



City of Wimberley

221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas 78676

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WIMBERLEY CITY HALL – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
221 STILLWATER, WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026 - 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Chiles called the meeting to order on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

2. CALL OF ROLL

City Secretary Tammy Heller called the roll. Present: Mayor Jim Chiles, Place 1 Rebecca Minnick, Place 3 Chris Sheffield, Place 4 Bob Clark, and Place 5 David Cohen. Absent: Place 2 Bo Bowman. A quorum was present.

3. INVOCATION

Scott Tidwell from Fellowship of the Crossroads delivered the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/SALUTE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

The mayor led the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and salute to the Texas flag.

5. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

5.1 Proclamation of the City of Wimberley, Texas proclaiming February 22, 2026 as President George Washington Day.

Mayor Chiles read the proclamation recognizing February 22, 2026, as President George Washington Day. The proclamation honored George Washington's contributions to the founding of the United States, his leadership during the Revolutionary War, and his service as the first President. Members of the William Hightower chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Joe Cox and Steve Kern, along with Stan Krull, President accepted the proclamation and thanked the council for recognizing the 250th anniversary of the Revolution.

5.2 Proclamation of the City of Wimberley, Texas proclaiming February as Spay and Neuter Awareness Month.

Mayor Chiles read the proclamation declaring February 2026 as Spay and Neuter Awareness Month. The proclamation highlighted the importance of spaying and neutering pets to reduce shelter intakes and prevent homelessness among animals. Marcia Sanderson, who runs the PAWS Wimberley TNR program, spoke about the program's success, noting that 141 free-roaming cats were spayed, neutered, and vaccinated in the past year. She emphasized the importance of TNR in light of the current rabies outbreak among foxes. Dale Nave also spoke, explaining the TNR process and noting that the program has successfully reduced the population of feral cats over time.

6. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

No citizens signed up to speak during this portion of the meeting.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Consider approval of Minutes from the February 5, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting.

7.2 Approval of the December 2025 Revenue and Expenditure Report for the City of Wimberley.

Council Member Cohen moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council Member Minnick seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Note: The following agenda items were considered out of the posted order of the agenda. The minutes are recorded in the order in which the items were considered by the City Council.

8.5 Discuss and consider possible action to grant a variance to Wimberley ISD to allow the removal of a heritage tree on property located at 100 Carney Lane, Wimberley.

Nathan Glaiser, Director of Development Services, explained that Wimberley ISD requested a variance to remove a heritage tree—a 27-inch red oak—located at the front of Wimberley High School. The tree sits directly in the path of a planned expansion to the gymnasium lobby, which is part of the bond program. Rachel Toronjo with O'Connell Robertson, representing WISD, explained that the tree's canopy overhangs the building, causing maintenance issues, and that the tree's root zone is compromised by its proximity to the existing foundation. She noted that relocating the tree was not feasible due to the limited root zone. The district is mitigating the removal by planting additional red oaks and other trees as part of the bond project, particularly around the new band practice field. Council Member Cohen expressed strong opposition, stating that the tree is healthy and that the district should have considered building the lobby around it. He also questioned whether this would be the last request for heritage tree removal. Brad Sims, the landscape architect, confirmed that this is the only heritage tree being removed on the site and that mitigation plantings are being provided per the development ordinance. Superintendent Greg Bonewald emphasized that the lobby expansion is necessary to safely accommodate the number of students and community members who use the facility.

Council Member Sheffield moved to grant a variance to Wimberley ISD to allow the removal of the heritage tree on the property at 100 Carney Lane as presented. Council Member Minnick seconded. The motion passed 3-1, with Council Member Cohen voting in opposition.

8.7 Discussion and possible action related to the selection of roads that will receive improvements in Fiscal Year 2026.

City Administrator Tim Patek introduced the item, and City Engineer Ryan Bell presented recommendations for road improvements based on the 2024 pavement condition index (PCI) scores. The net budget for the annual mill and overlay program is \$462,500. Bell recommended four roads in the Paradise Hills area—Sunrise, Ridge Road and Hilltop Road, Climbing Way, and Loma Vista—totaling approximately \$455,000. These roads all scored below 70 on the PCI and are located in the same general neighborhood, which could lead to cost savings due to mobilization efficiencies. Council members discussed the possibility of delaying a decision until the outcome of a \$750,000 CDBG grant application is known, as the grant would cover roads in low-to-moderate income areas. Council members also discussed whether traffic counts should be factored into prioritization. Bell explained that the PCI is a pavement condition assessment and does not account for traffic volume,

though traffic could be considered as a separate prioritization factor. After discussion, the council decided to postpone the decision to allow time to learn the outcome of the grant application.

Council Member Sheffield moved to postpone the item and bring it back in 2 to 4 weeks. Council Member Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

8.2 Discuss, consider, and select a bidder for the City of Wimberley Parks Department Aquatics Feasibility Study. (RFP #2025-03).

Parks Director Erica Flocke reported that the Parks Board reviewed the Request For Proposals (RFP) results and voted unanimously 7-0 to recommend that the council not move forward with the feasibility study at this time. The highest-scoring bid, from Kimley-Horn, was \$58,000. The Parks Board expressed concern about long-term financial sustainability, noting that the city does not have an identified funding mechanism for construction or ongoing operations of an aquatic facility. Water availability during drought conditions was also a significant concern. The board recommended forming a subcommittee to explore alternative aquatic opportunities, including partnerships with existing facilities. Leah Cuddeback, chair of the Parks Board, explained that the board experienced "sticker shock" at the cost and felt the money could be better spent exploring partnerships with existing pools in the community, such as those at the Wimberley Inn, 7A Ranch, and the Unitarian Church. Council members discussed the importance of the feasibility study, noting that the community has consistently requested aquatic amenities and that the study would provide objective data on feasibility, including potential funding mechanisms and partnerships with Wimberley ISD, Hays County, and the City of Woodcreek. Mayor Chiles noted that the school district has expressed interest in partnering, as they currently bus students to Dripping Springs for swim team practice. Council Member Minnick emphasized the need for an unbiased, expert assessment. After discussion, the council voted to approve the feasibility study.

Council Member Cohen moved to approve the feasibility study as proposed by the highest scoring bidder, Kimley-Horn. Council Member Minnick seconded. The motion passed 3-1, with Council Member Sheffield voting in opposition.

8.3 Discuss, consider, and select a bidder for the City of Wimberley Parks Department Martha Knies Community Park - Playground Update. (RFP #2025-04).

Parks Director Erica Flocke reported that five firms submitted proposals for the playground update at Martha Knies Community Park. The highest-scoring bidder was Kompan, with a cost of approximately \$250,000. The Parks Board recommended moving forward with this bidder. The playground design, known as "The Hawk," was also the most liked by the community during a public feedback process. Keep Wimberley Beautiful has donated \$50,000 toward the project, and the city has applied for an LCRA grant of up to \$100,000. City Administrator Tim Patek noted that the playground is manufactured in Europe and would take approximately 28 to 30 weeks to install. Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Minnick noted that both the feasibility study and the playground have been delayed for years and expressed reluctance to continue postponing them. She also suggested exploring additional funding through community donations, PEC community grants, and other sources.

Council Member Clark moved to approve the bidder, Kompan, for the Martha Knies Community Park RFP# 2025-04, as presented. Council Member Minnick seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

8.1 Discuss and consider approval of a "Paint the Drains" community project, initiated by a Youth Ambassador for Keep Wimberley Beautiful, that promotes awareness of stormwater pollution prevention.

Avianne Hershberger, a junior at Wimberley High School and youth ambassador for Keep Texas Beautiful, presented a proposal for a Paint the Drains campaign in Wimberley. The project would involve students from Wimberley High School and Katherine Anne Porter School submitting art designs to be painted around storm drains to raise awareness that stormwater flows directly into rivers and creeks without treatment. Hershberger highlighted successful campaigns in Carrollton and Lubbock and outlined criteria for the project, including the use of environmentally safe paint, safety protocols, and designs expected to last three to five years. She requested council guidance on the number of drains to be painted in year one, which drains are eligible, who would comprise the judging panel, and whether liability waivers and a city education session would be provided. She proposed targeting high-traffic areas such as the square, the visitor center, and the new sidewalk along FM 2325 near the high school. City Administrator Tim Patek noted that some rights-of-way, such as those along Ranch Road 12 and FM 2325, belong to TxDOT, and permission would need to be obtained. The council expressed support for the project and indicated that staff could work with Hershberger to finalize details.

Council Member Cohen moved to approve the Paint the Drains program. Council Member Sheffield seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

8.4 Discuss and consider possible action regarding a Temporary Structure Application to place a food trailer at 110 Old Kyle Road Wimberley, TX.

Nathan Glaiser, ACA/Director of Development Services, explained that the request is for a food trailer and small canopy at Willow Lake Watering Hole (110 Old Kyle Road). The council had requested more information at the last meeting regarding the total number of food trailers on-site and future plans. Chloe Glasscock, the property owner, explained that currently, Tooks Comfort Food is the only permanent trailer on-site seven days a week. The East Side Boilers crawfish trailer operates seasonally on weekends from February to May. Oh My Pizza Pie would operate on weekends and is also seasonal. She clarified that El Mundo de Sabor has moved to another location and no longer operates on the property. Glasscock indicated that there would be no more than three trailers operating at any given time, and she is open to revoking El Mundo's permit to avoid having four active permits. She also explained that emergency access would remain clear through the site's driveway. Council members expressed concern about having three trailers on the property due to aesthetics, congestion, and safety, but ultimately approved the permit for Oh My Pizza Pie.

Council Member Sheffield moved to grant a temporary structure permit for Oh My Pizza Pie as presented. Council Member Cohen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

8.6 Discuss and consider possible action related to the current moratorium on Short-Term Rentals (STRs) in the City of Wimberley.

Nathan Glaiser, ACA/Director of Development Services reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission discussed the moratorium at their meeting and recommended extending it for another 120 days. Commissioner McCracken is leading a committee working on draft recommendations, but the committee is not yet ready to present. Jodi Cabler, a resident of Flight Acres Road, spoke in favor of extending the moratorium. She shared her experience with her summer home in North Dakota, where the lack of a moratorium resulted in the conversion of nearly all homes on her lane to VRBOs, destroying the sense of community. She urged the council to extend the moratorium to prevent the same outcome in Wimberley neighborhoods. Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Minnick, who serves on the committee, explained that the group is working on guidelines to prevent the destruction of neighborhoods and to preserve affordability. The committee strongly supports STR-1 permits (owner

occupied rental) but has concerns about STR-2 permits (non-owner occupied rentals). The draft recommendations include measures to increase accountability, gather data, encourage lodging downtown, and restrict STRs on smaller lots due to parking and septic concerns.

Council Member Minnick moved to extend the current moratorium on short-term rentals in the City of Wimberley by another 120 days. Council Member Cohen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). The Resolution to extend the moratorium will be brought forward at the March 5, 2026 City Council meeting for formal adoption.

8.8 Hold discussion and consider action on the mid-year review of goals and priorities for Fiscal Year 2026.

City Administrator Tim Patek presented the mid-year review of goals and priorities for Fiscal Year 2026. The goals include: (1) Water conservation incentives, partnerships, and advocacy—staff has updated the city website with water conservation information and will coordinate with the new watershed coordinator once hired; (2) Develop comprehensive approach to emergency alerts and communications—the city has added a splash page to the website, created magnets with QR codes for emergency alert sign-ups, and updated the Emergency Operations Plan; (3) Increase walkability, connectivity, and parking—staff is working on an urban trails and connectivity plan with assistance from Texas State University, and potential parking agreements are being explored; (4) Establish a process to secure resources for acquisition of land and facilities for conservation, educational, and recreation-related projects—the city secured a \$750,000 Parks and Wildlife grant for the Blue Hole Nature Center and staff is pursuing an additional \$1.5 million in grant funding. The city also continues to implement the Parks Master Plan and research grant opportunities, sponsorships, and partnerships. Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Minnick suggested adding community donations and a trust fund as potential funding mechanisms. The council accepted the updates and agreed that the next goal-setting session would be scheduled in June.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9.1 Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice and consult with the City Attorney regarding legal issues related to the Meeks Easement.

9.2 Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.072 (Lease of Real Property) to discuss a potential

The council entered executive session at 7:59 PM to discuss these items.

10. OPEN SESSION

10.1 Discussion and possible action resulting from Executive Session.

The council returned to open session at 8:24 PM.

Regarding the Meeks Easement (Item 9.1):

Motion: Council Member Sheffield moved to authorize counsel to negotiate as discussed in executive session. Council Member Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Regarding the potential parking lease agreement (Item 9.2):

Motion: Council Member Minnick moved to authorize the city administrator to negotiate terms of the lease as discussed in the executive session. Council Member Sheffield seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

11. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1 Announcements

No announcements were made.

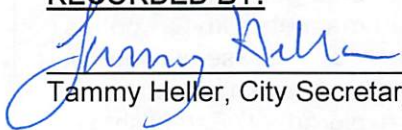
11.2 Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

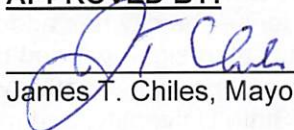
Motion: Council Minnick moved to adjourn. Council Member Cohen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

RECORDED BY:



Tammy Heller, City Secretary

APPROVED BY:



James T. Chiles, Mayor

