

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
RIVER OAKS CITY COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

MAYOR DARREN HOUK  
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVE HOLLAND  
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHN CLARIDGE  
COUNCIL MEMBER BRENT FORESTER

**STAFF PRESENT:**

CITY MANAGER MARVIN GREGORY  
CITY SECRETARY PAULA LUCK  
CITY ATTORNEY BRADLEY ANDERLEE  
EMERGENCY MGT JAMES MYRICK  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TODD HENDERSON  
POLICE CHIEF CHUCK STEWART  
FIRE CHIEF RUSSELL SHELLEY  
FIRE CAPTAIN ROBERT WHATLEY

**ABSENT:**

MAYOR PRO TEM LEIGH ANN TURNER  
COUNCIL MEMBER YOLIE RODRIGUEZ

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Mayor Houk called the Regular Meeting of the River Oaks City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, Texas 76114.

**2. INVOCATION**

CM Claridge delivered the Invocation.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE TEXAS FLAG**

CISD Student Council Members: Natalie Zavala, Jacquelyn Landaverde, Evelyn Hernandez, Joshua Cassio, Nathan Cruz, Edison Conchas and Monical Rivas led the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and the Texas Flags.

The Student Council Members held first 911 Memorial this year and will make this an annual tradition.

At this time, the Council and audience took a moment of silence for Charlie Kirk.

**4. READING OF PROCLAMATION(S) AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY MAYOR.**

**NONE**

**5. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: CITIZENS TO SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC OR ANY AGENDA ITEM BEFORE AN DURING THE MEETING BY RAISING YOUR HAND TO BE RECOGNIZED; HOWEVER, UNLESS THE ITEM IS SPECIFICALLY NOTED ON THIS AGENDA, THE CITY COUNCIL IS REQUIRED UNDER THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT TO LIMIT ITS RESPONSE WITH A STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC FACTUAL INFORMATION, RECITING THE CITY'S EXISTING POLICY ON THAT ISSUE, OR DIRECTING THE PERSON MAKING THE INQUIRY TO VISIT WITH CITY STAFF ABOUT THAT ISSUE, AND NO COUNCIL DELIBERATION IS PERMITTED FOR TOPICS NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.**

**NONE**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** ALL ITEMS UNDER THIS SECTION ARE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE "CONSENT AGENDA". THESE ITEMS ARE OF A ROUTINE NATURE AND REQUIRE ONLY BRIEF DELIBERATION BY COUNCIL. **COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE ANY ITEM ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION**

A. APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 REGULAR CALLED COUNCIL MEETING

B. BILLS PAYABLE FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 (FY 2025)

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Claridge to approve the Consent Agenda Items A-B. All voted "Aye".**

7. DISCUSSION OR ACTION TAKEN ON ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DELIBERATION.

**NONE**

8. CITY MANAGER'S APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF PURSUANT TO SECTION 5.04-002 "MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT" OF THE RIVER OAKS CODE OF ORDINANCES (2020).

CM Gregory has appointed Robert Whatley as the next Fire Chief effective September 26, 2025 at 5:01 p.m. due to Russell Shelley retiring on September 26, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. CM Gregory read Robert's education.

**STATEMENT OF APPOINTED OFFICER & OATH OF OFFICE:**

9. RIVER OAKS FIRE CHIEF OATH OF OFFICE.

CM Gregory gave the Oath of Office and Statement of Elected Official to Robert Whatley. Robert said a few words and thanked his wife Stacy and children for standing by him. And thanked all for coming tonight and supporting him.

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND/OR ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL/ACTION:**

10. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON VOICE DATA SERVICES AND MOBILITY SERVICES FROM SPYGLASS AUDIT.

CM Gregory went over the list of changes/removals that were done; but we are not done, still have more to go.

11. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON FY 2026 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WITH TARRANT COUNTY PRECINCT 4.

This is for the 5300-5400 block of Castleberry Cut Off with a cost of \$104,258.92. We budgeted in the new budget \$40,000 for road repairs and we have \$162,835 in the street bond. Aware of the flood issue and the concern is water tearing up the new road.

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Forester to approve the 2026 Road Improvement Project as presented. All voted "Aye".**

12. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE GENERAL FUND OPERATIONAL 5-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE CITY MANAGER.

A new 5-year plan was made because of additional costs in the new budget. Year 1: \$55,121 in the black; Year 2: \$66,935 in the black; Year 3: \$94,075 in the black; Year 4: \$80,664 in the black; and Year 5: \$37,911 in the black. The problem is not putting enough money back in reserves.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL/ACTION:**

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #1462-2025 AMENDING CHAPTER 2 "ANIMAL CONTROL" SPECIFICALLY IN ARTICLE 2.05 "HEALTH REGULATIONS" INCORPORATING SECTION 2.05.005 "ANIMAL WASTE CONTROL".

There was a situation where someone let their dog go to the restroom in someone's yard and did not clean it up.

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Forester to approve Ordinance #1462-2025. All voted "Aye".**

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #1149-2025 ADJUSTING THE FEES FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR SOLID WASTE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS AND FOR COMMERCIAL DUMPSTERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF RIVER OAKS.

Added a 10% franchise fee for commercial accounts and added a \$2.00 rate increase for residential.

**CM Claridge moved, seconded by CM Forester to approve Resolution #1149-2025. All voted "Aye".**

**OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

15. UPDATE ON SUBSTANDARD PROPERTIES AT:

- 1513 SKYLINE DR
- 5401 BAYLOR AVE-did final inspection but needs driveway.
- 5609 JAMES DR-did final inspection but needs driveway.
- 4912 BLACK OAK-no contact with owners.
- 1517 BYRD DR-will remodel.
- 4700 BARBARA-doing title search.
- 1114 HARVARD-no potable water.

16. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING UPDATES FROM THE CITY MANAGER ADVISING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON PERSONNEL, CITY'S FISCAL CONDITION, PANDEMIC EXECUTIVE ORDERS, SCHEDULING COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS, FUTURE NEEDS

OF THE CITY AND OTHER CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATIONS.

Meandering Road-working on the water line situation. The reimbursement money has been approved for reimbursement.

Election-early voting starts October 20<sup>th</sup> but it will not be here at City Hall. Voting Day will be next door in the Tarrant County building.

Processing Fees-notice has been sent out and posted on social media and our website.

North Texas Giving Day-September 18<sup>th</sup>.

National Night Out-October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center.

City-wide garage sale-September 27<sup>th</sup> and we have 50 people signed up.

Chief Shelley's retirement lunch will be September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center at noon. City Hall will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

17. QUESTIONS RELATED TO MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS FROM POLICE, FIRE, PUBLIC WORKS, WATER PLANT, BUILDING INSPECTIONS, CODE ENFORCEMENT, CITY SECRETARY ACTIVITY REPORTS, MUNICIPAL COURT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EVENT CENTER, PARKS, STORM WATER AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

**NONE**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

18. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

CM Holland-asked about the Poker Run. We profited \$915 and there were 23 in attendance and all proceeds go to the Park Foundation. They went 220 miles. Noticed a new house on Oaklawn being built.

CM Claridge-Boston Lane down to three lots.

Mayor Houk-Bengales building has three business moving in-one is a dentist and the other two are medical related. Giggles Therapy is for sale. Boulevard Brew is staying. Atomic Then and Now space has a new business going in. The new auto shop on Merritt and the Blvd looks good.

PWD Henderson-there is a sand volleyball tournament in November at the center.

CM Gregory-wrestling event September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center.

19. WORK SESSION: DISCUSSION ON MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND OPERATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

- WATER TREATMENT PLANT-no discussion.
- CITY WEBSITE DESIGN-no discussion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

20. CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE: THE COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSIONS(S) FROM TIME TO TIME ON ANY POSTED AGENDA ITEM TO RECEIVE ADVICE FROM ITS ATTORNEY AS PERMITTED BY LAW DURING THIS MEETING. THE COUNCIL MAY CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- a. Section 551.071 Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek advice from attorney;  
**Cause #342-358828-24-Zakary Sadeghian vs. City of River Oaks Building Standards Commission. AND Trademark Enforcement.**
- b. Section 551.072 Discussion regarding possible sale, lease or acquisition of real estate;
- c. Section 551.074 Personnel matters – To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an Officer or Employee,
- d. Section 551.076 Deliberation regarding security devices.

At 6:39 p.m, Mayor Houk went into Executive Session under Section 551.071.

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Houk closed Executive Session and went back into Regular Session.

**RECONVENE:**

21. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

**NONE**

**ADJOURN:**

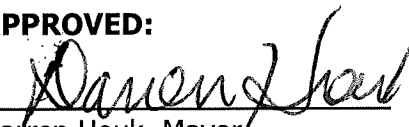
22. ADJOURN

**At 6:55 p.m., CM Claridge moved, seconded by CM Holland to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye".**

**ATTEST:**

  
Paula Luck, City Secretary

**APPROVED:**

  
Darren Houk, Mayor