Niederwald City Council July 1, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes

The following represents the actions taken by the Niederwald City Council in the order they occurred during the City Council meeting.

Mayor Connie Wood called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

Roll was called. The council members in attendance were:

Caleb Jones Emily Iverson Ernesto Madrigal

City Administrator Reynell Smith, City Secretary Zach Cronshey, and City Attorney Luke Cochran were also in attendance.

Absent: None

A moment of silence was observed.

Pledges to the American and Texas Flag.

Presentations: Bill Fry, General Manager of Plum Creek Utility (BVRT), introduced himself and provided an overview of the company's wastewater treatment services. He invited Council members and staff to tour their facility to better understand centralized wastewater treatment and discussed ongoing and future service plans for the area.

Agenda Item 1. Discussion and possible action on the minutes from the June 3rd, 2025 regular City Council meeting.

Synopsis: Council reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting with no changes needed. A motion was made and approved unanimously (3-0) to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion: Council Member Jones moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, and this motion was seconded by Council Member Iverson.

Vote:

Caleb Jones – Yes Emily Iverson – Yes Ernesto Madrigal – Yes

Motion passed.

Agenda Item 2. Discussion and possible action on Financials for May 2025.

Synopsis: The City Administrator informed Council that some financial entries were incorrect due to accrual accounting methods from 2014–2018. Adjustments will be made at fiscal year-end. No action was taken; this was only informational.

Motion: No action taken.

Agenda Item 3. Discussion and possible action on paying outstanding bills in excess of City Secretary's authorized limits.

Synopsis: Only one bill exceeded the authorized limit: \$3,780 to The Moore Group. A motion was made and approved unanimously (3-0) to pay the outstanding bill.

Motion: Council Member Iverson made a motion to pay the outstanding bill to The Moore Group in the amount of \$3,780, and this motion was seconded by Council Member Jones.

Vote:

Caleb Jones – Yes Emily Iverson – Yes Ernesto Madrigal – Yes

Motion passed.

Agenda Item 4. Updates from City Administrator.

Synopsis: Updates were provided on various city initiatives, including grant applications (GLO, TDA, LCRA), infrastructure updates, staffing efforts via Workforce Commission programs, historical preservation of the old lodge building, and Emergency Management developments. Additional updates included the installation of eyewash stations, progress on franchise agreements, coordination with Mustang Ridge and ATS for code enforcement, planning for National Night Out, and technological upgrades related to permitting and court software. The administrator also marked her two-year anniversary with the city.

Agenda Item 5. Updates from City Secretary.

Synopsis: Report on various administrative and community activities. Although unable to complete mowing due to a packed schedule, he completed two additional TMCA Course 3 modules. A resident donated approximately \$8,500 worth of tools and equipment to the city and plans to donate more. The City Secretary also held a Zoom meeting with MyGov Online regarding the updated fee schedule and upcoming training for their permitting system. He updated the city website, including ADA-compliant ordinance listings dating back to 1987, and added information about non-congregate feeding sites through the Central Texas Food Bank. Preparations for National Night Out are ongoing, including confirmed participation from the Hays County Sheriff's Office, a pending response from Caldwell County, and finalized BBQ catering by Maxwell's Closet. He reviewed contractor licenses and submitted a festival listing to the Texas Town & City magazine for potential inclusion.

Agenda Item 6. Discussion and possible action on an amendment to the Franchise Agreement with Texas Disposal Systems.

Synopsis: Council discussed a clerical error in the TDS franchise agreement. The amendment clarified that bulk pickup is to occur once per month, as originally intended. Council voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the amendment.

Motion: Council Member Iverson moved to accept the amendment to the franchise agreement with Texas Disposal Systems to correct a clerical error clarifying the frequency of bulk pickup, and this motion was seconded by Council Member Jones.

Vote:

Caleb Jones – Yes Emily Iverson – Yes Ernesto Madrigal – Yes

Agenda Item 7. Discussion and possible action on a bid for Gini Lane for road repair.

Synopsis: A bid for repairs to Gini Lane was received for over \$88,000. However, due to state bidding laws, the city cannot accept the bid without formal procedures, including a full bid process and engineered plans. The City Attorney explained that the current \$50,000 threshold goes up to \$100,000 on September 1, which might allow more flexibility. Council talked about possibly waiting until then, working with the county instead, or applying for grants. In the meantime, they suggested patching the worst potholes with city staff.

Motion: No action taken.

Agenda Item 8. Workshop: Discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget.

Synopsis: The City Administrator presented a preliminary draft budget, including proposed raises, two new staff positions, new software (Tyler Technologies), road projects, and grants. A detailed discussion followed regarding interlocal agreements, code enforcement, and potential future animal control collaboration with other cities. This was a workshop item—no action was taken.

Announcements:

Next City Council Meeting: Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Attest:

Connie Wood, Mayor City of Niederwald

City of Niederwald