



Willows City Council Regular Meeting Action Minutes

February 25, 2025
Willows City Hall
6:00 PM

City Council
Evan Hutson, Mayor
Rick Thomas, Vice Mayor
Matt Busby, Council Member
Gary Hansen, Council Member
Lorri Pride, Council Member

City Manager
Marti Brown

City Clerk
Karleen Price

201 North Lassen Street
Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-7041

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 PM**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen, and Pride

Councilmembers Absent: None

4. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

5. **PRESENTATION**

a. **Finance and Measure I Oversight Committee (FMiOC) Update**

Action: Received finance update from the FMiOC Committee and provided direction to staff.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT & CONSENT CALENDAR FORUM**

Public Comment Open: 6:10PM, Closed 6:23PM

Public Comment #1: Vince Holvick, Mosquito Vector Control District

a. **Register Approval**

Action: Approved general checking, payroll, and direct deposit check registers.

b. **Minutes Approval**

Action: Approved the February 11, 2025, meeting minutes.

c. **Pioneer Community Energy Expansion to Willows**

Action: Approved Ordinance 763-2025, authorizing the implementation of a Community Choice Aggregation Program in the City of Willows.

- d. **Coastland Contract Amendment – FY 2024-25 Sewer Rehabilitation Project**
Action: Authorized the City Manager to execute a contract amendment to Coastland’s sewer rehabilitation project agreement to provide additional design services.

- e. **FY 2025-26 Landscaping and Lighting Special Assessment District**
Action: Adopted Resolution 07-2025 appointing Coastland Civil Engineering as the Engineer of Work for the City of Willows Landscaping and Lighting Special Assessment District and directing Coastland Civil Engineering to prepare the Annual Engineer's Report for FY 2025-26; and authorized the City Manager to execute a contract amendment with Coastland Civil Engineering to complete assessment engineering work associated with the City of Willows FY 2025-26 Landscaping and Lighting Special Assessment District.

- f. **Letter of Support for Federal Self-Help Housing Program**
Action: Approved a letter of support in favor of the USDA Rural Development mutual self-help housing program.

Motion to approve item a, c, d, e, f, and amended item b on the consent calendar.

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas and Councilmember Hansen

Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen, and Pride

No: None

Absent: None

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION CALENDAR

- a. **Solar Power Purchase Agreement – Civic Center and Fire Station**
Action: Authorized the City Manager to execute a Power Purchase Agreement with RP Willows Solar 2, LLC and RP Willows Solar 3, LLC for the installation of a roof mounted solar system at the Willows Civic Center and the Willows Firehouse and authorized the City Manager to execute a Side Letter with Trinary Energy for financial reimbursement of the roof replacement at the Willows Civic Center.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Hansen and Councilmember Busby
Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen, and Pride
No: None
Absent: None

- b. **Emergency Declaration – Failure of Library Ceiling and Roof**
Action: Announced a State of Emergency and ratified Resolution 08-2025 adopting findings of an emergency associated with the partial failure of the library ceiling and roof and authorizing city staff to take emergency actions to make required repairs.

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas and Councilmember Pride
Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen, and Pride
No: None
Absent: None

c. Re-establishment of Willows Police Department

Public Comment Open: 6:56PM, Closed 7:00PM

Public Comment #1: Carl Walter, Resident/Retired Law Enforcement

Action: Authorized staff to negotiate an additional two-year law enforcement services contract with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office through June 30, 2028; and directed staff to revisit the process and funding of a new Willows Police Department after the City has received two quarters of Measure I, the 1.5% sales tax, in November 2025.

8. COMMENTS & REPORTS

a. Council Correspondence

Mayor Thomas reported receiving correspondence from Lauren Still at Glenn Medical Center.

b. City Council Comments & Reports

Councilmember Busby provided updates on the Library Board Meeting and the Economic Development Meeting.

Councilmember Hansen provided updates on the Joint Colusa & Glenn Groundwater Authority Meeting, Regional Transit Committee Meeting and Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Pride provided an update on the activities of the Planning Commission.

Future Item: Directed staff to prepare a report on the advantages and disadvantages of suspending the Planning Commission, to be discussed at the March 25 or April 8, 2025 City Council Meeting.

Future Item: Directed staff to prepare an Ordinance for a moratorium on Food Trucks, to be discussed at the March 25, 2025 meeting.

c. City Manager's Report

Joe Bettencourt provided an update on the Sycamore Park Beautification, Rehabilitation and Mobility Project.

8. CLOSED SESSION

a. Conference with Labor Negotiators (§54957.6)

b. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation (§54956.9(b))

c. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation (§54956.9(b))

d. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (§54956.9)

e. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (§ 54957)

Report Out: Received information and gave direction to City Staff.

9. ADJOURNMENT – 7:48PM

Karleen Price, City Clerk