



**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE GOVERNING BODY  
RICE, TEXAS  
Thursday July 9, 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 6 pm
- 2. Roll Call: by City Administrator, Tonya Roberts**
  - a. Mayor Christi Campbell: Present
  - b. Councilmember Anna Smith: Present
  - c. Councilmember Sarah Farley: Present
  - d. Mayor Pro Tem Troy Foreman: Present
  - e. Councilmember Mike Butler: Present
- 3. Prayer:** By Mike Butler
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance:** By All
- 5. Texas Pledge of Allegiance:** By All
- 6. Public Forum**

Anyone wishing to speak on an item, whether listed on this agenda, may do so during this time. Please turn in a speaker's card to the City Secretary. Each speaker has three (3) minutes to speak. By law, the Council cannot deliberate or take action on non-agenda items. The Council may listen, ask brief clarifying questions, provide factual responses, or explain existing policy.

1: Robert Reddish: Rice, Tx – Spoke on Data Centers  
2: Michael Ellis: Rice, Tx – Spoke on Data Centers
- 7. Aldermen Announcements**

None
- 8. Mayor's Announcements**

Mayor Campbell announced that the written answers from EG AI would be available. Just come in and fill out an open records request.

## **9. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of minutes – Council Meeting June 11, 2026
  - b. Approval of financial report – Financial Report June 2026
  - c. Administrative Reports – June 2026 Reports: Police Department, Volunteer Fire Department, Municipal Court, Public Works, Finance and Administration
- Motion to approve consent agenda made by Mike Butler and seconded by Troy Foreman.
- Ayes: Mike Butler, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley.
- Nays: None
- Motion Passed

## **10. New Business**

**The Rice City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed in this agenda, as authorized by Texas Local Government Code Section 551.041 (Consultation with City Attorney).**

- a. Discuss, consider and possible action to fill a vacancy on the City Council, including appointment of a qualified individual to serve the unexpired term of position created by the resignation of Councilmember Roberts, in accordance with Texas Local Government Code 22.010.

Alderman Mike Butler nominated Neil Chapman.

Motion to accept as Alderman for the vacant position, Neil Chapman, was made by Mike Butler, and seconded by Ann Smith.

Ayes; Mike Butler, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- b. Administration of Oath of Office – Administer the official oath of office to newly appointed municipal officers in accordance with Texas Constitution, Article XVI, Section 1, and Texas Local Government Code Section 22.005.

Mayor Campbell administered the Oath of Office to Neil Chapman.

- c. Deliberate and act on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rice, Navarro County, State of Texas authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services at Harmony Bank,

including the following accounts: City of Rice Checking Account and City of Rice Savings Account.

Motion to approve Resolution #04-2026-07 approving the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Administrator, and Finance clerk as designated official signatures for the City of Rice Checking account and City of Rice Savings Account at Harmony Bank made by Ann Smith and seconded by Mike Butler.

Ayes: Ann Smith, Mike Butler, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman, Neil Chapman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- d. Deliberate and act on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rice, Navarro County, State of Texas authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services at Harmony Bank specific to the Police Seizure Account.

Motion to approve the Resolution # 05-2026-07 approving the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Administrator, Finance Clerk as well as Charles Parson whose signature must appear along with one of the others on the Seizure account at Harmony Bank made by Mike Butler, and seconded Sarah Farley.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Sarah Farley, Ann Smith, Neil Chapman, Troy Foreman

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

- e. Deliberate and act on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rice, Navarro County, State of Texas authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services at Harmony Bank specific to the Rice Municipal Court Account(s).

Motion to approve Resolution # 06-2026-07 approving the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Administrator, Finance Clerk as well as Mechelle Haston whose signature must appear along with one of the others on the Municipal Court account at Harmony Bank made by Mike Butler and seconded by Sarah Farley.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, Neil Chapman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- f. Deliberate and act on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rice, Navarro County, State of Texas authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services at Harmony Bank specific to the Rice Economic Development Corporation Account(s).



Motion to approve Resolution #07-2026-07 authorizing City Administrator, and the President of EDC as the designated signatures of the Economic Development Checking account at Harmony Bank made by Mike Butler and seconded by Troy Foreman.

Ayes; Mike Butler, Troy Foreman, Neil Chapman, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- g. Deliberate and act on Resolution #08-2026-07 of the City Council of the City of Rice, Navarro County, State of Texas authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services in the TexPool Investment Pools.

Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing and designating the official signatures of the City of Rice for banking and depository services in the TexPool as, Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Administrator, and Finance Clerk, made by Mike Butler, and seconded by Ann Smith.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Ann Smith, Troy Foreman, Sarah Farley Neil Chapman

Nay: None

Motion Passed

- h. Discuss, consider and possible action regarding the approval of annual contract for employee health insurance benefits with Texas Health Benefits Pool for FY 2027 and authorize City Administrator to enter into contracts with approved providers for the provisions of such.

Motion to approve Option 2 which increases the deductible from \$1,000 to \$1,500 with a HRA card of \$500.00 per employee made by Mike Butler and seconded by Sarah Farley.

Ayes: Mike Butler, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman, Neil Chapman, Ann Smith

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- i. Discuss and possible action to approve additional compensation for employees who assumed extra duties and responsibilities during the absence of a City Administrator.

Motion to approve additional compensation in the amount of \$500. per month for six months not to exceed \$3000.00 paid as a onetime payment for Police Chief Charles Parson and Finance Clerk Sharon Watkins made by Ann Smith and seconded by Mike Butler.

Ayes: Ann Smith, Mike Butler, Sarah Farley, Troy Foreman, Neil Chapman

Nays: None

Motion Passed

- j. Consider and take possible action to declare certain municipal property as surplus and authorize disposal through public auction or other methods in accordance with Texas Local Government Code.

Motion to approve Resolution #09-2026-07 made by Mike Butler and seconded by Troy Foreman.

Ayes; Mike Butler, Troy Foreman, Ann Smith, Sarah Farley, Neil Chapman

Nays; None

Motion Passed

**11. Executive Session – In accordance with Texas Local Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq.**

Recess into Closed Session: No Closed Session

Reconvene into Open Session

**12. Action taken, if any, from Executive Session.**

**13. Adjournment: Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 6:36 pm**

Attested:

Tonya Roberts 8-13-2026

Tonya Roberts, City Secretary

Date

