

VOL 35 PG 156

SPECIAL MEETING

LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL

MAY 22, 2025

6:00 P.M.

CLARK LIBRARY ANNEX-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 3RD FLOOR, LOCKHART, TEXAS

Council present:

Councilmember John Castillo
Councilmember Juan Mendoza
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

Mayor Lew White
Councilmember Brad Westmoreland
Councilmember John Lairsen
Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez

Staff present:

Steve Lewis, City Manager
Joseph Resendez, Assistant City Manager
Holly Malish, Economic Development Director

Keeli Michna, Finance Director
Julie Bowermon, City Secretary
Tatiana Salazar, Public Information Officer

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: Megan Carvajal of the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ITEM 2-A. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE VISITOR CENTER AND TOURISM EFFORTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

Ms. Malish provided information and there was discussion about the following:

- Various types of tourism.
- Scenarios of whether the city or another organization manages a Visitor center.
- Visitor center hours of operation, expenses and staff, if the city were to manage the center.
- Various social media tourism marketing tools of a Visitor center.
- Volunteer recruitment.
- Location of a Visitor Center.
- Consider whether a center should be open on weekends.
- Board creation to assist with all aspects of tourism.

Ms. Carvajal stated that the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce would like to continue to be a part of the tourism industry for the community. She stated that she believes that a Visitor's Center should be in an ideal location and in a welcoming environment for tourists.

CONSENSUS: The consensus of the Council was to direct staff to begin with a transition plan to develop a tourism board, convention center office, visitor center location, and proposed budget for the city taking over the Visitor's Center.

There was discussion about continuing to fund the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce until the city officially takes over the Visitor's Center.

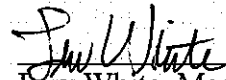
Ms. Malish stated that the Lockhart Economic Development Board of Directors will consider all aspects of the transition.

ITEM 3. ADJOURNMENT

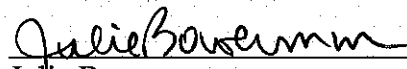
Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mendoza seconded.
The motion passed by a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 5th day of May, 2026.

CITY OF LOCKHART


Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:


Julie Bowermon
City Secretary

