

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2026**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Hart
Councilmember McGowan
Councilmember Thompson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Bourque
Councilmember Gatlin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Carder

Administrative Personnel: Aleta Cappen, Interim City Manager; Pebbles Eckhoff, Finance Director; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Rodney Johnson, Interim Police Chief;

A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS

A -1. Call to order and the establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was present, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 6:00 p.m., Misty Hart, Mayor, presiding.

A -2. Invocation and Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A-3. Music Friendly Venue Recognition: Presentation recognizing four Vidor venues designated by the Texas Music Friendly Community Program

Allison Cappen, Visitor's Center Administrator, explained the benefits of being listed as a designated Texas Music Friendly Community will give multiple benefits to not only the venues but the City as well. Cappen, recognized Louis Benoit's Event Hall, The Oaks, Rickenjaks, and Bayou Café Vidor as Texas Music Friendly designation.

A -4. Citizen's Comments

None

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:

General Fund -	\$655,391.16
MCBSF -	\$720.00
Hotel Occupancy Fund -	\$2,196.55
Juvenile Case Manager Fund -	\$200.00
Proprietary Fund -	\$131,371.67
Employee Benefit Trust	\$92,512.81
Disaster Fund	\$198,223.43
 Grand Total:	 \$1,080,615.62

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Special Called Meeting September 18, 2025 Part 1,2, and 3, Regular Meeting November 13, 2025, and Regular meeting 12-11-25

A motion to **approve paid invoices and minutes for September 18, 2025, parts 1, 2, and 3; November 13, 2025, and December 11, 2025**, was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed, one (1) abstain Jessica Barker. **The motion carried.**

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Consideration and possible approval of an Ordinance finding certain buildings, dwellings and/or structures located at 375 W. Tram St., Vidor, Texas, to be public nuisances and ordering the demolition and/or repair of buildings, dwellings, or structures. (second reading)

A motion to **an Ordinance finding certain buildings, dwellings and/or structures located at 375 W. Tram St., Vidor, Texas, to be public nuisances and ordering the demolition and/or repair of buildings, dwellings, or structures**, was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried. (2nd Reading)**

C -2. Consideration and possible action regarding approval of nominations for the 2026 Music Friendly Walk of Fame stars

Allison Cappen, Visitor's Center Administrator, gave a brief overview stating eight (8) applications were submitted and the Music Friendly Committee chose three (3) to bring before Council. The three (3) were Waylon Payne, actor, an artist, and a songwriter; Carl Richardson, musician; and Johnny Jano, national broadcaster for AM radio and singer.

A motion to **approve nominations for the 2026 Music Friendly Walk of Fame stars**, was made by Councilmember Bourque, seconded by Councilmember McGowan. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -3. Consideration and possible action to approve an Ordinance regulating traffic on Freeway Drive within corporate limits of the City by traffic control device (no truck route)

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated we already have an Ordinance that states truck routes have to be designated to be on the list and Freeway Drive is not, and a sign may be installed saying no truck route.

A motion to **approve an Ordinance regulating traffic on Freeway Drive within corporate limits of the City by traffic control device (no truck route)**, was made by Councilmember Barker, seconded by Councilmember Bourque. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -4. Consideration and possible action to approve an Ordinance reducing the speed limit on Heritage in the city limits to twenty (20) miles per hour

Council passed on this item; speed test will be conducted after street repairs are completed.

C -5. Consideration and possible action regarding allocating an additional \$10,000 in Hotel Occupancy Tax funds for the Music Jam event to be held in the City

Council passed on this item.

C -6. Report from the Chief of Police regarding K-9 Grim's activities

Rodney Johnson, Chief of Police, stated that Officer Moss and Officer Grim have successfully completed training and have been working together on the streets now for over a month. Moss and Grim, have assisted in clearing houses, track suspects, and getting drugs off the streets as well.

C -7. Consideration and possible action to approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 10 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I – In General, Section 10-13, regarding residential and commercial property setback lines and variances

Council tabled this item pending more information regarding fire restrictions.

C -8. Consideration and possible action to approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 54 – Solid Waste, Article II – Rates and Charges, regarding rates and charges for solid waste, sanitation deposit fees, and refund items

Pebbles Eckhoff, Finance Director, gave a breakdown and the deposits and when customers receive them back, and that it is costing the City extra expenses due to the time limit being so short. The recommendation is to raise it to two (2) years and \$100.00 deposit on dumpsters.

A motion to **approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 54 – Solid Waste, Article II – Rates and Charges, regarding rates and charges for solid waste, sanitation deposit fees and refund items**, was made by Councilmember Bourque, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted four (4) for and one (1) abstain by Jessica Barker. **The motion carried.**

C -17. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion for **Consideration of Adjournment** was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Barker. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

These minutes were approved on January 22, 2026.



ATTEST:


Misty Songe Hart, Mayor


Rachel Duplechain, City Secretary