RUSK CITY COUNCIL
MARTHA NEELY, MAYOR

JIM BEINDORF, DISTRICT 1
MAXINE SESSION, MAYOR PRO TEM & DISTRICT 2
YASH ASARSA, DISTRICT 3
EARL DOMINY, DISTRICT 4
CHUCKY PATE, DISTRICT 5

CITY ADMINISTRATION
THOMAS THOMPSON, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
PAM TYER, INTERIM CITY SECRETARY
ANTHONY KING, CITY ATTORNEY

CITY OF RUSK

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

RUSK COUNCIL CHAMBERS
116 EAST 5TH STREET, SUITE B,
RUSK, TEXAS 75785

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2026, AT 5:30 PM

REGULAR MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
   Mayor Martha Neely will call the meeting to order. The Interim City Secretary will call the roll, and the mayor will announce whether a quorum of the City Council is present.

2. **INVOCATION**

3. **PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE**
   Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and Pledge to the Texas Flag.
   Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 3100.101.

4. MAYOR COMMENTS

   Comments and updates from the Mayor. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY COUNCIL MAY NOT DISCUSS OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM WHICH HAS NOT BEEN POSTED ON THE AGENDA.
   Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 551.0415.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   Members of the public may address the City Council on any matter of City business, including any item listed on this agenda. **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY COUNCIL MAY NOT DISCUSS OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM WHICH HAS NOT BEEN POSTED ON THE AGENDA**, the Council may propose that the subject be placed on a future agenda.. Speakers are asked to complete a speaker card and give it to the Interim City Secretary before the meeting is called to order. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.
   Authority: Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.007, 551.042. City of Rusk Code of Ordinances §42.11

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**: None

7. **REVIEW OF NEW MEETING MINUTES AND AGENDA FORMAT**
   Discuss, consider, and provide feedback and direction to staff regarding the proposed new reporting style and structure of City of Rusk City Council meeting minutes and the proposed new layout of City

Council meeting agendas, including the item descriptions, statutory authority references, and standard notices used in this agenda.

8. ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

Presentation, discussion, and possible action to accept the City of Rusk Annual Financial Report and Independent Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, as presented by Louis Breedlove, CPA, BrooksWatson & Co, PLLC, independent auditor.
Authority: Tex. Loc. Gov't Code § 103.001.

9. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Presentation, discussion, and possible action to accept the City of Rusk monthly financial report for the period ending October 31, 2026, including revenues, expenditures, and cash and investment balances, as presented by Anita Woodlee-Roach & Associates, CPA.

10. DESIGNATION OF ACTING CITY MANAGER

Discuss, consider, and take possible action regarding the designation of an Acting City Manager, as recommended by Interim City Manager Thomas Thompson, to perform the duties of the City Manager during the absence or disability of the Interim City Manager, in accordance with the City of Rusk Home Rule Charter Article IV, Section 4.

11. PROPOSED RENAMING OF LONE OAK STREET TO JAMES PERKINS STREET

Discuss, consider, and take possible action regarding a proposal to rename Lone Oak Street to James Perkins Street, including direction to staff to notify affected property owners and emergency service providers, schedule a public hearing, and prepare an ordinance for future consideration by the City Council.
Authority: Tex. Transp. Code § 311.001.

12. APPOINTMENT TO THE RUSK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Discuss, consider, and take possible action to appoint a director to the Rusk Economic Development Corporation (REDC) Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Johnny Williams, for the remainder of the unexpired term ending 2027 FYE.
Authority: Tex. Loc. Gov't Code §§ 505.051, 505.052.

13. REDC EXPENDITURE: SURVEY OF RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR SOUTHERN PINE LOCOMOTIVE

Discuss, consider, and take possible action on a resolution first reading approving an expenditure by the Rusk Economic Development Corporation of up to $15,000 to reimburse the cost of surveying the railroad right-of-way parcels proposed for conveyance from the City of Rusk to Southern Pine Locomotive, as approved by the REDC Board of Directors on November 3, 2026.
Authority: Tex. Loc. Gov't Code §§ 501.073(a) , [505.158(b)].

14. WORKFORCE INFILL NEW HOUSING PROGRAM

Discuss, consider, and take possible action on the first reading of a resolution approving an expenditure by the Rusk Economic Development Corporation (REDC) for a Workforce Infill Housing Program. The program budget is $180,000 maximum for fiscal year 2026-2027. Under the program, REDC would reimburse a builder or developer $10,000 or $15,000 for each qualifying new home that is built and sold within the Rusk city limits, according to the program guidelines.
Authority: Tex. Loc. Gov't Code §§ 505.158.

15. RUSK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT

Report from the REDC Executive Director on current REDC activities. This item is for information only. No action will be taken.

16. POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATION IN DHS 287(G) TASK FORCE MODEL PROGRAM

Discuss, consider, and take possible action to approve the City of Rusk Police Department's participation in the United States Department of Homeland Security 287(g) Task Force Model Program, including authorization for the Chief of Police to apply for participation, execute the Memorandum of Agreement and related documents, and administer and implement the program, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

Authority: 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g).

17. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF VALLEY VIEW: SALE OF CITY TAHOE VEHICLES

Discuss, consider, and take possible action on an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Valley View concerning the sale of the City's 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe vehicles 1GNLCDEC9LR290910 and 1GNLCDECXLR281519, and authorize the Mayor, Interim City Manager, or other authorized official to execute the agreement and related documents.

Authority: Interlocal Cooperation Act, Tex. Gov't Code ch. 791.

18. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Report from the Chief of Police on Police Department activities for October 2026, including calls for service, arrests, citations, and staffing. This item is for information only. No action will be taken.

19. ORDINANCE: EMPLOYEE GRANT ACQUISITION INCENTIVE PAY PROGRAM

Discuss, consider, and take possible action to approve an ordinance establishing an Employee Grant Acquisition Incentive Pay Program to reward City employees for successfully obtaining grant funding that benefits the City of Rusk.

Authority: Tex. Const. art. III, § 53.

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will convene in a closed executive session under the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, to deliberate the following matters:

a. Consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation and claims involving Scott Heagney and Derek Jackson, and potential claims involving former employees.
Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 551.071.

b. Deliberation regarding the, employment of Finance Position and review city manager applications.
Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 551.074.

c. Deliberation regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, and terms of employment, including accrued vacation leave, of the Interim City Secretary.
Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 551.074.

d. Consultation and deliberation regarding the Police Department's organizational structure and personnel matters, including the proposed organization chart and job descriptions, and the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, compensation, discipline, or dismissal of Police Department officers or employees.
Authority: Tex. Gov't Code § 551.074.

21. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

Reconvene into open session and discuss, consider, and take possible action on any matter deliberated in executive session under Items 19(a) through 19(d).

Authority: Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.101, 551.102.

22. ADJOURNMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE

The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during this meeting to deliberate any item listed on this agenda, that qualifies for an executive session as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits), and 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations). Any final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in executive session will be taken in open session.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Rusk Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are asked to contact the City Secretary's office at (903) 683-2213 at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I, the undersigned authority, certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at Rusk City Hall, 108 East 5th Street, Rusk, Texas 75785, a place readily accessible to the general public at all times, and on the City of Rusk website, www.rusktx.org, before Friday, November 6, 2026 at 11:59PM, at least three (3) business days before the scheduled date of the meeting, in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Pam Tyer, Interim City Secretary
City of Rusk, Texas