

THE LEVELLAND CITY COUNCIL MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, THE 7th DAY OF JULY, 2025, AT LEVELLAND CITY HALL, R. O. DENNIS COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1709 AVENUE H, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Breann Buxkemper	Honorable Mayor	Present
Michael Stueart	Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Bill Powell	Council Member	Present
Max Ledesma	Council Member	Present
Jaime McCabe	Council Member	Present
Slater Elza	City Attorney	Present
James Fisher	City Manager	Present
Justin Balderas	Interim Asst. City Manager	Present
Andréa Corley	City Secretary	Present

The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Buxkemper.

The Pledge was led by Mayor Breann Buxkemper.

The Invocation was led by Mayor Pro Tem Michael Stueart.

Badge Pinning Ceremony- Levelland Police Department: Sgt Blake Parker was recently promoted to the Sergeant position.

Statements by Citizens:

There were no statements by citizens.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to approve the minutes of June 16, 2025, regular meeting, June 16, 2025, special meeting and the July 1, 2025, special meeting.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Bill Powell

To approve the minutes of June 16, 2025, regular meeting, June 16, 2025, special meeting and the July 1, 2025, special meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to approve a Special Event Application for the Levelland Chamber of Commerce Cotton and Crude event.

The Levelland Chamber of Commerce has submitted a special event application for their annual “Cotton & Crude” event scheduled for September 20, 2025. The event will be held at the Oxy Sports Complex.

The event, which is a music-festival-type event, falls under the special event criteria because planners expect more than 200 people, it will be held at a City facility and the event will allow event goers to bring their own alcohol for consumption at the event. This event is in a new location., moving from the Downtown area to the Oxy Sports Complex. The Chamber of Commerce has been working with the Levelland Police Department and Levelland-Hockley County Emergency Management on safety plans.

The Special Events Committee considered and approved the event. This application now requires City Council approval to allow alcohol at the event.

Motion by Bill Powell

Seconded by Max Ledesma

To approve a Special Event Application for the Levelland Chamber of Commerce Cotton and Crude event.

Motion carried unanimously.

THIRD ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on a Police Vehicle leasing program.

The Levelland Police Department continues to evaluate ways to maintain a modern, efficient, and reliable fleet to meet the demands of policing in our community. With increasing costs associated with the purchase, maintenance, and eventual replacement of patrol units, the department has researched alternative acquisition options.

We would like the consideration of the implementation of a Vehicle Lease Program for new police units. Leasing offers several advantages:

- Reduced upfront costs, allowing for better budget management.
- Regular replacement cycles (typically every 5 years) to ensure officers operate newer, safer, and more reliable vehicles.

*At 7:22pm, when Mayor Buxkemper convened Council into Executive Session, Council exercised the option to utilize §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) for this item.

Once Council returned to Open Session at 8:41, a motion resulted from that Executive Session. The motion will be shown in the minutes here and in the minutes for Item 14.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Jaime McCabe

To authorize City Manager to solicit Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for lease of Police vehicles and for purchase of police vehicles.

Motion carried unanimously.

FOURTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on the quarterly investment reports for the quarters ending on March 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025.

Cash/Bank Account

End of Q1

- Total interest earned totaled to \$34,673.35.
- Debt payments totaling to \$1,281,762.77 were made during the quarter.
- Ameresco payments totaling to \$3,245,173.97 were made during the quarter.
- Bond for water meter project was received March 20, 2025 in the amount of \$5,603,141.98.

End of Q2

- Total interest earned totaled to \$29,406.55.
- Remaining bond money moved to Logic Investment Pool. Transfer amount was \$2,074,927.43.
- Ameresco payments totaling to \$603,925.50 were made during the quarter.

Investments

End of Q1

- Total interest earned was \$405,324.58. Detailed breakdown included.

End of Q2

- Total interest earned was \$430,036.09. Detailed breakdown included.
- Remaining bond money for Water Meter Projected was transferred to Logic in April 2025. Transfer amount was \$2,074,927.43.

Revenues

End of Q1

- General Fund: YTD revenue was \$6,743,357.15. This is 67.49% of the \$9,992,063 projected budget amount.
- Cemetery Fund: YTD revenue was \$307,411.70. This is 70.73% of the \$434,637 projected budget amount.

- Enterprise Fund: YTD revenue was \$3,735,104.46. This is 48.54% of the \$7,695,000 projected amount.

End of Q2

- General Fund: YTD revenue was \$8,272,306.66. This is 82.79% of the \$9,992,063 projected budget amount.
- Cemetery Fund: YTD revenue was \$341,402.22. This is 78.55% of the \$434,637 projected budget amount.
- Enterprise Fund: YTD revenue was \$5,660,404.43. This is 73.56% of the \$7,695,000 projected amount.

Sales Tax

Year-to-date sales tax collections numbers are below.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	
2025	400,446.30	469,692.24	400,777.34	
2024	382,237.37	452,309.41	356,300.55	6.72% increase
Year	April	May	June	
2025	488,423.48	477,116.44	430,331.66	
2024	388,297.89	411,895.12	419,708.82	14.43% increase

Motion by Jaime McCabe

Seconded by Michael Stueart

To approve the quarterly investment reports for the quarters ending on March 31, 2025, and June 30, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIFTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action regarding Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Audit for the Levelland Community Development Corporation.

The LCDC approved the Independent Auditor's Report for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023. The Audit Report was a clean audit and had journal entries of approximately \$19,000 for adjustments.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Jaime McCabe

To approve Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Audit for the Levelland Community Development Corporation.

Motion carried unanimously.

SIXTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Discussion about the Levelland Community Development Corporation budget.

The LCDC reviewed the proposed project ideas for FY 26 that was presented by Dustin Reichelt, Parks Director. There was no action by the Board, but there was discussion regarding the proposed projects. Board Members asked Dustin bring back the list with prioritization to be discussed at the July 21st LCDC Board Meeting.

This item is for your review and discussion. The City Council may also consider other items for staff to consider presenting to the LCDC Board.

LCDC Project Ideas 2025-26

- Parking lot lights Oxy \$15,000
- ADA park improvements/playground surfacing - \$60,000
- Pickleball Phase 2- Shade structure/benches/trash cans/wind screens - \$25,000
- Fountains in Lobo and Brashear Lake \$25,000-\$30,000
- City Park ball fields (Field F) \$275K lights, and fence
- Picnic tables with shades at the Oxy, picnic tables at City Park \$15,000 (6) tables and shades
- Lobo Lake trail extension with overlook swing bench \$25,000
- Lobo Lake fishing dock on west shore by shade trees \$80-90K000.

No Action Taken

SEVENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on a board appointment for the Levelland Community Development Corporation board.

Bobby Neal has submitted his resignation from the LCDC Board. Mr. Neal's term expires in 2026. We have advertised on Facebook regarding the vacancy and have received several candidates.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Jaime McCabe

To appoint Kylie Boggs to the Levelland Community Development Corporation.

Motion carried unanimously.

EIGHTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on a payment request from AMERESCO in the amount of \$359,792.74 for the water meter project pursuant to the contract approved between the City and AMERESCO in October 2024..

The city has received payment application #6 from AMERSCO in the amount of \$359,792.74. As of July 1st, approximately 3200 meters have been installed.

Motion by Bill Powell

Seconded by Michael Stueart

To approve a payment request from AMERESCO in the amount of \$359,792.74 for the water meter project pursuant to the contract approved between the City and AMERESCO in October 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

NINTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Discussion about the FY26 Budget.

City Manager James Fisher outline upcoming meetings and timelines for the budget preparation.

No Action Taken.

TENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

City Manager Report: Staff Updates, Project Updates, Staff/Citizen recognition, Items of Community Interest. No action will be taken.

- FY 26 Budget Work Sessions, Tuesday July 8th at 6 pm and Wednesday July 9th, at 6 pm.
- Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, Thursday July 10th, City Council Chambers, 10 am – 3 pm.
- Levelland Police Department, South Plains Auto Theft Task Force and Quick Lane Tire and Auto will hold a VIN Etching on your catalytic converter on Saturday, July 19th at Levelland Quick Lane from 1 – 5 pm.
- Receiving quotes to repair the sprinkler system at the new monument located at Clubview Drive and South US 385.
- City personnel will be trained in first-aid, CPR and AED's beginning August 1st. We are also purchasing first-aid kits and AEDs for all city facilities. This is being led by Jeff Pharis and LFD.
- The street seal coat program is scheduled for September 2025. We also met with Parkhill concerning the 2024 seal coat program to address areas that were seal coated properly.

- The Pickleball Courts are ready for action! Tentative date for the Grand Opening is _____.
- Swimming Pool Study will begin on Tuesday, July 15th.
- City staff met with representatives from McDonalds regarding a complete renovation of the existing facility.
- Working with TxDOT and Parkhill to resolve the sinkhole issues along College Avenue.

No Action Taken.

ELEVENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Convene into executive session in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code §551.087 to deliberate economic development negotiations.

TWELFTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Convene into executive session in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code §551.071 to seek the advice about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers or on matters in which duty of the attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas conflicts with Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 551.

THIRTEENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Convene into executive session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Manager.

Mayor Buxkemper convened Council into Executive Session at 7:22pm.

Mayor Buxkemper returned Council to Open Session at 8:41pm.

FOURTEENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action relating to items discussed in executive session.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Jaime McCabe

To authorize City Manager and City Attorney to solicit Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for lease of Police vehicles and for purchase of police and animal control vehicles not to exceed 20 vehicles.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jaime McCabe
Seconded by Max Ledesma
To approve a 20-year sponsorship agreement with the Levelland Economic Development Corporation and the Wallace Theater.
Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:44pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Andréa Corley, TRMC
City Secretary

Breann Buxkemper, Mayor