

**CITY OF AMES  
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 2025  
6:00 PM**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Domain called the meeting to order at this time. Mayor Domain conducted the roll call the members of the City Council who were present were: Councilman Michael Trahan, Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy, Councilman Eddie White, and Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr. Councilwoman-Elect Tiffany Burgos was also present. Councilwoman Audrey Harrison was absent. Councilman Eddie White led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**CITIZEN APPREARANCE**

There was no public participation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 15, 2025, REGULAR MEETING.**

The council took a few minutes to look over the minutes. Mayor Domain asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy**

**Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White**

**All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

**DISCUSS FINANCIALS**

The council reviewed the city's financial statements and provided details on insurance, legal fees, repairs and maintenance. There was discussion around properly allocating FEMA reimbursement funds and the process for transferring money between accounts.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2025-004 OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON MAY 3, 2025; FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR AND TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE AMES CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan**

**Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White**

**All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

2. OATHS OF OFFICE TO BE ADMINISTERED TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL.

***Barbara Domain was sworn in as Mayor and Eddie White and Tiffany Burgos were sworn in as the newly elected city council members by Marivious Allen.***

3. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-014 APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL JUDGE FOR THE CITY OF AMES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT.

Mayor Domain explained that the end of her 2023-2025 term also represented the end of the municipal judge's term, per city ordinance. After thorough consideration, she decided to not reappoint Emmett Albro as Judge. The mayor appointed Ms. Kimberly Judge to serve as the Municipal Judge for the 2025-2027 term and asked the council to approve the appointment. Councilwoman Hardy asked why we were requesting to change the Judge. Mayor Domain explained that Emmett has stepped down as the EDC Director and President of EDC due to a conflict of interest for him with the permitting department as well. Also, in the meeting with the Emmett, and Marivious, Emmett stated that he was not sure if he was still interested in renewing his contract to be the judge for the city of Ames. At the end of the day, we need somebody that wants to be here helping the city of Ames move forward with the things that we're trying to move forward on. The municipal court is responsible for enforcing and processing complaints of violations of city ordinances, such as code violations and property maintenance issues. The judge will hold court hearings, work with the city prosecutor, and issue rulings on these cases. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan**  
**Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

4. OATH OF OFFICE TO BE ADMINISTERED TO MUNICIPAL JUDGE.

***Kimberly Judge was sworn in as the City of Ames Municipal Court Judge by Marivious Allen.***

5. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ALONZO BALDWIN FOR LAWN CARE FOR THE CITY RIGHT OF WAY THROUGHOUT THE CITY FROR \$400 MONTH.

Mayor Domain explained that the City's interlocal agreement with Liberty County Precinct 1 for mowing and mosquito spraying is up for renewal in June. The mayor discussed terminating the agreement with the county for mowing and mosquito spraying services. She would like to hire a local contractor, Alonzo Baldwin, to maintain 26 streets once a month for \$400 per month. This will allow the city to have more control over the maintenance of the rights-of-way and ensure the work is being done effectively. Councilwoman Hardy asked if this service included County Road 154. Mayor Domain stated that she would get confirmation on County Road 154 because she is not sure if the county or the city is responsible for maintaining that road. Councilman Trahan asked if the cancellation of the interlocal agreement would be for both the mowing and the mosquito spraying. Mayor Domain stated that cancelling the interlocal agreement would be for both the lawn mowing and mosquito spraying. She also explained that she is sending one of the maintenance employees to take the pesticide training to conduct the mosquito spraying. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White**  
**Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

6. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE PAYING SAM.GOV FOR FIVE (5) YEAR RENEWAL TERM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00.

Wellona explained that SAM.gov registration is required for the city to apply for and receive grants. Any grant application that we try to submit ask for our SAM number and verify if we are an active

participant or not. She also explained that renewing for 5 years is more cost-effective than the previous 2-year renewal. Councilman Trahan asked how often we used this service. Mayor Domain explained that with every grant application we use the service. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously

**Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

7. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-015 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AMES AND COMMUNITIES UNLIMITED, INC. FOR GIS TRAINING AND FIELD DATA COLLECTION SERVICES.

Mayor Domain explained that this \$12,000 grant-funded project will create a comprehensive GIS system to map the city's infrastructure, such as manholes, water lines, and other assets. The GIS system will help the city more efficiently locate and maintain its infrastructure. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously

**Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

8. DISCUSS AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2025-005 REQUIRING UTILITY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO OBTAIN A PERMIT PRIOR TO INSTALLING OR CONNECTING SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AMES

Mayor Domain explained that we have been running into the problem of people going over to the water department to get water services before they check in with the city hall for sewer service. We have found that in some cases they do not come to the city hall, and they could possibly go for months without paying for sewer. The mayor would like to approve this ordinance to ensure that any company that provides a utility service would have to obtain a permit from the city before they can connect the service. This will help the city to keep track of connections and ensure proper billing for utility service. Councilwoman Hardy stated that we should already have memorandum of understanding in place with the water department that covers this issue. Mayor Domain stated that there is a memorandum of understanding with the water department; however, this ordinance would apply to all utility companies because we need to be aware of what work is being conducted within our city limits. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously

**Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White**  
**Seconded by: Councilwoman Tiffany Burgos**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

9. CONSIDER AND, IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-016 APPOINTING THE CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF AMES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO SERVE AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE CITY OF AMES HIGHER

## EDUCATION FACILITIES CORPORATION.

Mayor Domain stated that she was researching paperwork, she noticed that the City of Ames Higher Education Facilities Corporation board members were no longer with us. The Ames Higher Education Facilities Corporation is what the City of Ames' tax-exemption is under. Mayor Domain proposed we update the board members with the directors of the Economic Development Corporation. Councilwoman Hardy asked if we could ask other citizens if they would like to be members of the board. Mayor Domain stated that she is not opposed to asking other citizens to be on the board; however, at this moment right now we just need to get the information updated so that the members on the board are active and can be contacted if necessary. Mayor Domain suggested that once we have the members updated, we could use the City of Ames Higher Education Facilities Corporation to complete the application for the food bank because it is a nonprofit organization. There was more discussion about the inactive board members and why the Higher Education Facilities Corporation was created for. Mayor Domain stated that she just would like to update the names and move forward. There was no further discussion. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously

**Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan**  
**Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

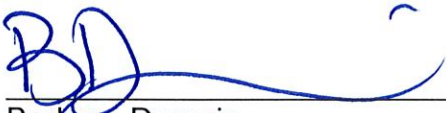
## 10. MAYOR'S REPORT

The mayor provided updates on several ongoing projects and initiative. She explained that C&A Construction is working on manholes and sewer lines and that Spectra Shield has started coating the manholes to prevent infiltration. The electricity is being connected to the food distribution center next week. The community garden has started, and the crops are growing nicely. The city has been working with the new CPA to clean up past audit findings. Also, the Mayor stated that she plans to apply for additional grants to address mental health awareness

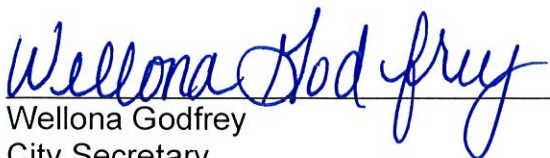
## 11. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM.

**Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy**  
**Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White**  
**All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**



Barbara Domain  
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey  
City Secretary