

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS, TEXAS**

JANUARY 21, 2025

STATE OF TEXAS *

COUNTIES OF DALLAS AND ELLIS *

CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS *

On the 21st day of January 2025, the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, met in a Regular Meeting in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 1938-C South Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Texas, 75154, with the following members present:

CITY COUNCIL:

Sonja A. Brown	*	Mayor
Cornel Benford II	*	Mayor Pro Tem
Travis Bruton	*	Council Member, Place 3
Stephanne Hale	*	Council Member, Place 4
Laymon Lightfoot	*	Council Member, Place 5

STAFF:

Clifford Blackwell	*	City Manager
Brandi Brown	*	City Secretary
Parviz Pourazizian	*	Director of Planning & Development Services
Sherry Roberts	*	Finance Director
Andrew Waites	*	Public Works Utility Superintendent
Chris Womack	*	Interim Chief of Police
Nicholas Williams	*	Fire Chief

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sonja A. Brown called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:02 P.M., with a quorum of the City Council present.

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sonja A. Brown led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II was sworn in prior to the Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Public Comments.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Sonja A. Brown read the following Proclamations:

- School Board Appreciation Month, January 2025
- Black History Month, February 2025

EVENTS

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced the following Events:

- State of the City Address, February 1, 2025, 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M., Glenn Heights Community Center, Banquet Rooms A & B, 1938-D South Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Texas 75154
- Black History Month Showcase, February 20, 2025, 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., Glenn Heights City Center, 1938 South Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Texas 75154
- Glenn Heights County Line Cookoff (Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce), Noon, February 21 – 5:00 P.M., February 22, 2025, Glenn Heights Heritage Park, 400 East Bear Creek Road, Glenn Heights, Texas 75154

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, made the following Staff Introductions:

- Noel Johnson, Finance Analyst
- Tarmara Denson, Police Officer
- Gwendolyn Taylor, Customer Service Clerk
- Reagan LeMay, Paramedic Specialist
- Gwendolyn Brown, Animal Control Officer
- Shanequa King, Executive Assistant to City Manager & Public Safety

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Discussion and take action to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of the November 19, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting. (Brandi Brown, City Secretary)
2. Discussion and take action to approve Ordinance O-23-24, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, amending Article A12.000 ("Parks and Recreation") of Appendix A, the City's Master Fee Schedule, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Glenn Heights, Texas, to amend Section A12.001 to add Subsection (g) to provide a definition of "Resident" to include City Water and Wastewater Utility Customers; providing that other fees not listed but now charged pursuant to other Ordinances and Resolutions shall remain in effect until transferred to the Master Fee Schedule by amendment; and providing that future amendments to the Master Fee Schedule may be effected by Ordinance or Resolution. (Second Reading) (Council Member Cornel Benford II)
3. Discussion and take action to approve Ordinance O-01-25, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, amending the Comprehensive

Zoning Ordinance, Plan and Map of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, as heretofore amended, by granting a specific use permit to allow for a Neighborhood Market/Grocery Store, for an approximately 1.25 acre tract of land situated in Lot 2, in Block A of Lots 1 and 2 in Block A of Family Dollar Addition, an Addition, being commonly known as 1710 S. Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Dallas County, Texas. (Second Reading) (Parviz Pourazizian, Director of Planning and Development Services)

4. Discussion and take action to approve Ordinance O-02-25, regarding amending Section 1 ("General Definitions") of Article XIX ("Basic Definitions and Interpretations") of exhibit 14A ("Zoning Ordinance") of Chapter 14 ("Zoning") to amend the general definitions of the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. (Second Reading) (Parviz Pourazizian, Director of Planning and Development Services)
6. Discussion and take action to approve Resolution R-04-25, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, supporting the full funding of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) System and urging continued investment in public transit. (Clifford Blackwell, City Manager)

Council Member Travis Bruton requested to pull Consent Agenda Item 5 for discussion.

Council Member Travis Bruton made motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-4 and 6. Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

5. Acknowledge receipt of the December 2024 Financial Reports.

Sherry Roberts, Finance Director, introduced this item and answered Council's questions related to report fields, Community Center revenues, and costs of operations.

Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 5. Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

AGENDA

1. Discussion and take action to approve Resolution R-03-25, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, adopting the Investment Policy attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; declaring that the City Council has completed its review of the Investment Policy and investment strategies of the City and that

Exhibit "A" includes any changes to both the Investment Policy and the investment strategies.

Sherry Roberts, Finance Director, introduced this item and answered Council's questions related to specific tracked changes and investment policies.

Mayor Sonja A. Brown made a motion to table Agenda Item 1. Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

2. Discussion regarding a joint Animal Shelter between the City of Glenn Heights and the City of Hutchins, Texas.

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced this item.

Council Member Travis Bruton made a motion to table Agenda Item 2. Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. The City Council shall convene into Executive Session:
 - A. pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071 – consultation with City Attorney - to seek legal advice regarding potential litigation regarding the Hillwood Development Project.

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced that Council went into Executive Session at 7:29 P.M.

2. The City Council shall reconvene into Open Session and take any action arising from Executive Session.

Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II made a motion to go into Open Session. Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced that Council was in Open Session at 8:02 P.M. and that no action was taken on the Executive Session Item.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Cornel Benford II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Benford, Bruton, Hale, and Lightfoot

Mayor Sonja A. Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:03 P.M.



Sonja A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:



Brandi Brown, City Secretary
Passed and approved on the 4th day of March 2025