



The City Council for the City of Abernathy met in regular session on Monday, September 8th, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Hall building at 811 Ave D. Members present were Mayor Harold Bufe, Eva Cortez, Gary Stephenson, Matt Speer, Tammy Mahan, and Bilinda Prater. Also present were City Staff including Julie Arrington, Cindy Tapia, Ricky Patterson, and Dwain Read. Members of the public are on the attached sign in sheet.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order
Mayor Bufe called the meeting to order.
2. Establishing Quorum
A quorum was established.
3. Welcome Guests
Mayor Bufe welcomed the guest.
4. Invocation
Councilman Speer gave the invocation.
5. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Mayor Bufe led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
6. Texas Pledge – “Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”
Mayor Bufe led the Texas Pledge.
7. Public Comment (non-action)
No public comments were offered.
8. Review/Approval Minutes of the Previous City Council Meeting
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous city council meeting. Councilwoman Mahan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
9. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports
Councilwoman Mahan made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
10. Public Hearings
 - a. 1808 Ave K - Setback Exception allowing a shop to be placed on the property line eliminating the 5-foot setback requirement
Mayor Bufe opened the public hearing for the setback exception at 1808 Ave K. No comments were offered. Mayor Bufe closed the public hearing.
 - b. Conduct Public Hearing - Proposed FY2025-2026 Budget
Mayor Bufe opened the public hearing for the Proposed FY2025-2026 Budget. No comments were offered. Mayor Bufe closed the public hearing.

The proposed budget is available on the City of Abernathy website at:

<https://cityofabernathy.org/your-government/city-administration/financial-transparency/budgets/>

A copy is available for viewing in the City Secretary's office.

THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR'S BUDGET BY \$55,533 WHICH IS A 7.32 PERCENT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET, AND OF THAT AMOUNT

\$8,823.81 IS TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR.

- c. Conduct Public Hearing - Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.547299/\$100

i. Tax Impact Statement

THE MEDIAN-VALUED HOMESTEAD PROPERTY FOR TAX RATE 2025 IS \$149,690. BELOW IS A COMPARISON OF THE ESTIMATED STATEMENT OF IMPACT FOR THIS MEDIAN-VALUED HOMESTEAD FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR COMPARED TO THE CITY OF ABERNATHY PROPOSED TAX RATE AND THE NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE.

Current Tax Rate	Proposed Tax Rate	No-New Revenue Tax Rate
\$0.537824	\$0.547299	\$0.528792

\$ 805.07

\$ 819.25

\$ 791.55

Mayor Bufe opened the public hearing for the Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.547299/\$100. No comments were offered. Mayor Bufe closed the public hearing.

11. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Consider Variance Request at 1808 Ave K - Setback Exception allowing a shop to be placed on the property line eliminating the 5-foot setback requirement
Councilman Stephenson made a motion to approve the variance request at 1808 Ave K. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- b. Consider approval of a contract with Bureau Veritas for building inspections
Councilman Speer made a motion to approve the contract with Bureau Veritas for building inspections. Councilwoman Mahan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- c. Consider approval of Atmos Franchise Agreement
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve the Atmos Franchise Agreement – Ordinance 652. Councilman Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- d. Consider approval of South Plains Waste Contract
Councilwoman Mahan made a motion to approve the South Plains Waste Contract. Councilwoman Cortez seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- e. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Lubbock County for on-site sewage permits and inspections
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Lubbock County for on-site sewage permits and inspections. Councilman Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- f. Consider Approval of Ordinance 648 – An Ordinance regarding the City of Abernathy's Texas Municipal Retirement System Benefits
Councilwoman Mahan made a motion to approve Ordinance 648. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- g. Consider Approval of Ordinance 649 - Budget for FY 2025-2026
Councilman Stephenson made a motion to approve Ordinance 649 adopting the FY 2025-2026 budget as presented. Councilwoman Mahan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0. Councilman Stephenson - Aye, Councilwoman Prater- Aye, Councilwoman Cortez- Aye, Councilman Speer- Aye, and Councilwoman Mahan- Aye
- h. Consider Approval of Ordinance 650 - Action to Ratify the Property Tax Increase Reflected in the FY 2025-2026 Budget
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve Ordinance 650 to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the 2025-2026 budget. Councilwoman Mahan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0. Councilman Stephenson - Aye, Councilwoman Prater- Aye, Councilwoman Cortez- Aye, Councilman Speer- Aye, and Councilwoman Mahan- Aye
- i. Consider Ordinance 651 – Setting a Tax Rate of 0.547299/\$100
Councilwoman Mahan moved to approve Ordinance 651 that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a rate of \$0.547299/\$100 which is effectively a 3.499 percent increase in the tax rate. Councilman Speer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0. Councilman

Stephenson - Aye, Councilwoman Prater- Aye, Councilwoman Cortez- Aye, Councilman Speer- Aye, and Councilwoman Mahan- Aye

- j. Discussion and consider approval on the Thunder Pump estimate for repairs to water well #5 not to exceed \$13,000.00.
Councilwoman Mahan made a motion to approve the estimate from Thunder Pump for repairs to water well #5 not to exceed \$13000.00 Councilman Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.
- k. Discussion on amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Abernathy, Texas, Appendix A- Fee Schedule
Julie provided council a proposed fee schedule to discuss and consider at the October Council meeting.
- l. Discussion on amending the Fence Ordinance
Julie presented council a draft fence ordinance for council to consider at the October council meeting.
- m. Consider adoption of a Procurement Policy for the City of Abernathy
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to table until the October meeting. Councilman Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

12. Convene in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee:

- i. Chief of Police
- ii. City Secretary
- iii. Judge
- iv. City Administrator

Council entered executive session at 8:24 P.M.

13. Reconvene in open session and, if necessary, discuss and consider the matters discussed in executive session.
Council reconvened open session at 9:51 P.M. No action taken.

14. Administrative reports:

City Administrator Julie Arrington gave reports on the following items:

- a. Chamber of Commerce
- b. Airport Update
- c. Water Well #5
- d. Animal Control Board

15. Mayor and Council remarks

Mayor and council gave their remarks

16. Adjournment

Councilwoman Prater made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Speer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

Mayor Harold Bufe

ATTEST

Krista Adames, City Secretary