



The City Council for the City of Abernathy met in regular session on Thursday, January 15th, 2026, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Hall building at 811 Ave D. Members present were Mayor Harold Bufo, Eva Cortez, Gary Stephenson, Matt Speer, and Bilinda Prater. Also present were City Staff including Julie Arrington, Cindy Tapia, Ricky Patterson, Jaden Zavala, Ryan Hernandez, Dwain Read, and Kelly Vandygriff. Members of the public are on the attached sign in sheet.

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order**
Mayor Bufo called the meeting to order.
- 2. Establishing Quorum**
A quorum was established.
- 3. Welcome Guests**
Mayor Bufo welcomed the guest.
- 4. Invocation**
Mayor Bufo gave the invitation.
- 5. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag**
Mayor Bufo 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 Bufo led the Texas Pledge.
- 7. Public Comment (non-action)**
No Public Comments
- 8. Public Hearing**
 - a. Variance request for a side yard setback at 611 10th Street, Abernathy, TX
Mayor Bufo opened the public hearing to allow for community feedback on the setback adjustment. No individuals spoke in favor of or against the request. Mayor Bufo officially closed the public hearing at 6:36 P.M.
- 9. Consent Agenda**
Councilman Stephenson moved to approve the following items a-l in the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Speer. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.
 - a. Review/Approval Minutes of the Previous City Council Meeting
 - b. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports
 - c. Call for May 2, 2026, Election
 - d. Resolution 01152026 – Calling for Joint Election
 - e. Approve the Joint Elections Contract with Lubbock County Election Office – May 2, 2026, Election
 - f. Appointment of Roxine Stinson, Elections Administrator as the Joint Elections Officer.
 - g. Appointment of Roxine Stinson, Elections Administrator as the Joint Early Voting Clerk
 - h. Appointment of the Lubbock County Elections Office, 1308 Crickets Ave, Lubbock, TX as the Main Early Voting Polling Place.
 - i. Approve Joint Early Voting Schedule and Locations (Exhibit A)
 - j. Approve Election Day Vote Centers (Exhibit B)
 - k. Appointment of Early Voting Ballot Board Judge Ronny Gallagher and Alternate Judge Beth Sharpiro

- I. Appointment of Central Count Station Personnel
 - a. Roxzine Stinson, Elections Administrator as Central Count Manager
 - b. Kristen Phelps as Tabulation Supervisor
 - c. Beth Bender as the Central Count Presiding Judge.

d. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Discuss, consider and possible action on request for financial assistance for AVFD Vehicle Repair
The AVFD requested financial assistance for unforeseen vehicle repairs totaling an estimated \$4,200.00. Councilman Stephenson moved to approve city funding for 50% of the repair costs, seconded by Councilwoman Cortez. The motion carried 3-0-1, with Councilwoman Prater abstaining
- b. Discuss, consider and possible action on the approval of the SCADA system upgrades to the Water and Wastewater systems proposed by South Plains Services, LLC
Councilman Speer moved to approve Phases 1 and 2 of the proposal from South Plains Services, LLC, with the stipulation that phase 2 labor be deferred to a later date. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.
- c. Discuss, consider and possible action on the City of Abernathy Municipal Airport
Councilman Stephenson moved to table the discussion on the Municipal Airport until the next meeting. Seconded by Councilman Speer. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.
- d. Discuss, consider and possible action on the adoption of the Governance Policy
No motion was made.
- e. Discuss, consider and possible action on authorizing Mayor Bufe to enter into an agreement with USG Water Solutions for water infrastructure repairs
Councilwoman Prater moved to enter into an agreement with USG Water solutions and to begin maintenance on the North Tower and the standpipe, and repair and maintenance later, seconded by Councilman Speer. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.

e. Executive Session

- a. Section 551.071. CONSULTATIONS WITH AN ATTORNEY; CLOSED MEETING- authorizing a governmental body to consult with its attorney in an executive session to seek his or her advice on legal matters – Police Department Procedures
Council entered into executive session at 9:03P.M. and closed at 10:04P.M.
- b. Section. 551.087. DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS; CLOSED MEETING- to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described by subdivision (1). EDC Abatement
Council entered into executive session at 8:42P.M. and closed at 9:01P.M.

10. Reconvene Open Session - in accordance with Texas Government Code, consider any action necessary regarding matters discussed in Executive Session.

Council reconvened open session at 9:01 P.M.

12. Administrative reports:

City Administrator Julie Arrington gave reports on the following items.

- a. Staff Updates and Training
- b. Holiday
- c. Engineering Contract Updates
- d. Data Centers

e. Lead and Copper Violation

f. Well #5

g. Closure of 2 CD's

13. Mayor and Council remarks

Mayor and Council gave their remarks.

14. Adjournment

Councilwoman Prater moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Speer. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.

Mayor Harold Bufe

ATTEST

Krista Adames, City Secretary