

**CITY OF WINONA**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**Community Center**  
**520 Dallas St., Winona TX 75792**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 06:00pm**

**MINUTES**

**On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026, the Winona City Council convened at the Community Center located at 520 Dallas Street, Winona, Texas at 06:00pm in a Regular City Council Meeting. The meeting was open to the public and the following were present:**

**Members Present:** Mayor Rachel Moreno, Mayor Pro Tem Dee Roden, Alderman Shanna Clark, Alderman Luis Diaz, Alderman Gary Fox, New Alderman Karen Hysell, New Alderman Headlee Daniels

**Members Absent:** Alderman Terry Cole

**Guest Present:** Mike Branch (Nolan Farms) Spoke about how items are placed on the agenda. Wanting to go back to the old way items are placed on the agenda, allowing citizens to place items on the agenda. This is interrupting city business by not allowing items to be placed on the agenda in discussion then being able to be moved to a action item.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Roll Call. Public notice of this meeting has been given, and a quorum is present.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**

At this time Mayor Rachel Moreno asked everyone to observe in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the invocation prayer was given by Dee Roden.

**C. VISITORS OPEN FORUM**

1. Mike Branch had no comment on discussion and action items. He claimed that roughly 3 ½ years ago, the council approved that the mayor has 90 days to determine if an agenda item request will go onto the agenda. He asked the council to consider open agenda action item requests as long as requests are submitted to the city within a week, or some other reasonable timeframe. He also suggested councilmember approval of agenda items.

Visitors Open Forum was closed at 6:04 pm.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Mayor Rachel Moreno moved to have the minutes for April 21, 2026 Regular City Council Meetings approved. Mayor Pro Tem Dee Roden made a motion to approve said minutes, and Alderman Shanna Clark seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

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**E. MONTHLY REPORTS OR UPDATES**

**1. Utility Department**

a) **Monthly Report:** Updated by Craig McCollum. The lean-to used for additional equipment parking at the City Maintenance Shop was completed the week prior. Approximately 10 water meters and 2 gas meters were changed out during the month. The water line on Johnson Road was finished. It is a 6" line that spans about 2,000 feet. Weedkiller has been sprayed, and grass has been mowed on roadsides to help keep growth under control. The Railroad Commission is set to come on Tuesday of the following week.

**2. Mayor Updates**

a. **Update on permits submitted for processing.**

A few electrical permits have been issued but no new-build permits.

**F. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Administering the Oath of Office, Statement of Officer, and Election Certificate to newly elected officers.** The Statement of Officer (Form 2201) and the Oath of Office (Form 2204) were administered to Aldermen Headlee Daniels and Karen Hysell and Mayor Rachel Moreno by City Secretary Jake Allen.

**2. Discussion and possible action to appoint the Mayor Pro Tem for a one-year term as set out in Texas Local Government Code Section 22.037.** Alderman Luis Diaz nominated Alderman Terry Cole for Mayor Pro Tem. Alderman Karen Hysell nominated Gary Fox. Alderman Headlee Daniels seconded. Three (Karen Hysell, Headlee Daniels, Gary Fox) in favor, one (Luis Diaz) opposed; motion carried majority vote. Gary Fox is Mayor Pro Tem.

**3. Discussion and possible action to approve a hazard mitigation plan.** Approval of a hazard mitigation plan is required each year. Approval involved adopting the Smith County hazard mitigation plan. Alderman Karen Hysell made a motion to adopt the hazard mitigation plan for the next year, and Alderman Headlee Daniels seconded. Three (Karen Hysell, Headlee Daniels, Gary Fox) in favor, one (Luis Diaz) opposed; motion carried majority vote.

**4. Discussion and possible action to pass a 4% rate increase (\$0.61/home) with Live Oak onto the consumer, making the rate \$20.33/home and \$9.72 for an extra cart and a 4% rate increase for commercial pickup.** Alderman

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Headlee Daniels questioned when the city began to provide sanitation services. Alderman Karen Hysell stated that the price of gas and other goods/services has risen, therefore the cost of providing trash pickup to the city will increase as well, and if this rate increase is not passed, the next bid may be higher. Alderman Luis Diaz stated that the cost of everything has gone up without raises in wages, so the price of trash pickup should not also increase. Mayor Pro Tem Gary Fox suggested to look into the effects of not passing the price increase and what the city would have to do in the absence of a sanitation service, such as looking into other providers. Mayor Rachel Moreno explained that Live Oak has consistently been more affordable than other providers. Alderman Karen Hysell made a motion to pass the rate increase. Alderman Luis Diaz made a motion to deny the rate increase, and Alderman Headlee Daniels seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Gary Fox made a motion to table the rate increase. The rate increase was constructively tabled.

- 5. Discussion and possible action to adopt Rules of Order for city council meetings.** City Attorney Judy El Masri from Messer Fort Law presented Rules of Order for council meetings. She stated that the city has never passed any Rules of Order by ordinance or resolution and suggested that the council pass rules of conduct by resolution. Alderman Karen Hysell made a motion to adopt the Rules of Order for city council meetings, and Mayor Pro Tem Gary Fox seconded. Three (Karen Hysell, Headlee Daniels, Gary Fox) in favor, one (Luis Diaz) opposed; motion carried majority vote.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Headlee Daniels made the motion to adjourn this meeting at 06:38 pm, and Alderman Karen Hysell seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the council, this meeting was adjourned.

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Rachel Moreno, Mayor

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Jake Allen, City Secretary