

Regular City Council Meeting March 23, 2026, 6:30PM

- E. Public Utility Commission of Texas- Consumer Price Index Rate 2026  
*Discussion: Sets the rate for Franchise Fees collected from utility companies in City of Robert Lee Right-Of-Ways.*  
Motion by Council Member Jonathan Torres to increase the rate from \$0.58 to \$0.59.  
Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 4-0, motion carried.
- F. EDC-A Member Resignation & Appointment  
Table, pending resignation letter.
- G. Coke Central Appraisal District Board- Nomination to Vacant Seat  
Tabled, Pending East Coke County nomination to vacancy.
- H. RLEMS - Consider waiver for required Deposit & Service Charge for City Utility Accounts  
*Discussion: Consider waiving the deposit requirement for the RLEMS as they are a first responder similar to the RLVFD.*  
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to waive the deposit and service charge requirement for the RL EMS water account. Seconded by Council Member Megan Sheppard. Vote 4-0, motion carried.
- I. 1st National Bank of Ballinger- CD Accounts  
*Discussion: City financial advisor would like for the council to invest another 285,000 across the City Funds into the CD's in Ballinger.*  
Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens to invest the following amounts from their prospective funds: \$50,000 from General Fund for a 3-month term, \$150,000 from Water Fund for a 5-month term, and \$55,000 from Sanitation Fund for a 9-month term.  
Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 4-0, motion carried.
- J. EDC Opportunity Zone  
*Discussion Only: Nominations for new opportunity zones for the governor's office opens on July 1, 2026.*
- K. RLVFD Roof Damage & Repair  
*Discussion Only: TML adjuster inspected the VFD building after members reported the recently repaired roof was leaking. Adjustor determined that the roof failed due to installation, and recommended the city contact the installer to return and fix the issue under warranty.*
- L. Historical Landmark Nomination - Ivey Motors  
*Discussion: With the looming threat of Ivey Motors closing due to unrealistic renovations Ford is requiring Ivey to comply with, the local dealership might have to close their doors. Unaware of the entire renovations list, the city has presented the idea to nominate Ivey Motors as a historical landmark to prevent Ford from requiring certain cosmetic upgrades (if any) to preserve the character of the 75+ years old business.*  
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to nominate Ivey Motors Building as a historical landmark. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

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The City Council of the City of Robert Lee, Texas, met in Regular Session at the City Hall at 6:30 p.m. on March 23, 2026.

Present: Mayor Steven Arens, Council Members: Mike Stephens, Jonathan Torres, Josh Tennison and Megan Sheppard

Staff: City Administrator Amanda Portales, City Superintendent Clayton Brickey

Absent: Council Member Skyler Rainwater

**Consent Agenda:**

- A. Minutes- February 23, 2026
- B. Municipal Court Report
- C. Code Enforcement Report
- D. Financial

Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

**Regular Agenda:**

- A. Sanitation Ordinance 6-26

*Discussion: City must wait 30 days before removing a container for a delinquent account, resulting in a full bill from Republic. Consider adding a disconnection fee to ordinance to mimic water reconnection fee when utilities are disconnected due to nonpayment. Also, consider rewording section in Ordinance prohibiting open burning, add clarification of what closed burning is and what is allowed, including burning grass stickers subject to city approval.*

Motion by Council Member Jonathan Torres to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 6-26, Sanitation Rates and Regulations. Seconded by Council Member Megan Sheppard. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

- B. Fee Schedule Ordinance 7-26

*Discussion: Update Sanitation rates and new disconnection fee, add sewer rates.*

Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 7-26, Fee Schedule. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

- C. Ordinance 8-26 FY 25-26 Budget 3rd Amendment

*Discussion: Line items were updated to reflect year-to-date revenues and expenditures.*

Motion by meg to approve Ordinance 8-26, FY 25-26 Budget Amendment. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

- D. 09-26 Sewer Ordinance

*Discussion: Rates were removed from Ordinance and put into the Fee Schedule to have consolidated rates.*

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 9-26, Sewer Rates & Regulations. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 4-0, motion carried.

**Reports**

**Mayor** –Mayor Arens is still working on water projects and researching different sources. FCCLA won their regional competition and will move onto the State Competition.

**Administrator** – 4 applications were received for two council seats. Names are in order as they appear on the ballot: Skyler Rainwater, Rance Rasmussen, Kenneth Eudy, and Jonthan P Torres. 1 application was received for mayor, current incumbent Mr. Steven Arens. Grant Updates: The ARPA grant for the waste water plant is still in the close out phase, Downtown Revitalization is still in the design phase, 3<sup>rd</sup> street is still under construction with a predicted completion date of 5-31-2026, and the applications for both the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund were submitted 3-9-2026. The city will also apply to the Texas Water Development SWIFT program once application period opens for 2027.

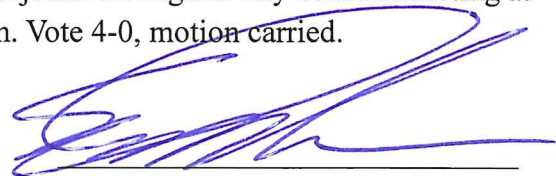
**Superintendent** – Notice of noncompliance was sent to TCEQ for both January and February. Began discarding into reclaim pond to be utilized by the golf course. All samples for the pond have been under the reuse limits according to TX Administrator Code. Drainage ditch to culvert on Austin and 12<sup>th</sup> was graded to help with drainage. Electricians installed 2 new 15 horsepower motors as the Wastewater plant. The shaft of the new motors is too large for the current pulleys. Contractors are still sourcing required pulleys and looking for alternative solutions by modifying existing infrastructure. Letter from TCEQ provided for the inspection of Mountain Creek Dam, will be added to next meeting.

**Request for Future Agenda Items**

Mountain Creek Dam Report & Action Plan

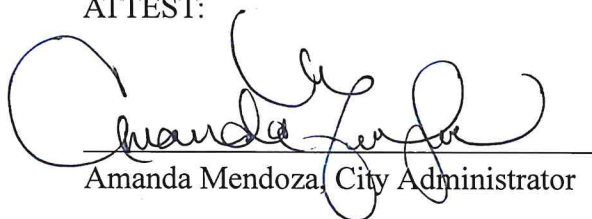
**Adjournment**

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike Stephens to adjourn the regular city council meeting at 7:34PM. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 4-0, motion carried.



Steven Arens, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amanda Mendoza, City Administrator

