

CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS
MINUTES FOR CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
March 5, 2026 - 9:00 AM



The City Council convened in **Special** Session at the Midland County Sheriff's Office, located at 1703 East County Road 120, Midland, Texas, at 9:00 AM, March 5, 2026.

Council Members present: John Burkholder, Amy Stretcher Burkes, Robin Poole, Lori Blong, Brian Stubbs, Jack Ladd, John Norman

Council Members absent: None

Staff members present: City Manager Tommy Gonzalez, City Attorney Nicholas Toulet-Crump, City Governance Officer/City Secretary Marcia Bentley-German, Deputy City Manager Morris Williams Jr., Deputy City Manager Jose Ortiz

SPECIAL SESSION

1. The City Council will meet with City Staff in a workshop to discuss and consider City governance, management, operations, policies, protocols, strategic planning, and priorities. The City Council may discuss issues related to streets, roads, and water and sewer infrastructure; water supply and resources; parks and recreation; community services; public health and safety; land use and development; economic development; personnel; airports; technology; solid waste management; real property acquisition and disposition; and oil and gas development and regulation. The City Council may develop and prioritize actions and goals in connection with the foregoing matters.

Mayor Blong called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., welcomed all and led the group with an invocation.

City Department Directors, Managers and staff were present along with members of the media and community.

City Manager Tommy Gonzalez gave a brief presentation of the Strategic Plan Update Session along with a video recap of 2025 achievements. Some of the items presented were building Midland Long term, Mobility/Connectivity of the I-14 and I-27 corridors and the outer loop projects, as well as, Water for the Next Century and Smart Growth by design. Another video was shown regarding the next 100 years of Midland; the City of Ambition.

Mayor Blong led discussions with City Council. Topics included infrastructure priorities, finance strategy, smart growth framework, water development, legislative strategy, code enforcement as strategy, family-friendly living, and economic diversification. Each Council Member shared their perspective on the topics and were asked to think about which items were priorities.

City Management and Department Directors were able to answer questions regarding topics within their perspective area.

Strategic Partnerships Officer Lindsey Adams reported on the progress of the Wildcatter Trail and bus stop coverings projects.

Council Members shared ideas outlining what they would like to see in Midland's future. Topics included water security, pipeline construction, master planning and affordable housing, airport planned development, removal of dilapidated structures, ordinances for building maintenance and more parks throughout the city just to name a few.

The City Council covered a range of topics at this meeting. The entire discussion may be heard online at <https://midlandtx.new.swagit.com/videos/377365>.

2. 020-2026 Motion approving the City of Midland Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2026 and beyond (Provide Sound Governance & Fiscal Management)

Council took no action on this item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Blong recessed the Special City Council meeting to go into Executive Session at 1:47 p.m.

3. Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.101, the City Council will hold an executive session, which is closed to the public, to discuss the following matters as permitted under the following sections of the Texas Government Code:

- a. **Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney**

Discuss matters in which the duty of the attorney(s) to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Discuss pending or contemplated litigation.

- b. **Section 551.072, Deliberation Regarding Real Property**

Discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.

- c. **Section 551.074, Personnel Matters**

Deliberate the employment, evaluation, and duties of the City Manager, City Attorney, City Secretary, Municipal Court Presiding Judge, and Municipal Court Associate Judge.

- d. **Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations**

Discuss business prospects that the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City of Midland, Texas, and discuss possible incentives.

All the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED March 24, 2026.

Lori Blong, Mayor

ATTEST:

Marcia Bentley-German
City Governance Officer/City Secretary