

THE LEVELLAND CITY COUNCIL MET IN A REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, THE 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 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	Absent
Slater Elza	City Attorney	Present
James Fisher	City Manager	Present
Justin Balderas	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 Breann Buxkemper.

*Statements by Citizens:*

There were no statements by citizens.

**FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Consider and take necessary action to approve the minutes of August 4, 2025, regular meeting, August 5, 2025, special meeting and the August 11, 2025, special meeting.*

Motion by Bill Powell

Seconded by Max Ledesma

To approve the minutes of August 4, 2025, regular meeting, August 5, 2025, special meeting and the August 11, 2025, special meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Consider and take necessary action on Resolution No. 2025-13 regarding utilization of the Levelland Civic Center as office space for the Texas Department of Emergency Management Liaison.*

The Texas Division of Emergency Management personnel in our region have been tremendous to support our community and leaders during disasters and large scale operations. It has been to our benefit to have the TDEM District Chief Paige Purvis and Hazard Mitigation Specialist Brandy Lacoture co-located in our community. The storm last year is prime example for how valuable the relationship between local and state partners is and this would continue to foster that relationship. Our efforts to help provide office space ensures we have a direct connection to disaster recovery and response resources at the regional and state level. It is of tremendous benefit during times the Emergency Operations Center is activated to have a TDEM employee not only be a resource but potentially be in the same room as our local officials during times of crisis. Building and ensuring the relationship remains intact brings resiliency and resources to our citizens when we are impacted by incidents beyond our control. It is staff recommendation to approve to use of the vacant classroom at the Civic Center to be used as office space for Texas Division of Emergency Management personnel.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Max Ledesma

To approve action on Resolution No. 2025-13 regarding utilization of the Levelland Civic Center as office space for the Texas Department of Emergency Management Liaison.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **THIRD ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget for the Levelland Economic Development Corporation.*

On July 31, the LEDC Board of Directors approved the FY 2025-2026 Budget during its regularly scheduled meeting.

#### **Projected Revenues:**

LEDC anticipates revenues of \$1,159,499. Of this, \$968,999 comes from Sales Tax Revenue, reflecting a 3.0518% increase. The remaining revenue is derived from rail car fees, interest income, and sponsorship of the LEDC Appreciation Luncheon.

#### **Projected Expenditures:**

LEDC plans expenditures of \$2,427,310, including \$1,500,000 committed to the SPC Truck Driving School and \$70,000 allocated to a sponsorship agreement with the Wallace Theater.

#### **Deficit Budget:**

LEDC is presenting a deficit budget of (\$1,267,811), primarily due to the SPC commitment. Excluding this, LEDC would project a surplus of \$232,189.

As a non-profit governmental entity, LEDC's mission is to enhance quality of life by creating jobs and reinvesting in the community.

No Action Taken

**FOURTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget for the Levelland Community Development Corporation*

The Levelland Community Development Corporation (LCDC) is funded by a  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent of the Sales and Use Tax received within the city. The projected revenue for FY 26 (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026) is \$650,000. The estimated Reserves for the LCDC at September 30, 2025 is \$1,260,000. The LCDC has recommended expenditures of:

- Playground resurfacing at Brashear Lake - \$30,000.
- Fountains at Lobo Lake and Brashear Lake for water quality and aesthetics - \$30,000.
- Trail extension and overlook swing at Lobo Lake - \$25,000.
- Phase 2 of the Pickleball Complex: shade structure, benches, trash cans, and surface painting - \$25,000.
- Picnic tables and shade structures at the Oxy Sports Complex - \$15,000.
- New entry sign at the Oxy Sports Complex - \$15,000.
- Improvements at City Park Field F: lighting, fencing, irrigation, and field materials - \$320,000.
- Renovation of the Church League Field at City Park: infield expansion and installation of movable pitching mound - \$25,000.
- City Park Barty Johnson field- fence, irrigation, field materials, demolition of building - \$150,000
- PROJECT TOTAL: \$635,000
- In addition, the Oxy Sports Complex Bond Series 2013 Payment (final payment 2033) - \$303,000

No Action Taken

**FIFTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget for the City of Levelland.*

James Fisher made the official presentation of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. He discussed major fund sources of the budget, sources of revenue, and expenditures. Mr. Fisher

presented a budget explanation letter. He explained that the budget was not complete, as we are waiting for the vehicle lease agreement and vehicle purchase numbers.

The proposed budget will be posted within the next 24 hours on the city's website.

No Action Taken

**SIXTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Consider and take necessary action on Ordinance No. 1095 setting Utility Rates (Wastewater Improvement Fee and Water Improvement Fee) on a first reading.*

The proposed Ordinance make several amendments to the existing Code of Ordinances, Appendix A – Fee Schedule, Article 5.00 Utility Related Fees. The wastewater system improvement fee has been increased \$6.32 to \$28.00, per the new wastewater treatment plant construction costs and the water improvement fee has increased from \$1 to \$5 due to increased treatment costs from the City of Lubbock.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Bill Powell

To approve Ordinance setting Utility Rates (Water Improvement Fee and Sewer Improvement Fee) on a first reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

**SEVENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

*Discussion about issuance of Certificates of Obligation.*

City Manager James Fisher reminded Council that the issuance of Certificates of Obligation would be on the August 25, 2025, agenda.

No Action Taken.

**EIGHTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

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

Discussed office closure on Labor Day, progress with the water meters, fire and police department involvement with local elementary schools, and commended the street department for their efforts on the Lobo paw prints painted on streets near schools and leading to the stadium.

No Action Taken.

**NINTH 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; Assistant City Manager.*

Mayor Buxkemper convened Council into Executive Session at 7:03pm.

Mayor Buxkemper returned Council to Open Session at 7:39pm.

**TENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

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

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Bill Powell

Approve proposed employment agreement for the Assistant City Manager

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Stueart

Seconded by Max Ledesma

To approve the proposed employment agreement for the City Manager.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Respectfully Submitted,

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Andréa Corley, TRMC  
City Secretary

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Breann Buxkemper, Mayor