

On this the 3rd day of March, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a regular session in the Commission Chamber in City Hall, the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 551 of the Government Code, with the following members being present and in attendance, to-wit:

Cathy Bunch, Mayor
 Rose Mary Barrett, Commissioner Place One
 Angie Alonzo, Commissioner Place Two
 Clint Savoini, Commissioner Place Three
 Mark Collier, Commissioner Place Four
 James Stow, Commissioner Place Five
 Deven Black, Commissioner Place Six
 Steve Bartels, City Manager
 Wade Hawkins, Assistant City Manager
 Franchesca Jimenez, City Secretary
 Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

Also in attendance were Todd Murray, Sky Holcomb, Delores Gonzales, and Gracie Gamez.

Jim Steiert from Hereford Brand was in attendance to witness the proceedings.

Mayor Bunch voiced the invocation and then called upon Commissioner Savoini to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. She called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

REGULAR HEARINGS:

ITEM 1 - Public Comments.

Mayor Bunch reminded the audience of the 3-minute limit and also the rule that the public is not allowed to approach the dais and will be escorted out of the chamber after the meeting adjourns.

Delores Gonzales expressed her concerns about the new city manager coming from a small town. She hopes that he will bring fresh ideas for promoting growth in Hereford. Additionally, she emphasized the importance of attracting businesses that do not require excessive water usage.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ITEM 2 - Consider approval of request to rezone property located at South Jackson (legally described as Ricketts South Heights Blk 1 Lot 1-11) from "R-1" Single Family District to "MH" Mobile Home District. (Requested by Arturo Alvarez & Nancy Avitia)

No motion was made.

REGULAR HEARINGS:

ITEM 3 - Consider approval of minutes for the February 3rd, 2025 Regular meeting, February 7th, 2025 Special meeting, February 10th, 2025 Special meeting, February 19th, 2025 Special meeting, and February 24th, 2025 Special meeting.

Commissioner Collier made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Savoini seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote of the Commission: Mayor Bunch- aye, Commissioner Barrett - aye, Commissioner Alonzo- aye, Commissioner Savoini - aye, Commissioner Collier - aye, Commissioner Stow- abstained, Commissioner Black - aye.

ITEM 4 - Consider approval of a proposed Employment Agreement between the City of Hereford and Ryan Polster as city manager.

Commissioner Collier made the motion to approve the proposed Employment Agreement between the City of Hereford and Ryan Polster as city manager. Commissioner Alonzo seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 5 - Consider approval of Resolution No. 03.03.25 of the City of Hereford, Texas finding that the statement of intent of Atmos Energy Corp., West Texas Division to change rates filing within the city should be denied; finding that the city's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel.

RESOLUTION NO. 03.03.25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS FINDING THAT THE STATEMENT OF INTENT OF ATMOS ENERGY CORP., WEST TEXAS DIVISION TO CHANGE RATES FILING WITHIN THE CITY SHOULD BE DENIED; FINDING THAT THE CITY'S REASONABLE RATE CASE EXPENSES SHALL BE REIMBURSED BY THE COMPANY; FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW; REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL.

WHEREAS, the City of Hereford, Texas ("City") is a gas utility customer of Atmos Energy Corp. ("Atmos" or "Company") within the West Texas Division, and a regulatory authority with an interest in the rates and charges of Atmos; and

WHEREAS, the City is a member of Cities Served by Atmos West Texas ("Cities") (such participating cities are referred to herein as "Cities"), a coalition of similarly situated cities served by Atmos that have joined together to efficiently and cost effectively review and respond to natural gas issues affecting rates charged in the West Texas Division; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 25, 2024, Atmos filed with the City a Statement of Intent to Increase Rates seeking to increase natural gas rates by \$66.1 million annually and to all customers residing in the City; and

WHEREAS, Cities is coordinating its review of Atmos's Statement of Intent filing with designated attorneys and consultants to resolve issues in the Company's filing; and

WHEREAS, through review of the application, Cities' consultants determined that Atmos's proposed rates are excessive; and

WHEREAS, the Cities' members and attorneys recommend that Cities members deny the Statement of Intent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the rates proposed by Atmos to be recovered through its gas rates charged to customers located within the City limits, are hereby found to be unreasonable and shall be denied.

Section 2. That the Company shall continue to charge its existing rates to customers within the City.

Section 3. That the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed in full by Atmos West Texas.

Section 4. That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law and public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required.

Section 5. That a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to Atmos West Texas, care of Philip Littlejohn, Vice President of Rates and Regulatory Affairs, West Texas Division, 6606 66th Street, Lubbock, Texas 89424 (Philip.littlejohn@atmosenergy.com), and to Thomas Brocato at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701 (tbrocato@lglawfirm.com).

PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of March, 2025.

APPROVED:

/s/Cathy Bunch
Cathy Bunch, Mayor
Hereford, Texas

ATTEST:

/s/Franchesca Jimenez
Franchesca Jimenez, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Audie Sciumbato
Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

Commissioner Alonzo made the motion to approve Resolution No. 03.03.35. Commissioner Barrett seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission

ITEM 6 - Consider approval of Ordinance No. 03.03.25 an ordinance of the City of Hereford, Texas declaring Cathy Bunch elected to the office of Mayor of the City of Hereford, Texas, declaring Rose Mary Barrett elected to the office of Commissioner Place One of the City of Hereford, Texas, declaring Clint Savoini elected to the office of Commissioner Place Three of the City of Hereford, Texas and canceling the May 3rd, 2025 City of Hereford, Texas Officers' Election. (Considerar la aprobación de la Ordenanza No. 03.03.25 una ordenanza de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas, declarando Cathy Bunch elejida a la oficina de Alcalde de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas, declarando Rose Mary Barrett elejido a la oficina de Comisionado, Lugar Uno de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas, declarando Clint Savoini elejido a la oficina de Comisionado, Lugar Tres de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas, y cancelando la Elección de Oficiales de Texas el dia 3 de mayo de 2025 de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas.

ORDINANCE NO. 03.03.25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS DECLARING CATHY BUNCH ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS, DECLARING ROSE MARY BARRETT ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER PLACE ONE OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS, DECLARING CLINT SAVOINI ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER PLACE THREE OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS AND CANCELING THE MAY 3, 2025 CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS OFFICERS' ELECTION.

ORDINANZA NO. 03.03.25

UNA ORDINANZA DE LA CIUDAD DE HEREFORD, TEXAS, DECLARANDO CATHY BUNCH ELEJIDA A LA OFICINA DE ALCALDE DE LA CIUDAD DE HEREFORD, TEXAS, DECLARANDO ROSE MARY BARRETT ELEJIDO A LA OFICINA DE COMISIONADO, LUGAR UNO DE LA CIUDAD DE HEREFORD, TEXAS, DECLARANDO CLINT SAVOINI ELEJIDO A LA OFICINA DE COMISIONADO, LUGAR TRES DE LA CIUDAD DE HEREFORD, TEXAS, Y CANCELANDO LA ELECCIÓN DE OFICIALES DE TEXAS EL DIA 3 DE MAYO DE 2025 DE LA CIUDAD DE HEREFORD, TEXAS.

Commissioner Alonzo made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 03.03.25 and to cancel the election. Commissioner Black seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 7 - Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.

Commissioner Barrett expressed her gratitude to the city staff for their efforts in addressing the leak on 15th Street and Centre.

Commissioner Barrett informed the Commission she had requested the personnel policies, which include a section about city vehicles. She suggested the Human Resources Director require employees to sign an acknowledgment of the vehicle policy. If an employee violates this policy, they can face disciplinary action instead of having the issue discussed at meetings.

Mayor Bunch thanked Lucas Mendoza for taking on the responsibility of checking on the ballpark daily. She announced the final walk-through will be Thursday, March 13th at 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 8 - Announcements and comments from City Staff.

City Manager Bartels provided an update on the following:

Xcel Energy is taking proactive measures to prevent wildfires caused by power lines. They will be updating the power lines on 15th Street and at the intersection of Highway 385.

TxDot is nearing completion of the sidewalks along Highway 385.

The final walkthrough at the complex is scheduled for Thursday, with a tournament planned for the following weekend. Contractors are currently paving the parking lot, and it will be striped next week.

He reported there was one tree casualty, which resulted in a fence being taken down due to the high winds.

He informed the Commission about the leak on 15th Street and Centre, the city staff is working to get the leak fixed.

He announced he will be out for vacation at the end of the week and all of next week.

City Manager Bartels thanked those in attendance.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.