



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

A WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS HELD AT CITY HALL, 710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET, DEER PARK, TEXAS ON JANUARY 20, 2026 BEGINNING AT 6:15 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

JERRY MOUTON	MAYOR
SHERRY GARRISON	COUNCILWOMAN
TJ. HAIGHT	COUNCILMAN
TOMMY GINN	COUNCILMAN
JUSTIN LEAGUE	COUNCILMAN
RON MARTIN	COUNCILMAN
GEORGETTE FORD	COUNCILWOMAN

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

JAMES STOKES	CITY MANAGER
SARA ROBINSON	ASST. CITY MANAGER
JIM FOX	CITY ATTORNEY
ANGELA SMITH	CITY SECRETARY

SEC 551.127 VIDEO CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE – Not used.

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Mouton called the workshop to order at 6:15 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

Ricardo Morales, 2560 I-45 #1424, Spring, expressed support regarding handball courts.
Adam Shumaker, 84 Sugarberry Circle, Houston, expressed support regarding handball courts.
Omar Lemus, 15620 Long Rd., Houston, expressed support regarding handball courts.
Fred Jose Covalllos, 8033 Sherman St., Houston, expressed support regarding handball courts.
Jose Covalllos, 1917 Carlsbad, Deer Park, expressed support regarding handball courts.
Ned Colvus, expressed support regarding handball courts.

1. RECOGNITION OF THE 2025 DEER PARK TIGERS FOOTBALL SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS – Mayor Mouton recognized the 2025 Peewee Super Bowl Champions Deer Park Tigers Football athletes, coaches, and families on their outstanding undefeated season.

2. RECOGNITION OF VARIOUS CITY EMPLOYEES AND THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS - City Manager James Stokes introduced first presenter of the recognition of various City employees and their accomplishments:

Presenter: Finance Director Nicole Ganey,:

Cassie Pullig, Assistant Court Administrator, Municipal Court: Successfully achieved Texas Municipal Courts Education Center (TMCEC) Level II Court Clerk Certification. Sarah Rios, Court Clerk II and Kassie Richter, Court Clerk II, Municipal Court: Successfully achieved Texas Municipal Courts Education Center (TMCEC) Level I Court Clerk Certification.

Michelle Combs, Court Administrator, Municipal Court: Elected to the Gulf Coast Education Chair/Co-Director of the Texas Court Clerks Association.

Finance Department: For the thirty-eighth (38th) Consecutive Year the Department Attained the Prestigious Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Presenter: Human Resources Director Sandra Wilson:

Victoria Quiroga, HR Assistant, Human Resources Department: Successfully earned a Bachelors Degree in Management from the University of Houston - Clear Lake.

Presenter: Parks and Recreation Director Kenny Walsh:

Parks & Recreation Department: The Parks & Recreation Department attained the status of Certified Autism Department by the International Board of Credentialing & Continuing Education Standards.

Presenter: Office of Emergency Management Director Jamie Galloway:

David Machemehl, Assistant Fire Marshal, Fire Marshal's Office: Recipient of the 2025 President's Award from the Texas Fire Marshal's Association.

Presenter: Chief Andrew Smith:

Tracey Guizar, EMS Lieutenant, EMS Division: Recipient of the 2025 American Legion EMT of the Year.

Presenter: Chief Phillip Arroyo

Mike Moore, Firefighter, Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department: Recipient of the 2025 American Legion Firefighter of the Year.

Presenter: Assistant City Manager Sara Costlow:

Kaitlyn Bluejacket, PIO/Marketing Manager, Tourism & Marketing Office: Successfully earned a Masters Degree in Management & Leadership from Western Governors University.

Elliott Moore, Public Relations & Marketing Specialist, Tourism & Marketing Office: Successfully earned a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Louisiana State University at Shreveport.

Nicole Ganey, Director of Finance, Finance Department: Elected to the Board of Directors of the Texas Coalition for Affordable Power

Presenter: City Manager Jay Stokes:

Angela Smith, City Secretary, City Secretary's Office: 2025-2026 President & Treasurer of the Texas Women Leading Government Gulf Coast Chapter and 2025-2026 Treasurer of the Salt Grass Chapter of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association.

3. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE AWARDS FOR 4TH QUARTER. - City Manager James Stokes introduced the 2025 4th Quarter employees:

Field: Code Enforcement Officer Stormy Thornton.

Support: Deer Park Police Department Community Liaison Sheila Plovanich.

Team of the Quarter: Information Technology (IT) Department

Supervisor of the Quarter: Parks and Recreation Event Coordinator Susan Mele.

4. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATED TO THE RESPONSES AND RECOMMENDATION FROM SALARY & BENEFITS SURVEY RFP. - Human Resources Director Sandra Wilson presented information regarding the process and evaluation criteria for the Salary & Benefits Survey Request for Proposals (RFP), which falls under the strategic goal of Strategic Excellence. Ms. Wilson noted that Council approved this Salary & Benefits survey in the current budget. She recommended Public Sector Personnel Consultants, citing the firm's 50 years of experience, exclusive focus on local, state, and federal governments, and references from municipalities within the State of Texas. The proposed cost from Public Sector Personnel Consultants is \$35,000 for the base study and \$7,500 for an audit survey. During the discussion, Councilwoman Ford inquired about the timeline for the salary review. Ms. Wilson responded that the process will take approximately three months. No further questions were asked.

5. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF BATTING CAGES AND HAND BALL COURTS. - Parks and Recreation Director Kenny Walsh presented information regarding proposed batting cages and handball courts. Representatives from Tarkett Sports, who prepared the proposals for both projects, were present to answer questions from Council. Mr. Walsh noted that San Jacinto Park would be utilized for additional batting cages and pickleball courts. The base scope for the batting cages includes an overhead structure and equipment for four batting lanes, with a total quote of \$280,000.00. The design includes a roof and netting fence but does not include lighting.

Mr. Walsh also presented information on handball court options. Option 1 consists of a one-wall handball court at a cost of \$188,523.00, and Option 2 consists of a three-wall handball court at a cost of \$236,459.00. The walls are free-standing, constructed of concrete, and can be used on both sides. Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jacob Zuniga conducted research with other cities, YMCA facilities, and other sports entities to determine what they offer for handball courts. Mr. Zuniga provided a breakdown of his findings, noting that one of the US Handball Association has approximately 75 participants in the Houston area.

City Manager Jay Stokes stated that these proposals for batting cages and handball courts were previously presented to the Parks & Recreation Commission. During that discussion, the Commission noted that there is limited participation in handball and recommended proceeding with batting cages only. The direction from Council to explore options for handball courts, and batting cages usage, and the topic will be brought back for further consideration.

ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

Angela Smith, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:

Jerry Mouton, Jr.
Mayor