

MINUTES OF A STUDY SESSION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS, HELD AT TOWN HALL, 4700 DREXEL DRIVE, HIGHLAND PARK, TX, 75205, AT 8:29 A.M. ON TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025.

Mayor Will C. Beecherl, Mayor Pro Tem Don Snell, and Council Members Alan Friedman, Marc Myers, and Leland White attended the meeting. Council Member Lydia Novakov was absent.

I. Mayor Will C. Beecherl called the meeting to order at 8:29 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Beecherl asked if anyone wished to address the Town Council about any item listed on the agenda and explained that the Town Council may not discuss or make decisions on items not listed on the agenda. Public comments are limited to three minutes per speaker unless otherwise required by law. Items suggested for action may be placed on a future agenda at the Town Council's discretion. There was no comment.

III. FUTURE AGENDA DISCUSSION

A. Review, discuss, and consider the opportunity for a Town Council Member to request an item to be placed on a future Town Council meeting agenda. Mayor Beecherl asked if any Town Council Member would like to request that an item be placed on a future Town Council study session agenda for discussion or consideration. There was no comment.

IV. REPORTS

A. Review and discuss Legislative Update - 89th Texas Legislature. Chelsey Gordon, Director of Policy Development and Strategic Initiatives, explained that on December 3, 2024, the Town Council approved the Town's legislative priorities for the 89th Legislative Session. The 89th Legislature began on January 14, 2025, with bill filing beginning on November 11, 2024, and ending on March 14, 2025. Since that time, Town staff have continued to monitor and analyze proposed legislation as it relates to the Town's legislative priorities and operations. The session officially ended on June 2, 2025. A total of 9,014 bills and joint resolutions were filed during this session, with 2,189 bills directly relating to municipalities. Ms. Gordon reviewed and answered questions from the Town Council regarding the bills that were successful in the session and had an impact on current operations, as well as those that were unsuccessful. Although unsuccessful, these bills indicate trends observed in this session and are likely to be seen in upcoming legislative sessions. Staff will continue to monitor this special session and provide updates to the Town Council as it progresses.

B. Review and discuss the Proposed Budget and Plan of Municipal Services for Fiscal Year 2025-26. John Samford, Director of Finance, stated that per the Town Charter, each year, the Town Administrator is required to submit a proposed budget for the ensuing fiscal year no later than 30 days before the end of the current fiscal year to the Town Council for its review, consideration, and revision if desired. Additionally, the Town Council shall call public hearings on the budget. The Town Council may adopt the budget with or without amendment. In amending the budget, the Town Council may add or increase programs or amounts and may delete or decrease any programs or amounts, except expenditures required by law, debt service, or to cover estimated cash deficit,

provided that no amendment to the budget shall increase the authorized expenditures to an amount greater than the total of estimated income plus funds available from prior years. The budget ultimately adopted by the Town Council must set forth the appropriations for services, functions, and activities of the various Town departments and agencies, and shall meet all fund requirements provided by law. Mr. Samford presented highlights of the proposed budget, including revenues, expenditures, and the Capital Improvement Plan. The Mayor and Town Council Members discussed various items and allocations within the proposed budget. Their inquiries focused on ensuring transparency and understanding of departmental expenditures and projected revenues.

CLOSED SESSION

A. In accordance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 – REAL ESTATE – the Town Council will convene into closed session to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.

The Town Council did not go into closed session.

OPEN SESSION

A. Pursuant to Section 551.102 of the Texas Government Code, the final action, decision, or vote regarding Closed Session Item A. above, shall be made, if any. No motion was made. The Town Council did not go into closed session.

Mayor Beecherl adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

APPROVED on the 5th day of August 2025.

APPROVED:



Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

ATTEST:



Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary