

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 8:50 A.M. ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025.

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

I. Mayor Will C. Beecherl called the meeting to order at 8:40 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. Council Member Leland White requested a discussion of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit System.

B. Review and discuss the 2026 Town Council meeting schedule. Joanna Mekeal, T.R.M.C., Town Secretary, explained that this is an opportunity to review and discuss the 2026 meeting schedule. Section 2.09 of the Town Charter requires at least one regular Town Council meeting each month. In addition, the Town Charter provides that the Town Council may schedule other meetings as desired. Currently, the Town Council schedules its regular Town Council meeting at 8:00 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Town Council Chambers. Once the Town Council meeting adjourns, the study session immediately follows in the Executive Conference Room for discussion, review of future agenda items, and staff reports. Due to the holidays, the Town Council historically schedules only the first Tuesday meeting in November and December. Highland Park Independent School District has spring break scheduled for March 16th through the 20th, 2026. This is the third week of the month, and historically, the Town Council has not scheduled a meeting during spring break. Council Member Novakov inquired whether other Independent School Districts ("ISD") in the Dallas area have the same spring break schedule. Mrs. Mekeal confirmed that she will research other ISDs and that this item will be returned for approval at the December 2, 2025, Town Council Meeting.

IV. REPORTS

A. Review and discuss updates to the International Code Council family of codes and the National Electric Code, including local amendments. Jeff Armstrong, A.I.C.P., Director of Community Development, explained that every three years, the International Code Council

("ICC") and the National Electric Code ("NEC") update their various building codes. Cherish Nieto, Chief Building Official, explained the various building codes updates, including the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Plumbing Code, and International Mechanical Code. The updates include new practices, materials, and enhancements to health and safety. In addition, updated codes help maintain the Town's Insurance Services Office ("ISO") rating. The new codes to be adopted are the 2024 ICC and the 2023 NEC, along with local amendments. With each new code update, Highland Park adopts local amendments to the NEC and ICC codes. The North Central Texas Council of Governments ("COG") releases model amendments that local area governments can adopt. Historically, the Town has adopted many of the recommended COG amendments and adopted several amendments unique to Highland Park. Mrs. Nieto presented the proposed changes to the local amendments for the 2024 ICC and 2023 NEC codes, with particular attention to the local amendments. Town staff scheduled the new codes, with amendments, for approval on the December 2, 2025, Town Council agenda, with the new codes to be effective January 1, 2026. A meeting with the Builders Committee was held to gather input, and an additional meeting with other builders and contractors will be held in early November to share information and receive feedback on the proposed updates.

B. Review and discuss revisions to the Highland Park Library's Material Selection Policy. Kortney Nelson, M.L.S., Town Librarian, explained that the Highland Park Library's ("Library") Material Selection Policy is a foundational document that guides the development and maintenance of numerous collections in multiple formats. As the community and information environments continue to evolve, the Library's policies require revision and reassessment. The Town Council last reviewed and revised the policy in August 2002. The proposed revisions are intended to: incorporate the Library's Mission and Guiding Principles, established as part of the Library's strategic planning process; adapt to new material formats and modes of content delivery, such as digital and streaming media; clarify and update the specific criteria for material selection and the process for reconsideration of materials; and restructure the handling of gifts and donations of materials. The main goals of the policy remain to create collections that serve the community's information needs, ensure the most responsible and effective use of public funds, support intellectual freedom, and uphold the right of all individuals to access information from a wide range of viewpoints and sources. This item is scheduled for approval at the December 2, 2025, Town Council Meeting.

V. 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.

Mayor Beecherl recessed the study session at 9:25 a.m. and convened a closed session at 9:25 a.m., pursuant to: (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.

Mayor Beecherl ended the closed session at 9:29 a.m. and reconvened the study session in open session at 9:29 a.m. No final action, decision, or vote was taken during the closed session.

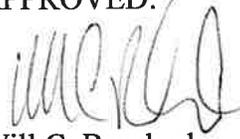
VI. OPEN SESSION

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.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Beecherl adjourned the Study Session at 9:30 a.m.

APPROVED on the 2nd day of December 2025.

APPROVED:



Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

ATTEST:



Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary