instead of 9.

6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ed Motley: Happy New Year to everybody. 2026 is a new and exciting year.

Steve Lafferty: Happy New Year and welcome to the first council meeting of the new year. Invited everyone to attend more of the meetings that will take place throughout the year.

Paul Sweitzer: This is a good year for us, this will be our 90th year for the City.

Cathy Stein: Ditto to all of that, and she said thank you to the couple of other hardy souls that showed up last Saturday to help trim trees in the park. We had several of our regular volunteers who were under the weather or had injuries. Lucky for them because the wind blowing off the lake at forty miles an hour and the north wind was cold. They trimmed down low and didn't get on ladders because of the wind. Six hours worth of volunteer hours were worked and made a big difference to that little skinny part of the park that goes down towards Park Drive. She thanked Public Works who quickly picked up the limbs and made them disappear.

Mayor Bianco: We won the Salvation Army Per Capita Award. She is so thankful to every person who made a contribution, whether it was monetary, time, or helping us get organized. It was deeply, deeply appreciated. Over \$21,000 was raised, which is incredible for a city of our size. She also thanked Heritage Gardens HOA. They made a \$500 contribution to the City that will be spread out among different areas to help with either park events, concerts, or DPS or whatever the need may be. She thanked Paul Sweitzer for donating water to the City. Elections are coming up, so if you're interested in filing for one of these positions, you can go ahead and start right now, and it will end February 13th at five o'clock. If you are interested in filing for a position, Sandra has the applications.

Library Cards: \$2000 was budgeted for subsidized library cards. We received notice from the City of Arlington that the price for non-residents went from \$50 to \$120. The City will stand by its word on the first 40 qualified applicants, but next year, this topic will be revisited during budget.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Informational reports only; no action to be taken.

- a. Director of Public Safety/City Administrator Report**
- b. Financial Reports**
- c. Quarterly Investment Report**

Departmental Reports were presented.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

All consent items are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and vote.

- a. Approval of Minutes October 16, 2025**
- b. Approval of Minutes November 20, 2025**
- c. Approval of Minutes December 2, 2025**
- d. Approval of Mayor's Monarch Challenge action items for 2026**
- e. Approval of Ordinance 2026-01, calling for a general election to be held May 2, 2026 for the offices of Mayor, Alderman Place 1, and Alderman Place 2; and calling for a special election for May 2, 2026 to submit a**

proposition of the voters on re-authorization of the local sales, and use tax at the rate of one quarter of one percent (1/4%) to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

Mayor Bianco pulled item 7d. for further discussion.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley and seconded by Council Member Steve Lafferty to approve the consent agenda with the removal of 7d for further discussion.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Lafferty, Motley, Stein and Sweitzer

Nays: None

After discussion, a motion was made by Council Member Cathy Stein and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley to approve consent agenda item 7d Mayor's Monarch Challenge action items suggested by the Park Board with the exception and removal of item #3.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Lafferty, Motley, Stein and Sweitzer

Nays: None

9. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Discussion and possible action to approve an IPO for the CDBG project on Madrid Court.

Background Information:

Individual Project Order #7 received from Kimley-Horn for the 51st CDBG project – Madrid Court Waterline Replacement

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley and seconded by Council Member Cathy Stein to approve IPO #7 for the CDBG project on Madrid Court

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Lafferty, Motley, Stein and Sweitzer

Nays: None

b. Discussion and possible action on an application for a final plat submitted by Karla and Gabriel Sechere for a tract of land recorded in instrument Number D224057658, Deed of Tarrant County, Texas in the Leonard Randall Survey, Abstract No. 1311, 1.5 acres of land located in the City of Dalworthington Gardens, Tarrant County, Texas, and locally known as 3312 Sunset Lane

i. Conduct a public hearing

ii. Discussion and action

Background Information:

Application for Final Plat was received from Karla and Gabriel Sechere on 12/19/2025. Per city ordinance 10.02.004 Platting Required. No building permit shall be issued for the construction of improvement on any property not platted.

In accordance with Section 10.02.125, the plat application was forwarded to the city engineer for review. On January 6, 2026, the city engineer conducted his final review of the final plat and determined the plat conforms with the City's subdivision ordinance, and recommended approval of the plat.

The city has notified all property owners within 200 feet and included information on how to provide public comments at both the planning and zoning meeting held on January 8, 2026, and City Council Meeting tonight as well as publishing the meeting in the Commercial Recorder.

Planning and Zoning commission met on January 8, 2026, and recommended approval of the final plat.

Local Government Code, Chapter 212, states plats that satisfy all applicable regulations must be approved. The proposed plat satisfies all requirements of city ordinances. As such, staff recommends approval of this plat.

Mayor Bianco opened a public hearing at 7:40 p.m.

Applicant Gabriel Schere gave a presentation.

Mayor Bianco closed the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley and seconded by Council Member Steve Lafferty to approve the final plat submitted by Karla and Gabriel Sechere for a tract of land recorded in instrument Number D224057658, Deed of Tarrant County, Texas in the Leonard Randall Survey, Abstract No. 1311, 1.5 acres of land located in the City of Dalworthington Gardens, Tarrant County, Texas, and locally known as 3312 Sunset Lane.

c. Discussion and possible action to address the wording of a letter provided by the City Administrator regarding an approved special exception application for motor vehicle sales- indoor: Showroom wholly within a building; no vehicle display visible from outside the building; detailing for sale but no mechanical work allowed; no outside storage, in accordance with the City of Dalworthington Gardens Zoning Ordinance subsection (a)(15) of Section 14.02.224, Business located at 2227 Michigan Ave Suite B, Dalworthington Gardens, Texas.

Background Information:

Commercial Business owner Rick Hinton – Apple Remarketing, business located at 2227 Michigan Avenue Suite B has submitted a request to go before council to address a letter provided by the City Administrator on August 22, 2025.

Per the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, Apple Remarketing requires a letter from the City of DWG stating Apple Remarketing is permitted to operate as a used car dealer at this location.

On August 21, 2025, Council approved a special exception application for motor vehicle sales-indoor, Showroom wholly within a building; no vehicle display visible from outside the building; detailing for sale but not mechanical work allowed; no outside storage, in accordance with the City of Dalworthington Garden's Zoning Ordinance subsection (a)(15) of Section 14.02.224, Business located at 2227 Michigan Ave, Suite B, Dalworthington Gardens.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, Attorney Consultation City Council recessed into Executive Session.

City council reconvened from Executive Session at 7:59 p.m.

Preston Turnbow, applicant, gave the presentation.

A motion was made Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley and seconded by Steve Lafferty to direct staff to prepare a letter as discussed in executive session.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Lafferty, Motley, Stein and Sweitzer

Nays: None

d. Discussion and possible action regarding a budget for the DWG's 90th celebration.

Background Information:

Information from the Historical Committee

What the Historical Committee seems to have done poorly in December was to ask council to come up with a maximum figure that they would be willing to spend on an event of great importance, similar to the 75th and 80th anniversaries or the total eclipse event.

For reference, the council gave the eclipse committee a maximum net out of pocket budget of \$5,000 as they began planning that event. The Historical Committee never got a final tally of how we came out because of our fundraising efforts, however I do know that the total out of pocket for the city was less than \$5,000. Since the eclipse, the historical committee has helped get Mary's children's history book published. To date we have a net profit on that fundraising effort and expect to sell more books during the 90th celebration. We have also raised money over the years, even if the net income was not spent on historical committee projects, by selling engraved pavers. Additionally, we will be raising funds through t-shirt sales. And finally, we will be soliciting for monetary or in kind donations from citizens and businesses in the city.

All of this to say that the Historical Committee is not a group to spend all of the money allotted to it if we can help it. We know the city finances are tight and we have always done what we can do to help fund history related expenses.

There was a lot of talk of our basic ideas for the 90th in December without anything concrete for council to look at, so we have put together a basic budget of things we currently anticipate in expenses. While I have reached out for bids on some of the expenses with no dollar amount currently shown, I have not received answers yet to some of those requests and we have not had time to research a couple of others. At this stage of planning, we can't swear that these are all of the expenses that will come up, however I can tell you that we will be good stewards of a reasonable maximum net spend figure that the council chooses to authorize.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Motley and seconded by Council Member Steve Lafferty to approve contributions from the city not to exceed \$5000.00 in support of the 90th birthday celebrations.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Lafferty, Motley, Stein and Sweitzer

Nays: None

e. Update and discussion on the audit completed by Brooks and Watson for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Background Information:

As of 1/9, we are 57% complete on our Audit Request Check list and I have been in contact with Jon Watson each week with updates. We will be done and have everything to them no later than January 26th.

Update was received from Jeff Brown, Finance Director.

f. Discussion and possible action regarding amendments to the FY 2025-2026 budget in amounts not to exceed \$10,000.00

No action taken.

9. TABLED ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Recognition of parties who participated in the Salvation Army Mayoral Red Kettle Challenge. – Boy Scouts for February's agenda

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.