



Stephanie Boardingham, Mayor
Keith R. Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem
Carlie Jones, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Anthony Cook, Place 2
Timey Boardingham, Place 3
Silas Robinson, Place 4
Jesus Rivas, Place 6

Venus Wehle, City Manager
Amy Anderson, City Secretary
Courtney Goodman-Morris, Asst. City Attorney

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
April 9, 2025 - 6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Forest Hill met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Boardingham presiding. The following Council members and Officials were present Carlie Jones, Anthony Cook, Timey Boardingham, Silas Robinson, Keith R. Smith, Jesus Rivas, City Manager Venus Wehle, Assistant City Attorney Courtney Goodman-Morris, and City Secretary Amy Anderson.

Councilman Cook arrived at 6:27 p.m.

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present Mayor Boardingham called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Invocation – Mayor Pro Tem Smith

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S Flag and the Texas Flag led by Mayor Boardingham

2. Citizen Testimony:

At this time, any person who desires to speak on any item posted on the agenda or any person with business before the City Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the City Council provided that a "Speaker's Request Form" has been completed and provided to the City Secretary no later than the posted start time of the City Council meeting. Speakers are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The Council cannot respond to matters not listed on the agenda until scheduled at a future meeting. Please direct all comments to the full Council. Citizens are to refrain from personal attacks and the use of profane language.

Kenneth Williams-6924 Windward Way, Forest Hill, TX

- Addressed the Council on his church, New Spirit of Prayer, and apologized for past behavior.

Beckie Duncan Hayes-7317 Woodbridge Drive, Forest Hill, TX

- Addressed Council on name-calling, defaming others, and putting a time stamp on Citizens' Testimony forms.

Leslie Jasperson-7309 Woodbridge Drive, Forest Hill, TX

- Addressed the Council on the lateness of Councilman Robinson and Councilman Rivas, as well as the agenda item for April 9, 2025.
- Further addressed the Council on the performance of City Manager Venus Wehle and City Secretary Amy Anderson.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jones called point of order to clarify with the attorney if Ms. Jasperson was violating the rules of Citizen Testimony. Assistant City Attorney, Courtney Goodman-Morris, stated Ms. Jasperson had the right to address Council behavior.

3. Deliberation Agenda:

- a) Discuss and consider action to amend the City Council Relations Policy and Code of Ethics as follows: All City Council members, including the Mayor, shall have the authority to place up to three items on the agenda for any given meeting. Any agenda items beyond the three items per Council member must be approved by two other Council members. The Mayor's approval shall not be required for any Council member to place an item on the agenda. In the event of emergencies or situations affecting the City as a whole, the Mayor may place additional items on the agenda without restriction.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to amend the City Council Relations Policy and Code of Ethics as follows: All City Council members, including the Mayor, shall have the authority to place up to three items on the agenda for any given meeting. Any agenda items beyond the three items per Council member must be approved by two other Council members. The Mayor's approval shall not be required for any Council member to place an item on the agenda. In the event of emergencies or situations affecting the City as a whole, the Mayor may place additional items on the agenda without restriction.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jones seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jones asked for clarification on the motion and whether the additional verbiage from the original section needed to be included.

Councilman Robinson stated he did not want the Mayor to be part of the approval process.

Assistant City Attorney, Courtney Goodman-Morris, clarified that the verbiage should state the following:

Any Council member, including the Mayor, may request in writing three agenda items per meeting. If additional agenda items are requested, the requester must have the support of two other Council members, which may include the Mayor. The Mayor's approval shall not be required for any Council member to place an item on the agenda. In the event of emergencies or situations affecting the City as a whole, the Mayor may place additional items on the agenda without restriction. Written requests under this provision must be submitted by noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting for discussion and action. No items can be added after the deadline time and date. The Mayor, Council members, or Staff do not have the authority to add, remove, or change an agenda item other than their own. The Mayor and Council members have no clerical duties, so agendas are prepared by the City Administration.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that the Council is deliberating on semantics for a policy that has been in place for six (6) years.

Councilman Boardingham feels that the policy change is not necessary. The Council can always ask to place additional items on the agenda by speaking with the City Manager, Mayor, or another Council member.

Councilman Robinson disagreed and feels the Council should be able to put up to three (3) items on the agenda without the Mayor's approval.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jones asked for clarification on how many items could be placed on the agenda. Assistant City Attorney, Courtney Goodman-Morris, stated that the Council can put up to three (3) items on the agenda. It can be one (1), two (2), or three (3) items if the item passes.

Assistant City Attorney, Courtney Goodman-Morris, restated the motion to read as follows.

To approve amending the City Council Relations Policy and Code of Ethics to provide in Section 2 (c), Preparation of the agenda, Any Council member, including the Mayor, may request in writing three agenda items per meeting. If additional agenda items are requested, the requester must have the support of two other Council members, which may include the Mayor. The Mayor's approval shall not be required for any Council member to place an item on the agenda. In the event of emergencies or situations affecting the City as a whole, the Mayor may place additional items on the agenda without restriction. Written requests under this provision must be submitted by noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting for discussion and action. No items can be added after the deadline time and date. The Mayor, Council members, or Staff do not have the authority to add, remove, or change an agenda item other than their own. The Mayor and Council members have no clerical duties, so agendas are prepared by the City Administration.

Councilman Rivas inquired if reports are considered agenda items. Assistant City Attorney, Courtney Goodman-Morris, stated it would depend on the type of report. If the Council member requests a report that the City Manager does not usually give, then it would be considered one of the three items.

City Manager, Venus Wehle, stated that some reports requested can simply be emailed to the whole Council and do not necessarily need to be placed on an agenda.

If a report is of community interest, it is not an agenda item. However, if a Council member asks for a report and then wants it to be placed on the agenda at a future meeting, it would be considered an agenda item for discussion or deliberation.

With no further discussion, the motion passed with the following vote:

4 Ayes Jones, Cook, Robinson, Rivas
3 Nays T. Boardingham, Smith, Boardingham
0 Abstain
0 Absent

4. Meeting: Next regular meeting will be on May 6, 2025

5. Adjournment:

Mayor Boardingham adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST:


Amy L. Anderson, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:


Stephanie Boardingham, Mayor