



Town of Poetry, Texas
Minutes
Workshop & Regular Town Council Meeting
Thursday, June 18, 2026
Poetry Town Hall
5671 County Road 323, Poetry Texas 75160
5:30pm



STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF KAUFMAN AND HUNT
TOWN OF POETRY, TEXAS

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS DAY OF THE 18th of June 2026 at 5:30pm, the Town Council of Poetry, Texas, held a Workshop and Regular Town Council Meeting at Poetry Town Hall, 5671 County Road 323, Poetry, Texas 75160.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Mike Jaffe called the public meeting to order at 5:30pm. Roll call was taken by Mayor Jaffe. Present were: Mayor Mike Jaffe, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Fowler, Council Members: Tom Anderson, Dale Bryant, Tracie Hibbs, and Doug Kendrick. No Council Members were absent. The Mayor announced a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Pro Tem Fowler
Invocation: Mayor Pro Tem Fowler

The Mayor opened the Workshop at 5:33pm.

B. Workshop Agenda

1. The Council and Mayor discussed various items and updates for the fiscal year 2026-2027 Budget (October 1, 2026 - Sept. 30, 2027). Councilmember Bryant discussed the possibility of making adjustments to the semicircles on the Town's map to save money spent on map adjustments and surveys conducted by the engineering firm. The surveys would be less expensive if the semicircles were eliminated. Councilmember Hibbs encouraged citizens to reach out to Councilmembers to give their input into the budget process. ***This was a discussion only. No vote was taken.***

Citizens Speaking on this Workshop item:

- Shelley Smith, Poetry
- Candy Fletcher, Poetry
- Adam Lee, Poetry

2. The Mayor and Council discussed various topics being deliberated by the Citizen Zoning Advisory Committee. The Committee has been discussing possible updates to our current zoning ordinance. The Mayor invited the citizens to attend the Citizen Zoning Advisory Committee meetings or email comments to the Councilmembers.
This was a discussion only. No vote was taken.

Citizens Speaking on this Workshop item:

- None

Mayor Jaffe closed the Workshop at 6:45pm.

Mayor Jaffe recessed for a break at 6:45pm.

Mayor Jaffe opened the Regular Meeting at 6:49pm.

C. Items of Community Interest – 6:49pm

Pursuant to Section 551.0415 of the Texas Government Code, the Town Council may report on the following items: 1) expression of thanks, congratulations, or condolences; 2) information about holiday schedules; 3) recognition of individuals; 4) reminders upcoming Town Council events; 5) about community events, and 6) announcements involving an imminent threat to public health and safety.

1. The Mayor announced that the Town is still accepting donations for the Town of Poetry 4th Annual Agricultural Student Scholarship. Applications for the scholarship were due June 4, 2026, and the Mayor did not know if any applications were received.
2. The Mayor announced there will be a Poetry Community Picnic on Saturday, June 27, 2026 at Campground Cemetery Pavillion located at FM 986 and CR2326.
3. The Bingo Night at Poetry Community Christian School has been cancelled.
4. The Mayor thanked Hunt and Kaufman Counties for their continued help with our road maintenance through our interlocal agreements.

D. Reports – 6:50pm

1. Financial Reports – Mayor Jaffe discussed an issue with a citizen cashing an old check from 2022 and the process of the bank correcting their error.
 - a. P&L Budget vs Actual - May 2026
 - b. Account Quick Reports 6011, 6012, 6111, 6112 – May 2026
 - c. Bank Reconciliation Summary & Detail – May 2026
 - d. Bank Reconciliation Petty Cash – May 2026
 - e. Sales & Use Tax Report – May 2026
 - f. Hunt & Kaufman County Roads Escrow Reports – May 2026
2. The Mayor provided an update on the topics of roads and traffic.
3. Mayor & Councilmember Activity Updates:

- Councilmember Anderson provided an update regarding his recent attendance at the COG General Meeting.
- Councilmember Bryant provided an update on the signage project with Hunt County and Kaufman County.
- Mayor Jaffe advised citizens to use caution at the intersection of 1565 and 276 as well as the intersection of 986 and 3486.

E. Consent Agenda – 6:58pm

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, not likely to require discussion or deliberation and may be approved in a single motion. If discussion is desired, items may be removed from the Consent Agenda for individual discussion by any Councilmember prior to the motion and vote.

1. Approved Minutes – May 21, 2026, Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing, Workshop & Regular Town Council Meeting
2. Approved Minutes – May 30, 2026, Executive Session & Special Town Council Meeting
3. Approved Nichols Jackson legal invoice - \$1,021.25
4. Approved Hunt County Elections invoice for November 2026 Election to renew 1.5% sales tax - \$758.14

Motion made by Councilmember Hibbs to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion seconded by: Councilmember Anderson

All in Favor: Anderson, Bryant, Fowler, Hibbs, Kendrick

All Opposed: none

Abstain: none

Result: Passed 5-0

F. Regular Agenda – 6:59pm

1. The Mayor requested a nomination for the Mayor Pro Tem position. The Mayor Pro Tem position is approximately 12 months and is chosen by a majority vote of the Council.

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- None

Motion made by Councilmember Hibbs to nominate Terry Fowler for Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion seconded by: Councilmember Bryant

All in Favor: Anderson, Bryant, Fowler, Hibbs, Kendrick

All Opposed: none

Abstain: none

Result: Passed 5-0

2. The Mayor and Council discussed and took action on the Master Fee Schedule Ordinance.

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- None

Motion made by Councilmember Hibbs to approve the Master Fee Schedule Ordinance.

Motion seconded by: Councilmember Anderson

All in Favor: Anderson, Bryant, Fowler, Hibbs, Kendrick

All Opposed: none

Abstain: none

Result: Passed 5-0

3. The Mayor and Council discussed and took action on proceeding with a Citizen Survey to gather input for a long-range plan for the Town. Mayor Pro Tem Fowler proposed having a Town Hall style meeting to be able to educate the citizens and discuss the questions involved with the survey and long-term planning for the Town. Councilmember Anderson suggested that no Councilmembers be involved with the counting of the surveys. Councilmember Anderson proposed all the counting of surveys be handled by Deputy Secretary Lora Lehew and that she should retain all of the records involved. Councilmember Anderson also proposed that Deputy Secretary Lehew handle all of the tabulation and presentation of the results to the Council for reasons of transparency. It was discussed for the survey to begin on July 1, 2026, and to schedule a Town Hall style meeting in July. Details of the survey rollout and specifics regarding the logistics of executing the survey will be handled by Mayor Pro Tem Fowler, Councilmember Bryant, and Deputy Secretary Lehew. The Mayor approved purchasing signs to advertise the survey.

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- Shelley Smith, Poetry

Motion made by Councilmember Bryant to approve the survey as it is.

Motion seconded by: Councilmember Hibbs

All in Favor: Anderson, Bryant, Fowler, Hibbs, Kendrick

All Opposed: none

Abstain: none

Result: Passed 5-0

4. The Mayor and Council discussed Ordinance 2024-04-01 that was passed on April 18, 2024 regarding restricting ad valorem taxes. ***This was a discussion only. No vote was taken.***

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- Candy Fletcher, Poetry
- Brian Vinson, Poetry
- Jonathan Blake, Poetry
- Barbara Hendricks, Poetry
- Shelley Smith, Poetry
- Blake Kreck, Poetry

5. The Mayor and Council discussed the road and culvert repair and maintenance strategy of the Town. Mayor Jaffe will start providing the updated spreadsheet of completed roadwork to the Council every month with the financial reports. ***This was a discussion only. No vote was taken.***

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- Mike Griffin, Poetry

6. The Mayor and Council discussed and took action on adding \$10,000 to the Hunt County roads escrow account.

Citizens Speaking on this topic:

- None

Motion made by Councilmember Anderson to approve adding \$10,000 to the Hunt County roads escrow account.

Motion seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Fowler

All in Favor: Anderson, Bryant, Fowler, Hibbs, Kendrick

All Opposed: none

Abstain: none

Result: Passed 5-0

G. General Public Comments

Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. If a translator is needed, the speaker may be given up to four (4) minutes. Sign up is required in advance either in-person prior to the start of the meeting or by emailing your comments to speak@poetrytexas.org at least 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting. The Texas Open Meetings Act restricts council members from discussing items not posted on the agenda. Action or responses to your remarks by council members (if not a posted agenda item) are limited to either a statement of fact or recitation of an existing policy or a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting.

Citizens Speaking on General Public Comments:

- None

H. Adjournment

The Town Council meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

I certify that the minutes of June 18, 2026 were voted and approved by the Council of the Town of Poetry on this 16th day of July, 2026.



Mike Jaffe, Mayor
Town of Poetry, Texas

ATTEST:



Lora Lehew, Deputy Secretary
Town of Poetry, Texas

