

AARON ROCCAFORTE <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i>	PATTY COLLINS <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
GINA MANNINO <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 5</i>
BRYANT CHAMPAGNE <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		SHERBY DIXON <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY
January 7, 2025

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor David Rutledge
Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier
Council Member Aaron Roccaforte
Council Member Gina Mannino
Council Member Bryant Champagne
Council Member Patty Collins
Council Member Sherby Dixon

ABSENT: None.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Bart Bartkowiak
City Attorney Paul Fukuda
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
Chief of Police Tod McDowell
Director of Finance Katrina Jones
Director of Personnel/Purchasing Kim Tucker
Director of Public Works Mike Lund
Utility Superintendent Mike Die
Municipal Deputy Court Clerk Tammi Fisetete

2. INVOCATION

The invocation was given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

3. PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG

Mayor Rutledge led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and to the State of Texas flag. At the conclusion of the pledges, Mayor Rutledge thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no changes, discussion, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

6. REPORTS & COMMENTS FROM:

(a) City Manager's Report

Bart Bartkowiak

1. The Rainbow Bridge was still open and TxDOT would meet and consider when they would close it at the end of the month.

(b) City Council

Council Member Aaron Roccaforte welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager and was glad to have him on board.

Council Member Gina Mannino welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager. She thanked the staff for the work they put in on the Christmas in the Park festival. She also thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier for her committee leadership.

Council Member Bryant Champagne welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager and told everyone Happy New Year.

Council Member Patty Collins welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager and told everyone Happy New Year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager to the city and said she prayed it would fit his lifestyle. She said she hopes it would be blessing to him as it would be to the city. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Sherby Dixon welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager.

(c) City Staff

The city staff welcomed Bart Bartkowiak, City Manager.

(d) Mayor David Rutledge report:

Welcomed Mr. Bartkowiak and thanked Ms. Jones for her leadership throughout the process of hiring a new city manager.

7. ORDINANCE

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2025-01 authorizing municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI (Entergy Texas, Inc.) at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2025

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-01 authorizing municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI (Entergy Texas Inc.) at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2025, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2025-02 establishing regulations governing Food Trucks, Mobile Food Units and Temporary Vendor Units

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-02 establishing regulations governing Food Trucks, Mobile Food Units and Temporary Vendor Units, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

8. RESOLUTION

(a) Discussion and consideration of possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-01(R) appointing/reappointing the Municipal Judge

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-01(R) reappointing Bill Dixon, Jr. to serve as the Municipal Judge, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Discussion and consideration of possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-02(R) appointing/reappointing the Associate Municipal Judge

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-02(R) reappointing Ida Schossov to serve as the Associate Municipal Judge, seconded by Council Member Patty Collins.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Discussion and consideration of possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-03(R) appointing/reappointing the City Attorney

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-03(R) reappointing Paul Fukuda to serve as the City Attorney, seconded by Council Member Champagne.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(d) Discussion and consideration of possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-04(R) appointing/reappointing the City Secretary

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-04(R) reappointing Jeanie McDowell to serve as the City Secretary, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

9. CONDUCT CEREMONY FOR THE NEWLY APPOINTED CITY OFFICIALS

(a) Oaths of Office:

- (1) Municipal Judge**
- (2) Associate Municipal Judge**
- (3) City Attorney**
- (4) City Secretary**

City Attorney Paul Fukuda administered the oath to Judge Bill Dixon. Judge Dixon administered oaths to Mr. Fukuda and Ms. McDowell.

The audience acknowledged each official with applause.

10. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the December 3, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting minutes

Council Member Dixon made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

With no changes, discussion, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve City bills for the month of November 2024

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve City bills for the month of November 2024, seconded by Council Member Collins.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Consideration and possible action to approve to certify the 2024 City of Bridge City Current Tax Roll and 2024 Delinquent Tax Roll as submitted by Octavia Guzman, Orange County Tax Assessor-Collector

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve certifying the 2024 City of Bridge City Current Tax Roll and 2024 Delinquent Tax Roll as submitted by Octavia Guzman, Orange County Tax Assessor-Collector, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(d) Consideration and possible action to approve the amendment to the 2024-2025 police contract

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the amendment to the 2024-2025 police contract, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

- (e) **Consideration and possible action to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract between LaDonna Alford, Orange County Elections Administrator and the City of Bridge City, Texas to supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 3, 2025**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract between LaDonna Alford, Orange County Elections Administrator and the City of Bridge City, Texas to supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 3, 2025, seconded by Council Member Collins

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

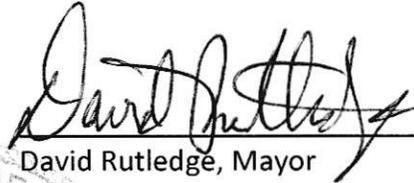
Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, and Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Champagne, Collins, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

11. ADJOURN

Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.



David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary

