



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY RICE, TEXAS

Thursday, May 14, 2026

6:00 pm

Rice City Hall

305 N. Dallas Street

Rice, TX 75155

MINUTES

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Christi Campbell called the meeting to order at 6pm

2. Roll Call:

- a. Mayor Christi Campbell: Present
- b. Rosa Vasquez: Present
- c. Nick White: Present
- d. Tonya Roberts: Present
- e. Mayor Pro Tem, Troy Foreman: Present
- f. Mike Butler: Present
- g. Sarah Farley: Present after Oath
- h. Anna Smith: Present after Oath

3. Prayer: By Tonya Roberts

4. Pledge of Allegiance: By All

5. Texas Pledge of Allegiance: By All

6. Public Forum:

Jennifer Fisher – MDMYA President

First, she presented two invoices for electrical light work on the baseball fields.

She requested the city pay the invoices or at least pay a portion of the cost. This was promised previously by the city and the Council Members.

Second, she wanted to bring attention to the council the issues that MDMYA was having with working with the city on planning city events as per the agreement that was signed by the City and MDMYA. There are poor communication and lack of response from City personnel in regard to getting this event accomplished. MDMYA may have to step back from the joint effort and do their own planning of events for the community.

7. Alderman's Update: None

8. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Council meeting minutes for April 9, 2026.
- b. Approval of the April 2026 Financial Report.
- b. Administrative reports for April 2026: Police Department, Volunteer Fire Department, Municipal Court, Public Works, Finance and administration.

Motion to approve all Consent Agenda items made by Tonya Roberts and seconded Mike Butler.

Ayes: Tonya Roberts, Mike Butler, Rosa Vasquez, Nick White, Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

9. Canvass:

- a. Mayor to issue Certificates of Election to the newly elected Alderman's – Troy Forman, Ann Smith, and Sarah Farley.
- b. Statement of elected City Council Alderman's disclaiming any payment, offer, promise to pay, contribution, promise to contribute any money or thing of value, or promise of any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election or as a reward to secure appointment or confirmation.

Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, and Sarah Farley signed their statements.

- c. Administer Oath of Office to the newly elected City Council Alderman's.

Oath of office was given by Mayor Christi Campbell.

Troy Foreman was sworn into a new term as Alderman. Anne Smith was sworn in as a new Alderman, and Sarah Farley was sworn in as a new Alderman.

Nick White and Rosa Vasquez, having completed their terms, stepped down.

10. Public Hearings and Action Items:

- a. Conduct a Public Hearing for renewal of the city participation in Tax Abatement Programs.

John Boswell Economic Development of Navarro County and city attorney Michael Hala spoke on this subject.

Open Public Hearing: 6:29 pm

Close Public Hearing: 6:30 pm.

Discussion, consideration, and action as may be appropriate regarding a Resolution electing to participate in granting tax abatements and re-establishing the current tax abatement policy guidelines and criteria.

Motion to approve the resolution to re-establish the current tax abatement guidelines in re-investment zones created by City of Rice made, by Tonya Roberts and seconded by Mike Butler

Ayes; Tonya Roberts, Mike Butler, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman
Nays; No
Motion Passed.

- b. Conduct a Public Hearing designating a Reinvestment Zone 26-0001.

John Boswell Economic Development of Navarro County and city attorney Michael Hala spoke on this subject.

Open Public Hearing: 6:43 pm

Close Public Hearing: 6:45 pm.

Discussion, consideration, and action as may be appropriate regarding an Ordinance designating a Reinvestment Zone.

Motion to approve the reinvestment zone ordinance zone 26-0001 with the addition of the city of Rice Economic Development President as a Liaison as well made by Mike Butler and seconded by Tonya Roberts.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Tonya Roberts, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, and Sarah Farley

Nays: None

Motion Passed

11. New Business:

- a. Discussion, consideration, and action as may be appropriate regarding a Resolution approving a tax abatement agreement with EG AI Corp.

No Action Taken.

- b. Discussion, consideration, and action as may be appropriate regarding entering into an Interlocal Agreement with Navarro County for road work.

Motion to enter into an Interlocal agreement with Navarro County for road work made by Ann Smith and Mike Butler.

Ayes; Ann Smith, Mike Butler, Troy Foreman, Tonya Roberts, and Sarah Farley.

Nays; None

Motion Passed

- c. Discussion, consideration and action as may be appropriate regarding adding Finance Clerk, Sharon Watkins, as an authorized representative on the TEXPOOL Account.

Motion to add Finance Clerk, Sharon as an authorized representative on the TEXPOOL Account made by Mike Butler and seconded by Tonya Roberts.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Tonya Roberts, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, and Sarah Farley

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- d. Discussion, consideration and action as may be appropriate regarding the re-appointment of Sarah Farley to the EDC Board.

Motion to re-appoint Sarah Farley to the EDC Board made by Tonya Roberts and seconded by Ann Smith

Ayes: Tonya Roberts, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, Mike Butler and Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- e. Discussion, consideration and action as may be appropriate regarding an Ordinance amending the budget dissolving the positions of City Administrator and Chief of Police and creating the dual role position of City Administrator/Chief of Police.

Motion to move to Executive Session under section 551.074 made by Mike Butler and seconded by Ann Smith

Ayes: Mike Hunter, Ann Smith, Tonya Roberts, Troy Foreman, and Sarah Farley

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Following the Closed executive meeting. No action was taken on this item

- f. Discussion, consideration and action as may be appropriate regarding Interim City Administrator, Callie Driggars 14-day notice of terminated contract services.

Motion to accept Callie Driggars notice of terminated contract services in 14 days accepted by Mike Butler and seconded by Ann Smith.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, and Troy Foreman.

Nays: Tonya Roberts

Motion Passed

- g. Discussion, consideration, and action as may be appropriate regarding electing the Mayor Pro Tem.

Nominate Troy Foreman as Mayor Pro Tem made by Mike Butler.

Motion that further nominations cease, made by Tonya Roberts and seconded by Ann Smith.

Ayes: Tonya Roberts, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, Mike Butler

Nays: None

Abstain: Troy Foreman

Motion Passed

Troy Foreman remained the Mayor ProTem

12. Executive Session: In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq. The City Council will recess into Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following under Section 551.074(a)(1) - Personnel Matters:

- a. Discussion regarding the employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, resignation, or dismissal of a city officer or employee, unless such officer or employee requests a public hearing to wit: Interim City Administrator, City Administrator candidates/Interviews.

Recess into Closed Session under section 551.074 at 7:39 pm

Reconvene into Open Session: 10:09 pm

- b. Any action to be taken from Executive Session.

No Action taken on item 11E

Motion to appoint Tonya Roberts as City Manager subject to her resigning as City Council member and an agreement on a contract made by Mike Butler and seconded by Troy Foreman.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, and Sarah Farley

Nays: None

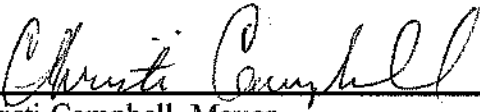
Abstain: Tonya Roberts

Motion Passed

13. Adjournment:

Forego Motion to Adjourn made by Mayor Christi Campbell at 10:11 pm

Attest to:

 4/12/26

Christi Campbell, Mayor Date