



City of West Orange

City Hall
2700 Western Avenue
West Orange, TX 77630

City Council
Regular Session
Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 13, 2026	5:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Meritta Kennedy	Gail Langton	Jay Odom
Michael Shugart, Sr.	Lanie Brown	

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:
Randy Branch

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Jon Sherwin	Mike Stelly	Theresa Van Meter
Christopher Leavins	Simmie Gibson	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Angela Hudson	Erica Thibo	Julius Johnson
Crystal Bates	Alan Bates	Tremaine Wilson

Call to Order

Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Council Member Shugart gave the invocation followed by the Mayor Pro-Tem leading the Pledges of Allegiance to both the United States and Texas flags.

Consent Agenda

Discussion and Possible Action on approval of the minutes of the June 8, 2026 Council Meeting – A motion was made by Council Member Brown to accept the June 8, 2026 minutes as presented. This motion received a second from Council Member Langton. A vote was cast, with motion passing unanimously.

Staff Reports

Public Works – Jon Sherwin

Mr. Sherwin reported the following activities for the month of June, 2026:

- **Construction Projects**
 - Waste Water Treatment Plant construction is 85% complete and on schedule.
 - Burnett Street railroad crossing expected to be scheduled at the end of July; will involve road closure/detour during that time.
- **Building Official**
 - 17 permits issued
 - 22 permits completed
- **Sanitation**
 - 11 loads of green waste collected
 - 0 loads of C&D to landfill
- **Animal Control**
 - 76 calls
 - 20 intakes
 - 0 claimed / 1 adopted / 16 rescued
- **Street**
 - Patching of Streets and driveways
 - Cleaning ditches
- **Parks**
 - Litter and vegetative waste removal
 - Mowing

- **Shop**

- Normal repairs and maintenance of City assets
- Monthly 30-for-30 – all Police and Fire Vehicles in good working condition
- FD 10 continues to be in service since starter was replaced in February

Police Department – Michael Stelly

Mr. Stelly reported the following activities for the month of June, 2026

- Traffic contacts: 143
- Crashes reported: 3
- Arrests: 21
- Reports: 30
- Calls for service: 369
- Miles driven: 9,077

Code Enforcement

Violations Investigated: 70

Violations filed w/Court: 3

Fire Department –Asst. Chief Simmie Gibson

Asst. Chief Gibson reported the following activities for the month of June, 2026

- Outside fire: 1
- EMS call: 4
- Vicinity alarm: 1
- Alarm malfunction: 2

General Administration –City Secretary Theresa Van Meter

Mrs. Van Meter reported that registration packets for vendors in last year's Holiday in the Park festival have been mailed out. These vendors will have until 5:00, Friday, July 31, 2026 to reserve the same space(s) they had last year. Booths will then be open to the general public at 8:00 a.m., Monday, August 3, 2026.

She also reported that the date of this year's festival has been moved up, as there were so many other events scheduled for the first Saturday in November. The 2026 festival will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026. The Car Show is also scheduled to return this year.

Regular Session

Discussion and Possible Action on a request from Travis Rost for a variance to Ordinance No. 205-A, to allow for an outdoor public burn at 2714 South Avenue – After some discussion, a motion was made by Council Member Odom to allow Mr. Rost to burn, pending a note from his daughter authorizing him to burn on her property, and further limiting said burn be conducted with drip torch with propane. Council Member Langton seconded this motion. A vote was then cast, with the motion passing unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on a request for a variance to Ordinance No. 425-D from Angela Hudson and Naeem Khan regarding the number of hours game room (Henrietta Street) can be open and number of gaming machines allowed on premises – Council Member Brown made a motion to approve Ms. Hudson and Mr. Khan's variance requests, as follows:

- To increase limit on number of machines by five, to total no more than 20 machines;
- To allow gaming in said business only between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.

A second to this motion was made by Council Member Shugart. With there being no discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy called for a vote. The motion passed by majority vote with Council Members Brown, Shugart, Langton and Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy voting for, while Council Member Odom voted against.

Discussion and Possible Action on approving the recommendation of the Selection Review Committee to award, by resolution, a contract with Traylor & Associates, Inc. for administrative services pertaining to the application and implementation, if awarded, of the City's 2027-2028 Texas Community Development Block Grant Program – Community Development Fund (TxCDBG-CD) grant of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and authorizing the execution of a contract – A motion was made by Council Member Brown to

approve the recommendation and pass the resolution, to contract with Traylor & Associates, Inc. for administrative services pertaining to the application and implementation, if awarded, of the City's 2027-2028 Texas Community Development Block Grant Program – Community Development Fund (TxCDBG-CD) grant of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and authorizing the execution of a contract. Council Member Langton seconded this motion. With there being no discussion, a vote was cast, with the motion passing unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on subdivision of 16 ABST.16 STEPHEN JETT, TRACT 063, ACRES 4.119 (R13757) – Mr. Sherwin explained that this subdivision would divide the land from one parcel into two. However, since adding this to the agenda, Mr. Sherwin explained that it has come to his attention that this subdivision may have already been done – years ago. If that is the case, this motion is unnecessary. In the event that it has not already been subdivided, Council Member Brown made a motion to approve this request. Council Member Odom seconded her motion. A vote was cast; motion carried.

Announcements

Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy then announced that the next Council Meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2026; 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Shugart reminded everyone that a Special Meeting has been called for Monday, July 20, 2026, to include a public hearing.

Adjournment

With there being no further business before Council, Mayor Pro-Tem Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

R R Branch

Randy Branch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Theresa Van Meter

Theresa Van Meter, City Secretary

