

NOVEMBER 24, 2025

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025, IN THE HELEN KLEBERG GROVES COMMUNITY ROOM, 400 WEST KING AVENUE, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS, AT 5:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R. Fugate, Mayor
Edna Lopez, Commissioner
Norma Alvarez, Commissioner
Hector Hinojosa, Commissioner
Leo Alarcon, Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Charlie Sosa, Interim City Manager
Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Kyle Benson, IT Director
Derek Williams, Systems Administrator
Diana Gonzales, Human Resources Director
Leticia Salinas, Accounting Manager
Monika Donnell, Municipal Court Supervisor
Susan Ivy, Parks Director
Manny Salazar, Economic Development Manager
Charlie Cardena, Engineer
James Creek, Captain
Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief
Emilio Garica, Health Director
John Blair, Police Chief
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
Erik Spitzer, Director of Planning and Development Services

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with all five commission members present.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

The invocation was delivered by Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting – October 14, 2025

Special Meeting – October 22, 2025

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of October 14, 2025 and October 22, 2025 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting “FOR”.

II. Public Hearing - (Required by Law).¹

None.

III. Reports from Commission & Staff.²

“At this time, the City Commission and Staff will report/update on all committee assignments which may include but is not limited to the following: Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Historical Board, Housing Authority Board, Library Board, Health Board, Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Conner Museum, Keep Kingsville Beautiful, and Texas Municipal League. Staff reports include the following: Building & Development, Code Enforcement, Proposed Development Report; Accounting & Finance – Financial Services - Information, Investment Report, Quarterly Budget Report, Monthly Financial Reports; Police & Fire Department – Grant Update, Police & Fire Reports; Street Updates; Public Works-Building Maintenance, Construction Updates; Park Services - grant(s) update, miscellaneous park projects, Administration –Workshop Schedule, Interlocal Agreements, Public Information, Hotel Occupancy Report, Quiet Zone, Proclamations, Health Plan Update, Tax Increment Zone Presentation, Main Street Downtown, Chapter 59 project, Financial Advisor, Water And Wastewater Rate Study Presentation. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time.”

Mr. Charlie Sosa, City Manager, gave an update on street projects. He further announced that city office will be closed after 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2025. Mr. Sosa further reported that the city had received the residential garbage truck. Mr. Sosa thanked the Tourism staff for the work on this past weekend's festivities.

Commissioner Lopez commented to Mr. Sosa that she had received word that the lights on the Christmas tree located downtown were not working. Mr. Sosa responded that staff was already looking into it.

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, announced that the next city commission meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2025. The meeting after December 8th would be scheduled for January 12, 2026. The deadline for staff to submit their agenda items for January 12th is December 29, 2025. Ms. Alvarez further commented that any calls to or from her office between staff and the commission should be considered attorney/client communications and would be privileged, and so those phone calls, even though they are on recording lines, should not be listened to by anyone, unless you get her permission first or you have a court order.

Commissioner Alvarez thanked the Tourism staff and the Public Works staff for their work on this past weekend's festivities. Alvarez further commented that, as for agenda item #15, she thinks that when it comes to the school district, county, and University, it really needs to be considered, allowing the City Manager to have authority to make the determination to waive permits without commission approval. Alvarez further stated that, as it came to her attention, the previous city manager waived a lot of the fees for the county when they were building over at the coliseum. She further commented that she doesn't know why it now needs to come before the commission. These are public entities, non-profit, and especially if anyone attended the State of the University event where the President of the University gave a presentation and spoke about this technology workforce program, and the county is nice enough to allow them the use of facilities, and so some of this is going to be for them and helps all of us. She further stated that the Judge also allows the Chief of Police to use the facilities for training and doesn't charge us for the facilities. She stated that she thinks it's great for all to work together and continue and try to do that.

Mayor Fugate stated that he would like a list of the times that the past city managers have waived any fees, as he was not made aware of that. Fugate stated that the only one he recalls is when he brought the paving of the JK Northway Parking Lot to the commission, which was kind of controversial at the time. This is the only one he can recall, and it did come to the commission. He further stated that instead of it being generality, he would like to see a list of county projects that the city has waived.

Commissioner Lopez read and presented a proclamation to the Fire Fighters for Fire Engine 1, as referred to Old #1.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

1. Comments on all agenda and non-agenda items.

Elizabeth Ramos, 615 Elizabeth, commented that she has so many things to talk about, but unfortunately, she only has three minutes. She stated that she is only going to state after hearing the commission in open session about the lovely job on the tree lighting for the Ranchhand Weekend. She stated that unfortunately, she tends to disagree. She gives credit when credit is due as she has come here and given credit when it is due, but it is not due this time. The tree lighting, the reason people come here is because of the train. So having the train go by is pretty darn awesome, especially for kids. Ramos further stated that this is small potatoes comparison to the lack of participation and people who came here this weekend, that is a problem. She stated that you usually see people in their cars on Facebook saying that they will have to wait an hour and a half to get on King Ranch to get their breakfast. People are cruising down the road at 30 mph with no one there and that is an issue. She is pretty sure that the King Ranch is not happy about the numbers that are there. She stated that she barely saw any advertisements in Corpus, Alice, McAllen, Brownsville, or Harlingen, which is probably the problem. Nobody knew about it. She stated that she has been cruising up and down the streets often, and she looks and sees no advertisement for La Posada; there is only one advertisement. There are two weeks to La Posada, and there is no advertisement. There is probably no advertisement in Corpus, Alice, or down in Brownsville. The city is not getting the numbers it got last year, not even half of them, the way it's going. Ramos stated that she wouldn't congratulate anyone on a job well not done as far as she is concerned. She believes there is a massive learning curve and it's unfortunate that the people who are going to report on it, like the outstanding, wonderful not lying Kingsville Record is going to say it's great. It's all relative, we are all related to someone here, so why would the Kingsville Record put anything negative about their relative in the newspaper? Ramos stated that she is here to tell the truth. She further commented that the commission can talk about the waiving of permits, that discussion here says that they are allowed to have it. She stated that you are not allowed to talk about permitting, but this guy up there can talk about anybody he wants in the community without them being on the agenda and sit here and set their claims. She commented that you can't throw people's private names all over the city commission without expecting them to be here. She stated that she is part of the agenda when you throw her name or anyone else's

name into the box. She further commented, permitting, it should come up. It is transparency and accountability, which is why it needs to come up. She stated that she can still keep going, LyteFiber didn't have to pay any kind of fee, as it was an agreement. They are not paying for it.

V.

Consent Agenda

Notice to the Public

The following items are of a routine or administrative nature. The Commission has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Commission Member in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote.

CONSENT MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(At this point the Commission will vote on all motions, resolutions, and ordinances not removed for individual consideration)

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

1. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and expend the Edward Bryne Memorial JAG Grant award #5469901 for purchase of equipment-specialty cameras & equipment and license plate reader. (Police Chief).

2. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget request to increase Part Time Deputy Clerk hours from 19hrs. to 29 hrs. per week at Municipal Court. (Finance Director).

3. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget request to add an additional heavy equipment operator position to the Street Department for street sweeping. (Public Works Director).

4. Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the release of Chapter 59 funds of the Kingsville Police Department for donation to the Kingsville Boxing Club for drug and alcohol prevention programs. (Police Chief).

5. Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City to submit an application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Community Outdoor Outreach Grant Program for the purpose of requesting funding for community nature based, family oriented, recreational programming with no cash match required; authorizing the City Manager to submit the grant and the City Parks Director as the Grant Official to act on the City's behalf with such grant program. (3 revisions to Resolution #2025-89 from 10/14/25) (Parks Director).

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

6. Discuss and consider approving a resolution authorizing participation in Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program FY2025 with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for bullet proof vests for the Kingsville Police Department, authorizing the Chief of Police to act on the City's behalf with such program. (Police Chief).

Mr. John Blair, Chief of Police, stated that this item is to consider a resolution allowing the Police Department to apply for the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant. The request is for funding to purchase 11 new units of body armor. The total cost for replacing these vests amounts to \$15,532.00. This grant requires a 50% match, for a total of \$7,766.00. This investment is crucial for ensuring the continued safety and protection of our officers as they perform their duties.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution authorizing participation in Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program FY2025 with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for bullet proof vests for the Kingsville Police Department, authorizing the Chief of Police to act on the City's behalf with such program, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

7. Discuss and consider accepting monetary donation from 1PointFive First Responder Donation Program for police radio equipment. (Police Chief).

Chief Blair stated that this is a request for approval to accept the 2025 1PointFive Responder Donation from the Oxy First Responder Donation Program in the amount of \$20,000. This donation does not require a cash match.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the accept the monetary donation from 1PointFive First Responder Donation Program for police radio equipment, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Hinojosa, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

8. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and expend a donation from 1PointFive USA LLC for the purchase of portable multiband radios for the Police Department. (Police Chief).

Introduction item.

9. Discuss and consider accepting monetary donation from the Tractor Supply Foundation for fire prevention materials. (Fire Chief).

Mr. Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief, stated that this is a request for approval to accept a donation from the Tractor Supply Foundation Fund for \$250.00. This donation will be used in the Fire Department to purchase Fire Prevention Educational Material.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve accepting monetary donation from the Tractor Supply Foundation for fire prevention materials, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

10. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and expend a donation from the Tractor Supply Foundation for fire prevention education materials. (Fire Chief).

Introduction item.

11. Discuss and consider accepting monetary donation from Ed Rachal Foundation for Fire Department EMS training equipment. (Fire Chief).

Chief Adame stated that this is a request for approval to accept a grant from the Ed Rachal Foundation of \$30,000.00. This donation will be used in the Fire Department to purchase EMS training equipment.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve accepting monetary donation from Ed Rachal Foundation for Fire Department EMS training equipment, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez and Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

12. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and expend grant funds from the Ed Rachal Foundation for Fire Department EMS training equipment. (Fire Chief).

Introduction item.

13. Discuss and consider accepting monetary donation from 1PointFive USA LLC for the Fire Department to purchase, repair and maintain firefighting equipment. (vehicle) (Fire Chief).

Chief Adame stated that this is a request for approval to accept a donation from 1PointFive USA LLC for \$20,000.00. This donation will be used in the Fire Department to purchase, repair, and maintain firefighting equipment.

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve accepting monetary donation from 1PointFive USA LLC for the Fire Department to purchase, repair and maintain firefighting equipment, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

14. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and expend a donation from the 1PointFive USA LLC for the purchase, repair, and maintenance of firefighting equipment. (vehicle) (Fire Chief).

Introduction item.

15. Discuss and consider waiver of permit fees for Kleberg County to construct a 40x40 metal building at the JK Northway site for the Texas A&M University Technology Program. (City Manager).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the city to waive permit fees associated with Kleberg County projects in the city limits of Kingsville. The City of Kingsville and Kleberg County provide services to the same constituents; therefore, waiving permit fees is beneficial to both the city and county taxpayers. Kleberg County is constructing a 40x40 metal building for the Texas A&M University Technology Program at the JK Northway site. The metal building will serve as a welding trade education center. The financial impact for the permit fee is approximately \$1,105.00. It is recommended that the City of Kingsville to waive permit fees associated with Kleberg County Projects in the city limits of Kingsville as per staff's recommendation.

Mr. Erik Spitzer, Director of Planning and Development Services, stated that he would like to speak first on behalf of this matter.

Mr. Sosa said to Mr. Spitzer that this is not his item; it is the city manager's item.

Mayor Fugate asked Mr. Spitzer to take a seat.

Mr. Spitzer commented that it directly reflects his department and the fees.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve the waiver of permit fees for Kleberg County to construct a 40x40 metal building at the JK Northway site for the Texas A&M University Technology Program, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez and Commissioner Alarcon.

Commissioner Lopez asked why Mr. Spitzer can't speak.

Mr. Sosa responded that this is his item.

Commissioner Lopez responded back that it didn't matter.

Commissioner Alvarez asked for a point of order and asked Ms. Alvarez for the point of order.

Ms. Alvarez responded that under the ordinance, it is not in her position to call for points of order as the mayor is in charge.

Mr. Spitzer stated that his comment is that he consulted with staff, but he did not consult with his department.

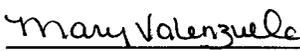
The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

VI. Adjournment.

As there was no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, TRMC, City Secretary