

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 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
Susan Ivy, Parks Director
Manny Salazar, Economic Development Manager
Charlie Cardena, Engineer
James Creek, Captain
Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief
Emilio Garcia, Health Director
Connie Womack, Tourism Director
John Blair, Police Chief
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director

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)

None.

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, thanked city staff for their work on the La Posada Parade. The parade was well attended this past Saturday. Mr. Sosa further gave a brief update on street projects.

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney stated that the next scheduled meeting is set for January 12, 2026, as the second meeting in December is normally cancelled as it is on the same week of the Christmas holiday. She further stated that the deadline for staff to submit their agenda items for the January 12th meeting is December 29, 2025. Ms. Alvarez further announced that city offices will be closed for the upcoming holiday, December 24th & December 25, 2025, for the Christmas holiday, and December 31, 2025, and January 1, 2026, for the New Year holiday.

Mrs. Connie Womack, Tourism Director, gave a brief report on the past weekend's festivities. She stated that she would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our city departments, especially Public Works and the Street Department, for their support and cooperation in this year's Ranchhand weekend, which was held on November 21st & 22nd, 2025. Their teamwork was essential to hosting a safe, well-run, and successful event. She further stated that she would like to spotlight the team at the Tourism Department, as this event is a lot of work, and the team did not shy away from it. The festival and concert both drew a strong attendance and engaged local businesses and received positive community feedback. She further stated to be on the lookout for a survey on social media for input on both the Ranchhand weekend and Kingsville's Annual La Posada Parade. The survey will also be inserted with utility billing beginning January 5, 2026. Some areas for growth are earlier promotional timeline, news outlet interviews, more social media video content, and expanding more on Kingsville's cultural and heritage elements. She stated that she and her office are committed to making these changes to ensure a high-quality event that boosts tourism in Kingsville. The data that was gathered from Retail Coach offered attendance numbers. At the tree lighting ceremony, 3,600 people attended, with 72% of those people being from Kingsville. The festival hosted 5,700 people, with 58.1% of those people being from out of town. The concert drew 1,000 attendees, but it is not known yet if there were local people from out of town. Our sponsorships vendor fees and ticket sales gross \$69,142.00 and expenditures totaled \$62,528.00. Overall, the weekend generated a net revenue of \$6,528 for the city that will be used to grow the event into a larger tourist attraction.

Commissioner Alvarez stated that she would like to thank city staff for their work on the city's float for La Posada Parade.

Mayor Fugate presented two proclamations: National Wreaths Across America and Toys for Tots.

Commissioner Lopez commented that she and Mayor Fugate walked the parade and had lots of interaction with the citizens. She further stated that both she and Mayor Fugate passed out candy to the children along the parade route. Lopez further stated that at the previous meeting, the City Attorney commented on someone listening to her recorded phone call and that she hadn't not given permission for that. Lopez stated that after that happened she, Lopez, has been advised that she needed to formally document an incident that had occurred with her city email. She stated that for the record, she experienced a disturbing incident on August 2025 in which her city email was hacked and posted to someone's fake profile Facebook page. The email that was hacked was addressed to the city manager and the city attorney only. The incident was reported to the city manager for investigation in which he said he did an internal investigation and later reported to her that no evidence was found. She further stated that she explicitly states that she has not and do not authorize anyone to read her private city emails nor does she permit the sharing of such emails on Facebook. Under this administration there has been two extremely troubling incidents that are unacceptable and is very disturbing and unprofessional. We need to do better.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

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

Mr. Andrew Mendes, 405 E. Alice, commented that he photographed the Children's Day event which had a very high turnout. He further stated that ethics is how you fix the potholes we see. He would like to offer a short reflection as the commission moves forward to vote on members of the Kingsville Ethics Commission. For the past several months, he has stood at this podium speaking about virtues, community foundations, and potholes we can't see. The ones in trust, communication and how we treat one another. While he doesn't know whether this commission is community-led or staff-led led he does know this: ethics is not a title, it is a practice, and it's everyone's job. He stated that part of him did wonder that nobody thought to nominate the person who stands here week after week talking about ethics, courage, virtue, and responsibility. But the bigger part of him knows the answer, it is not about him, it's about the work. So tonight, whoever you chose I want to say clearly, that he stands with the Ethics Commission. He stands with anyone willing to help repair the visible potholes that hold this town back. The potholes in trust, the potholes in communication, and the potholes in how we treat our neighbors, and the potholes inside the system we rely on. We have all seen what happens when physical potholes are ignored long enough, they get bigger. This is the same ethical potholes. The longer we look away the more the cracks spread. Make your appointments tonight, but his ask is simple, choose people who will help this town rise, choose people that will understand that transparency builds trust, choose people who believe ethics is not punishment its maintenance, just like a road. And whether he is seated on a commission or not, he will continue doing what he has already been doing, helping Kingsville understand that the biggest repairs aren't always in the asphalt, sometimes there are in us. Every road leads home and ethics is how we keep the road smooth.

Kathleen Studder, 410 E. Ailsie, commented that the first thing when she walked into the building tonight, someone had some scent, and with this being a public building, scents things, for her, give her migraines. She asked that in a public building, it not be used, so that people walking in are not assaulted by different things that will cause pain. She further commented that, as for the Ethics Commission, she hopes the commission will detail who is being chosen for this and that it is not one of the three commissioners on recall or the city manager. She further commented that La Posada was an absolute blast and they sold out, and she hopes that it's that great all the time.

Elizabeth Ramos, 615 Elizabeth, commented to Mayor Fugate that his hair looks great, and she does not know what he did before coming here, but he looked much more put together today than she has seen in months.

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

1. Motion to approve final passage 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).

2. Motion to approve final passage 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).

3. Motion to approve final passage 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).

4. Motion to approve final passage 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).

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

5. Discuss and consider approving a resolution authorizing application to, administration of, and acceptance of Office of the Governor, Bullet-Resistant Components for Law Enforcement Vehicles Grant Program FY2026; 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 requests the City Commission to consider a resolution allowing the Police Department to apply for the Bullet-Resistant components for Law Enforcement Vehicles Grant provided by the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office. The total cost to equip our units amounts to \$420,000.00. There is no cash match for this grant. 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 resolution authorizing application to, administration of, and acceptance of Office of the Governor, Bullet-Resistant Components for Law Enforcement Vehicles Grant Program FY2026; authorizing the Chief of Police to act on the City's behalf with such program, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

6. Discuss and consider awarding Bid No. 26-01 for GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-085-009-D237 Project 11 (US 141, King Street near HEB) Storm Water Improvements, as per recommendation of consulting engineer. (City Engineer).

Mr. Charlie Cardenas, Engineer, stated that this project consists of the installation of 18 additional storm water inlets, some at new locations, with items associated with the

installation and related appurtenances to improve stormwater drainage and reduce future flood risks. The project will be completed with 120 consecutive calendar days after giving the Notice to Proceed.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the award of Bid No. 26-01 for GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-085-009-D237 Project 11 (US 141, King Street near HEB) Storm Water Improvements, as per recommendation of consulting engineer, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

7. Discuss and consider awarding Bid No. 26-02 for GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-085-009-D237 Project 12 (BU 77, 14th Street near Pueblo Tires) Storm Water Improvements, as per recommendation of consulting engineer. (City Engineer).

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the award of Bid No. 26-02 for GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-085-009-D237 Project 12 (BU 77, 14th Street near Pueblo Tires) Storm Water Improvements, as per recommendation of consulting engineer, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

8. Discuss and consider approving a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute Change Order No.2 for a Construction Contract with Donald Hubert Construction Co. for Project 1: 14th St. Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project of the CDBG-MIT Program GLO State Contract Number 22-082-016-D218. (City Engineer).

Mr. Cardenas stated that this change order addresses unforeseen issues during construction, including seized sanitary sewer manhole lids, discovery of an abandoned well at the proposed lift station location, deduction of a cost-in-place junction box, and 12" RCP in lieu of ditch due to existing elevations near Alexander Ave. This will also include an increase in contract time by 90 calendar days.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute Change Order No.2 for a Construction Contract with Donald Hubert Construction Co. for Project 1: 14th St. Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project of the CDBG-MIT Program GLO State Contract Number 22-082-016-D218, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

9. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to accept and expend grant funds from the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) for Parks lighting projects. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Susan Ivy, Parks Director, stated that this is a request for approval of a budget amendment to establish a budget for the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) award of \$25,000 plus an additional \$7,450.00 to completely fund the project. This project will increase funding available to complete the lighting project proposed by \$32,450.00, of which \$25,000.00 would be reimbursed by SECO.

Introduction item.

10. Discuss and consider accepting monetary donations from Regency Integrated Health and the Womens Club of Kingsville for recreation supplies. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Ivy stated that this item is to accept a donation from Regency Integrated Health Service for \$450.00 for movie sponsorship from FY 2024-2025, and \$25.00 from the Women's Club of Kingsville for FY 2025-2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the acceptance of monetary donations from Regency Integrated Health and the Women's Club of Kingsville for recreation supplies, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

11. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to accept and expend donations from Regency Integrated Health and the Womens Club of Kingsville for recreation supplies. (Parks Director).

Introduction item.

12. Discuss and consider accepting monetary grant funds from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council (CBRAC). (Fire Chief).

Mr. Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief, stated that the Kingsville Fire Department is requesting approval to amend the FY 25-26 budget to accept a grant from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council (CBRAC) for \$6,121.00. Each year CBRAC distributes funds to emergency medical services departments based on the number of EMS calls. This grant will be used to purchase medical equipment and supplies.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the acceptance of monetary grant funds from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

13. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to accept and expend grant funds from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council for Fire Department medical supplies. (Fire Chief).

Introduction item.

14. Discuss appointment of members to the City of Kingsville Ethics Review Board. (City Attorney).

Commissioner Alvarez stated that she would like this item to be brought back in a future meeting and have an executive session on it so that the commission can discuss it.

Ms. Alvarez stated that this is only a discussion item. There is nothing to vote on. She further stated that she wanted to bring it forward so that the commission would have time to think about nominees and look at the qualifications and find someone between now and the first city commission in January. On January 12, 2026, the commission would nominate and based on the ordinance is states that the meeting after that would be when the commission would vote on the nominees. Each commission member gets to have one person as a nominee.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if all these years, the city never had an Ethics Review Board?

Ms. Alvarez responded that the Board has existed, but it hasn't had anything for the Board to review.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked if there were any guidelines that this committee would need to follow.

Ms. Alvarez responded yes, within the code of ordinances.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked Ms. Alvarez to bring that information to the commission.

Mayor Fugate commented that it would be beneficial to send it to the commission.

Commissioner Lopez commented that she thought the information was in the agenda packet and asked Ms. Alvarez if it was included in the agenda packet.

Ms. Alvarez responded that she did not include the entire code, but only the structure of the Board was in the agenda packet, but not everything in the ordinance.

Commissioner Lopez asked if there had already been an Ethics Review Board.

Ms. Alvarez responded that the opportunity for the Board existed, but there hadn't been any people appointed to the Board previously.

Commissioner Lopez asked if the reason we are appointing now is that there has been an ethics complaint filed.

Ms. Alvarez responded yes, by nodding her head.

Commissioner Lopez commented that she feels that it would be best to ask the citizens to send in a letter of intent, instead of the commission putting someone out there. From there, you place those names in a hat and pick from there. This way, there is no bias, and all is done fairly.

Commissioner Alvarez asked for the number of people on this Board.

Commissioner Lopez responded five people.

Ms. Alvarez stated that the ordinance states that the Mayor and each member of the commission shall nominate one member to the Board.

Commissioner Lopez stated that she understood this, but this did not mean that the ordinance couldn't be changed. She further stated that she would rather not have any bias and have the citizens apply for the Board. Lopez further stated that some of them know who the complaint is on and this would be unfair for the commission to choose nominees.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if this would mean that the ordinance would need to be amended, as there is an ordinance that states that each commission member nominates one member to the Board.

Ms. Alvarez stated that it states each commission member shall nominate someone to the Board at one meeting. Then at the following meeting, all the commission members would vote on each of the nominees.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked if we would need to amend the ordinance in order to do what Commissioner Lopez suggested.

Ms. Alvarez responded yes.

Commissioner Alvarez commented that this is why she would like an executive session for this item and Ms. Alvarez to place an executive session on this item.

Ms. Alvarez responded that she didn't think it would qualify for an executive session.

Mayor Fugate commented that if it does qualify for an executive session, then let's have it under executive session.

Discussion item only.

15. Discuss and consider approving a resolution supporting a commemorative event to be held with other local entities in the City on September 11, 2026. (City Manager).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the city to participate with Kleberg County, NAS Kingsville, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and our local school districts to host a commemorative event on Friday, September 11, 2026. A keynote speaker at the 25th Anniversary Commemoration of September 11, 2026, and the solemn occasion will bring together students, faculty, community members, and distinguished guests to honor the lives lost, reflect on the resilience of our nation, and reaffirm our shared commitment to unity and service.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution supporting a commemorative event to be held with other local entities in the City on September 11, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR."

16. Discuss and consider participation with Kleberg County for assistance in paving the Sister Elizabeth Soup Kitchen parking area, labor and permit fees only, contingent on approving the necessary agreement with the property owner prior to work. (City Manager).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the city to participate with Kleberg County for the paving of the Sister Elizabeth Soup Kitchen parking area. The County Judge has requested the city's assistance with labor and equipment only for the paving overlay of the existing parking area. Kleberg County will provide all materials for the overlay project. The Sister Elizabeth Soup Kitchen provides meals once a week for the elderly and unfortunate residents of the community. The facility also hosts a food pantry and, health living program, and provides clothing for children and parents who have fallen short financially. Kleberg County has assisted with the maintenance of the facility and has reached out to the city for assistance to ensure a safe parking area for the community residents. The cost for city labor and equipment is \$1,742.96, with a cost to the county for materials \$12,952.40.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the participation with Kleberg County for assistance in paving the Sister Elizabeth Soup Kitchen parking area, labor and permit fees only, contingent on approving the necessary agreement with the property owner prior to work, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

17. Executive Session: Pursuant to Section 551.087, Texas Government Code, Deliberations Regarding Economic Development Negotiations Exception, the City Commission shall convene in executive session to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations. (Economic Development Director).

Mayor Fugate read and convened the meeting into closed session at 5:50 p.m.

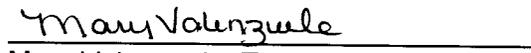
Mayor Fugate reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:06 p.m.

VI. Adjournment.

As there was no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, TRMC, City Secretary