

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BOSSIER CITY
STATE OF LOUISIANA TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

The City Council of the City of Bossier City, State of Louisiana, met in Regular session in City Courtroom, 620 Benton Road, Bossier City, Louisiana, February 17, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

Council President, Chris Smith called the meeting to order.

Invocation was given by Council Member Cliff Smith

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Brian Hammons

Roll Call as follows:

Present: Honorable Councilor, President Chris Smith, Honorable Councilors Craton Cochran, Vince Maggio, Brian Hammons, Debra W. Ross, Cliff Smith, and Joel Girouard

Also Present: Mayor, Thomas Chandler, City Attorney, Charles Jacobs, and City Clerk, Phyllis McGraw

City Clerk, Phyllis McGraw read the statement about public participation in the meeting and disclosure of conflicts.

Ceremonial Matters/Recognition of Guests

President Chris Smith presented Bossier City Employee, Carnielius "Skillet" Rogers with a proclamation in recognition of Black History Month and in honor of his service.

Mayor Tommy Chandler and Assistant City Attorney Richard Ray presented Charles Cupit with a proclamation in recognition of a life of service and honor.

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to remove #8 under New Business and combine Public Hearings #1 and #2.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to approve Agenda as amended

Seconded by Mrs. Debra W. Ross

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mrs. Debra W. Ross

Motion to approve Minutes of February 3, 2026, Regular Meeting and dispense with the reading.

Seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Bids

Agenda item called - Witness Opening of Sealed Bids for Project #P26-05 City Fuel Station Conversions

	Total Bid	Alternate #1
Hoffman Petroleum Equipment	\$1,500,803	\$72,500

By: Mr. Brian Hammons
Motion to take bids under advisement
Seconded by: Mr. Cliff Smith
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Emergent Business

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

Ordinance No. 17 Of 2026

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE THAT AN EXTREME EMERGENCY DID EXIST IN THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY WHICH AFFECTED PROPERTY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND SAFETY DUE TO THE REQUIREMENT TO RESTORE 10-INCH WATERMAIN BLOWOUT AT 2400 HOSPITAL DR. AT A COST OF \$13,870.49 TO COME FROM WATER CAPITAL CONTINGENCY FUND.

WHEREAS, The Public Utilities Department responded to an emergency 10-inch water main rupture due to mechanical valve failure at Willis Knighton Bossier Facility requiring immediate action to repair a short section of this main and valve; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Department required support to make the repairs to the main due to the material, size, depth, and existing utility conflicts at the location; and

WHEREAS, the repairs will cost \$13,870.49 in labor, equipment, and materials to complete the repair efforts; and

WHEREAS, \$13,870.49 shall be appropriated from the Water Capital Contingency Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in regular session convened that the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, does hereby declare that an emergency exists and authorizes the Mayor to appropriate \$13,870.49 to come from the Water Capital and Contingency Fund to be used for the purpose of making repairs to the 10-inch water main; and authorizes the City to enter into any necessary contracts for completion of the work.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents in connection with the furtherance of this Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the 2026 Water Capital and Contingency Budget is hereby amended to increase expenditures for required repairs by \$13,870.49 and decrease Fund Balance by \$13,870.49.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mr. Joel Girouard and adopted on the 17th day of February 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will become legal immediately.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

Ordinance No. 18 Of 2026

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS IN THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY WHICH AFFECTS PROPERTY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND SAFETY DUE TO THE FAILURE OF AN 8-INCH GRAVITY SEWER MAIN ON LAMPKIN STREET; AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY REPAIRS IN AN AMOUNT OF \$72,000.00 FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL AND CONTINGENCY FUND

WHEREAS, gravity sewer mains and manholes are critical infrastructure in Bossier’s wastewater collection system and overtime the ground water table fluctuates causing the pipe bedding to shift in which the manhole jars, main, or service collapses/separate; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Department needed emergency support to replace two 20ft 8-inch sewer segments as it collapsed; and

WHEREAS, the scope of work involved is beyond the Utility Department’s capabilities, so the repairs were solicited due to the size and scale of the equipment, material, and labor required; and

WHEREAS, it will cost \$72,000.00 in labor, equipment, and materials to complete the replacement of the mains, service connections and Manhole connection; and

WHEREAS, \$72,000.00 shall be appropriated from the Sewer Capital and Contingency Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in regular session convened that the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, does hereby declare that an emergency exists and authorizes the Mayor to appropriate \$72,000.00 to come from the Sewer Capital and Contingency Fund to be used for the purpose of replacing and repairing the gravity sewer main segment; and authorizes the City to enter into any necessary contracts for completion of the work.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents in connection with the furtherance of this Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the 2026 Sewer Capital and Contingency Budget is hereby amended to increase expenditures for required repairs by \$72,000.00 and decrease Fund Balance by \$72,000.00.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Cliff Smith and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 17th day of February 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will become legal immediately.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

New Business

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to introduce an Ordinance terminating the Joint Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Bossier Arts Council and repealing certain existing ordinances allowing use of city premises by Bossier Arts Council.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

BAC Board President, Nathan Hicks addressed the Council and requested a two-week extension in an effort to obtain documentation from the Legislative Auditor stating the BAC is taking necessary action to become compliant. Audience members Bob Robinson, Aaron Finney, Chang Liu, Korben Wilson, Jennifer Carsillo, Kirsten Baldwin, Besty Levels, Brandon Armstrong, Jacquan Davis, Penny Goodfellow, Jaylen Attaway, and Cade Lopez spoke in support of the BAC. Mr. Hicks answered Council members questions concerning how the BAC got to this point and what steps were being taken to avoid this happening again in the future.

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to continue until March 3rd and East Bank management will be terminated and handled by the City of Bossier for the time being.

Seconded by Mrs. Debra Ross

Mr. Chris Smith and Mr. Girouard shared concerns about the BAC obtaining proper documentation necessary. Mr. Chris Smith asked Mr. Hicks if he understood the motion. Mr. Hicks believes he will be able to receive some type of documentation from the Auditor. Mr. Chris Smith asked Mr. Hicks that he send copies to the Mayor's Office, Finance Director, CAO, and the City Clerk. Mr. Chris Smith wants the record to show the Bossier Arts Council understands the motion.

No further comment

Motion carries with the following votes:

Ayes: Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

Nays: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, and Mr. Cliff Smith

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Mr. Chris Smith called a five-minute recess at 4:37 PM.

Mr. Chris Smith called the meeting back to order at 4:44 PM.

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to introduce an Ordinance authorizing Mayor Thomas H. Chandler to execute the attached amendment to the Master Agreement with SRI, Inc.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Joel Girouard

Motion to introduce an Ordinance authorizing and approving the engagement of Heard, McElroy, & Vestal, LLC to provide professional services to audit the financial statements of the City of Bossier City and Brookshire Grocery Arena.

Seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mrs. Debra W. Ross
Motion to introduce an Ordinance authorizing Mayor Thomas H. Chandler to execute the attached Concessions Agreement between the City of Bossier City and Southwest Concession.
Seconded by Mr. Craton Cochran
Mary Ward, Director of Parks and Recreation, confirmed at Mr. Hammons' request that this is the same company currently handling concessions.
No further comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Brian Hammons
Motion to introduce an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 12 of 2026 making changes to the 2026 City Council Budgets
Seconded by Mr. Joel Girouard
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Brian Hammons
Motion to introduce an Ordinance authorizing Mayor Thomas H. Chandler to execute the attached Master Services Agreement with Law Enforcement Administrative & Management Services ("LEAMS").
Seconded by Mr. Joel Girouard
Chief of Police Daniel Haugen explained that LEAMS will take care of scheduling and management of part-time work for the Police Department at no cost to the City.
No further comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Brian Hammons
Motion to introduce an Ordinance declaring a certain portion of SBC Subdivision surplus to the needs of the City of Bossier City.
Seconded by Mr. Craton Cochran
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 13 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS PLAN

WHEREAS, Section 6.09 of the Bossier City Charter requires adoption of a five-year capital improvement projects program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the attached Five-Year Capital Projects Plan for 2026-2030 is hereby adopted.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and adopted on the 17th day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION 14 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING NEW PART-TIME EMPLOYEES IN THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT AS APPROPRIATED IN THE 2026 OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to the hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for any labor including temporary or contractual employment.

WHEREAS, The 2026 Budget authorized the addition of 2 new part-time employees and added the appropriations required to fund these positions; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the department assures that all current budgets have been verified and that no authorized salary has been exceeded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the administration is authorized to proceed with hiring procedures for the fulfillment of these positions.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Cliff Smith and seconded by Mr. Brian Hammons and adopted on the 17th day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION 15 Of 2026

A RESOLUTION TO HIRE ONE BOOKING MANAGER FOR THE BOSSIER CITY CIVIC CENTER.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to the hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for any labor including temporary or contractual employment; and

WHEREAS, the Bossier City Civic Center is facility that provides a venue with more than 31,500 square feet of space that is utilized by both public and private organizations and has been an important part of the community since 1987; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the utilization of the Bossier City Civic Center has increased and hiring a Booking Manager is necessary to both maintain the current booking level while working to increase the number and quality of events to be held in the facility; and

WHEREAS, the position of Booking Manager is a full-time position that was previously approved in the 2026 budget and filling this open position will not change the number of full-time positions previously approved in the 2026 budget; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the department assures that all current budgets have been verified and that no authorized salary has been exceeded.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained the administration is hereby authorized to hire one Booking Manager for the Bossier City Civic Center.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and adopted on the 17th day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

Resolution No. 16 Of 2025

A RESOLUTION FOR PUBLIC WORKS TO FILL A FULL TIME ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER POSITION IN THE ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION AND BACKFILL ANY VACANT POSITION THIS CREATES.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for labor including temporary or contractual employment; and

WHEREAS, a full time Animal Control Officer position is vacant due to termination and creates the need to fulfill by hiring or promoting from within and backfill any position this creates; and

WHEREAS, the administration and department assure that the current budget has been verified and that funding available in the total budgeted salaries is not exceeded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized to replace the position due to an opening and backfill any position this creates by hiring or promoting within the Department of Public Works with no impact to the existing budget.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 17th day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

Agenda item called - Adopt a Resolution nominating for confirmation by the Bossier City Council Terry Harris as the Bossier City Civic Center Executive Director.

Mr. Chris Smith invited Mr. Harris to introduce himself and stated Mr. Harris has served as the Operations Manager for the Civic Center for the past four years. Mr. Chris Smith added that Mr. Harris will continue performing those duties, in addition to the Executive Director ones. Mr.

Hammons stated that he has heard nothing but outstanding words about the work Mr. Harris does for City of Bossier and Civic Center.
No further comment

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 17 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION NOMINATING FOR CONFIRMATION BY THE BOSSIER CITY COUNCIL
TERRY HARRIS AS THE BOSSIER CITY CIVIC CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

WHEREAS, due to the confirmation of Carol Andersen as Project Coordinator, a vacancy exists in the position of Executive Director of the Bossier City Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Bossier City Charter Sections 4.06 (m) and 14.02, the Mayor shall nominate for confirmation by the City Council an Executive Director of the Bossier City Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, Terry Harris has been employed in various capacities in the Bossier Civic Center since 2022 and possesses vast experience, has served with distinction, and is well qualified to serve in the position of Executive Director;

WHEREAS, the position of Executive Director is a full-time position that was previously approved in the 2026 budget and filling this open position will not change the number of full-time positions previously approved in the 2026 budget; and

WHEREAS, the administration assures that all current budgets have been verified and that no authorized salary has been exceeded; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Thomas H. Chandler hereby nominates Terry Harris for the position of Executive Director of the Bossier City Civic Center and requests that the Bossier City Council confirm Terry Harris for the position effective immediately; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the nomination of Terry Harris as the Executive Director of the Bossier City Civic Center is hereby confirmed.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mr. Joel Girouard and adopted on the 17th day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

Public Hearings/Actions on Unfinished Business

Public Hearing concerning the application of Sarah Lytle requesting a Conditional Use approval to allow the establishment of the Bloom House, a Community Service Use, operating as a supervised family visitation center serving children involved with the Department of Children and Families, with Greenacres Subdivision, located at 2519 Waverly Drive, Bossier City, Louisiana, that was ruled unfavorable by the MPC on January 15, 2026.

By: Mr. Craton Cochran

Motion to consider an Ordinance approving a Conditional Use Approval for a community service use, for a supervised family visitation center, The Bloom House, located at 2519 Waverly Drive, Bossier City, Louisiana.

Seconded by Mr. Brian Hammons

Audience members Adam Lytle, Brianna Acres, David Matlock, and Claire Cox spoke in support of the Bloom House and the proposed scope of work that would occur. Audience members Ruth Pope Johnston, Cathy Bickham, Leane Boudreaux, Lauren Thomas, and Dondra Armitage spoke against the Bloom House operating within a neighborhood and expressed concerns about overall safety and parking issues. Audience member David Crockett asked the Council to take more time before making a final vote. MPC Director, Carlotta Askew-Brown answered the Council's questions. Mr. Maggio, Mr. Cochran, and Mr. Hammons expressed concerns about an establishment like Bloom House operating in a neighborhood and why they would be voting against it. Mr. Chris Smith and Mr. Cliff Smith expressed their support of the Bloom House. Mrs. Ross stated she would be voting in agreement with the MPC ruling. Mr. Chris Smith listed the three options Council members could choose from when making a motion: override the MPC, uphold the unfavorable ruling by MPC, or remand back to MPC. City Clerk, Phyllis McGraw and Mr. Chris Smith explained what the votes would mean: Nay votes would uphold the MPC ruling and Yay votes would override the MPC ruling.

No further comment

Motion fails by the following votes:

Yays: Mr. Chris Smith and Mr. Cliff Smith

Nays: Mr. Maggio, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Girouard

Absent: None

Abstain: None

On behalf of the Council, Mr. Chris Smith asked Angela Williamson, Finance Director, and Andy Bajnauth, City Engineer, to move Reports to the next meeting. Mrs. Williamson and Mr. Bajnauth agreed. Mrs. Williamson asked for the record to reflect that the Reports were prepared for the February 17 meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:51 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

Publish February 25, 2026