

September 8, 2025

The City Council of the City of Lavaca met for a regular meeting Monday, September 8, 2025, at city hall in Lavaca. Board members present were Mayor Hugh Hardgrave, Aldermen Lisa Hogan, Lorie Robertson, Gerald Schaeffer, Mike Ray, Mac Green and Dawn Hutchins; and City Attorney John Verkamp. Visitors present were Willie Maness, Kirk Barber, Jeremy Smith, and Charles Toon.

Lorie Robertson's motion to accept the minutes as presented was seconded by Lisa Hogan, all members present voted yes.

Chief Toon presented the police report for the month of August. The department issued 32 warnings and 7 citations and made one arrest in August. There were 23 outside agency assists in August. Chief Toon is retiring at the end of September and Jeremy Smith is being promoted to Chief on October 1, 2025.

Kirk Barber presented the Fire Report for the month of August. The Department has responded to 275 calls this year. Fire Department personnel greeted elementary school students during the first week of school. Various opportunities for training were discussed.

In the Public Works departments sewer lines were viewed with a camera and later smoked and several areas needing repair were identified. Various water leaks were repaired and water taps made.

Proposed budget amendments in the General, Water and Street Funds were considered by the council. These amendments reflect the use of reserve funds for special or un-budgeted projects: the Pickleball Court Project, North Davis Street Project and various sewer repair and maintenance projects. Lorie Robertson's motion to approve these budget amendments was seconded by Mike Ray, all members present voted yes.

There are three vacancies in the planning commission and the Mayor presented three candidates to fill these vacancies:

Gerald Schaeffer's motion to appoint Charles Gartner to the Planning Commission was seconded by Mike Ray, all members present voted yes.

Lorie Robertson's motion to appoint Serena Dodson to the Planning Commission was seconded by Lisa Hogan, all members present voted yes.

Dawn Hutchins' motion to appoint Brad Dooly to the Planning Commission was seconded by Mike Ray, all members present voted yes.

The Council considered an amendment to the Salary Schedule to add an additional pay scale for the position of Police Sergeant between the Police Chief pay scale and Certified Police Officer

pay scale. The Police Sergeant pay scale will have a starting pay of \$17.51 per hour and 2190 hours base pay. Gerald Schaeffer's motion to amend the salary schedule as described was seconded by Mike Ray, all members present voting yes. This amendment is effective October 1, 2025.

The Council considered the starting rate of pay for Amanda Fisher, hired to the position of Certified Full Time Police Officer effective October 1, 2025. Starting rate of pay is \$17.00 per hour and 2190 hours base pay. Gerald Schaeffer made a motion to pay Ms. Fisher the hourly rate reflecting her verifiable years of experience. Mike Ray seconded the motion. All members present voted yes.

The Council voted to pay the bills. (LH/MR)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Hugh Hardgrave