

**CITY OF BOGATA, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA**

DATE: Monday, February 2, 2026

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: 206 2nd St. NW, Bogata, Texas

City Council Member may attend and participate in meetings by telephone

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL / ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

3. PUBLIC FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may speak on an agenda item during the public forum section of the meeting or at the time the agenda item is called for discussion by the Mayor.

- Speakers are allowed three (3) minutes per speaker. Time may not be saved, transferred, or assigned.
- Members of the public wishing to address the Council on non-agenda items may do so during this section only, with a three (3) minute limit per speaker.
- In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Council Members may not discuss or respond to non-agenda items.
- All speakers must maintain proper decorum. Threats, personal insults, or vulgar/profane language are out of order and may result in forfeiture of remaining time and possible removal from the meeting.
- Citizens wishing to comment must submit their request in writing to the City Secretary at least ten (10) minutes prior to the meeting.

4. PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Water Department

5. CONSENT AGENDA

(All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon with one motion.)

A. Consider and approve minutes from the previous City Council meeting

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2025–2026 City of Bogata Budget

The City Council will receive public comment regarding the proposed FY 2025–2026 City budget. The proposed budget is available for public inspection at City Hall during normal business hours.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- A. Order a General Election to be held on May 2, 2026
 - B. IoT /Telematics solution (GPS) for all City-owned vehicles, including Police vehicles
 - C. Requiring all City employees, including Police Department employees, to clock in daily
 - D. Fireworks restrictions (no fireworks after midnight)
 - E. Red River Valley Egg Farm contract and taxes
 - F. Initiation of a City audit
 - G. Placement of “City of Bogata” identification on all City and Police vehicles
 - H. Status of a bond claim involving the Mayor with Western Bond, Claim #7241755
 - I. Adoption of Council policies for the City
 - J. Resignation and replacement of the City Judge
 - K. Purchase or lease of a backhoe
 - L. Chief Dixon to attend school in March and May
 - M. Leased police vehicles State Bank October 2024
 - N. Quotes/ bids for Community Center repairs
 - O. Amendments to the 2024–2025 Budget and related Resolutions
 - P. Records and continuation of Bogata Economic Development Corporation
 - Q. Credit for a missed week of trash pickup for city customers
 - R. Financial reports for January 2026
 - S. Adoption of 2025-2025 City Budget.
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8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The last day to file an application for a place on the ballot for the local elections is **February 13, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

POSTING CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above agenda was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, on the bulletin board at City Hall, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public, on the 27 day of January, 2026, at 11:45AM

City Secretary, City of Bogata



City of Bogata

City Council Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Bogata Community Center

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at approximately 7:16 PM.

2. Roll Call

Council Members

Present: Cecil (Tex) Loftin

Present: Dakota Ross

Present: Chris Kennedy

Present: Teresa Allison

Present: Melissa Kerby Present

A quorum was established.

2-A. Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a Mayor Hinsley.
 - Invocation was delivered by the Mayor, requesting guidance, wisdom, and prayers for ill residents.
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3. Public Comments

Speaker Comments:

- Citizens urged council members who are not planning to seek re-election to reconsider and emphasized the importance of transparency, accountability, and continued oversight of city operations.
 - Citizens encourage community members to consider running for office.
 - Concerns were raised regarding alleged mishandling of funds, particularly related to the fire department, and the burden on taxpayers.
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4. Announcements & Department Updates

Bank Fees:

- The City Secretary reported that the city's bank has not charged research fees in the past, but due to increased information requests, future requests may incur fees.

Public Works / Utilities:

- A city representative thanked the maintenance and water departments for work during recent adverse weather.
 - Announced limitations on payment processing:
 - Cash payments can no longer be combined for multiple balances.
 - Credit card payments must be processed per individual balance.
 - Late fees are applied after the 10th of the month.
 - Cutoffs are executed around the 25th of each month.
 - Citizens were encouraged to update contact information and use online or drop-box payment options.
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5. Consent Agenda – Approval of Minutes

- **Motion** made by **Teresa Allison** to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented.
 - **Second by:** Melissa Kerby
 - **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.
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6. Public Hearing – FY 2025–2026 City Budget

The Mayor opened the public hearing on the proposed FY 2025–2026 budget.

Budget Overview:

- Adjustments included approximately **\$120,000** in expenditure from prior months to align with the new fiscal structure.
- Budget reflects operational income and expenses; CDs and reserve funds were discussed but not included as operating revenue.

Discussion Highlights:

- Clarification requested on revenue and expense line items, including:
 - Community Center donations
 - Facility rental income
 - Designated donations for park benches and community improvements
- Council discussed proper accounting for restricted vs. unrestricted donations.

Economic Development Corporation (BEDC):

- Questions raised regarding BEDC funds listed as city income.
- Discussion clarified that BEDC funds are separate from general city funds and should not be treated as spendable city revenue.
- Council acknowledged confusion stemming from historical handling of those funds.

Fire Department Funding Concerns:

- Fire department representatives reported:
 - Rising maintenance costs
 - Insufficient budget allocations
 - Lack of funds for recommended annual preventative maintenance
- Significant discussion regarding:
 - A **fire department CD (approx. \$102,887.25)** withdrawn early, incurring a **\$1,955.19 penalty**
 - Whether this constitutes city debt owed back to the fire department
- Council acknowledged that long-term obligations should be reflected transparently in the budget.

No vote was taken during the public hearing. Public Hearing closed at 8:35 p.m.

7. Action Items

A. Order of General Election

- **Motion by:** Teresa Allison to order a general election to be held on **May 2, 2026**.
- **Seat 1**
- **Seat 3**
- **Seat 5**
- **Second by:** Melissa Kerby
- **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Candidate Filing Deadline:

- Applications must be submitted by **5:00 PM on February 13, 2026**.
 - City Secretary has six days to review applications.
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B. GPS Tracking Devices for City Vehicles

- Extensive discussion regarding:
 - Legal authority

- Officer safety
- Data access and privacy
- Budget constraints
- Proposal included installing GPS tracking on **seven city vehicles**, with access restricted to the City Secretary's computer and **no live feed** to council members.

Motion by: Dakota Ross to install GPS tracking devices on seven city vehicles under the stated restrictions.

Second: Chris Kennedy

Vote: Dakota Ross **Yes**
 Chris Kennedy **Yes**
 Teresa Allison **No**
 Melissa Kerby **No**
 Cecil (Tex) Loftin **No**

- Roll call vote taken
- **Result:** Motion **failed** (three votes against).

C. Employee Time Clock Policy

- Discussion regarding requiring all city employees to clock in daily using the existing payroll system.
- Council discussed:
 - Location tracking
 - On-call responsibilities
 - Policy enforcement
- No formal motion or vote was taken during this portion.

C-A. Employee Time Clock / Call-Out Policy

Council discussed employee call-out compensation and clock-in requirements, including distinctions between departmental policies and citywide compensation authority.

Motion: Cecil (Tex) Loftin made a motion to require all city employees to clock in daily using the existing payroll system.

Second: Teresa Allison
 Dakota Ross No
 Chris Kennedy No
 Teresa Allison Yes
 Melissa Kerby Yes
 Cecil "Tex" Loftin Yes

Vote: Motion carried

D. Fireworks Restrictions Ordinance

Council reviewed the existing fireworks ordinance, including permitted hours and holiday exceptions (notably December 31 / January 1).

Action:

- Council expressed general satisfaction with the current ordinance.
- No amendments proposed.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin made a motion to take no action on fireworks ordinance.

Second: Melissa Kerby

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

E. Egg Farm Water Contract

Council discussed a long-term water service contract with an egg farm, noting uncertainty regarding renewal terms and prior approvals.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin

- Place the egg farm contract on the next council agenda.
- Provide each council member with a full copy of the contract.
- Forward the contract to the city attorney for review.

Second: Teresa Allison

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

F. Initiation of City Audit

Council discussed options for addressing multiple unaudited fiscal years and reviewed audit proposals and estimated costs.

- Options ranged from a limited current-year audit with reconciliation to a full multi-year audit.
- Council discussed legal compliance implications, budget limitations, and potential tax rate consequences.
- Audit option C was selected during this portion of the meeting.

Motion by: Teresa Allison

Second: Melissa Kerby

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

G. Identification on City Vehicles

Council revisited prior discussion regarding placement of city identification decals on city vehicles, excluding undercover police vehicles.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin

Second: Melissa Kerby

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

H. Status of Bond Claim Involving the Mayor

Council received an update regarding bonded city positions and a pending bond claim related to the mayor's position.

- Claim filed in November.
- Bond cap reported at \$75,000.
- Status of claim: Pending.
- Discussion included prior CD expenditures and questions regarding authorization and accounting.

Action: Update only; no motion taken.

I. Adoption of City Council Policies

Council reviewed proposed city council policy guidelines, including provisions on financial reporting, budget consistency, and transfers.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin to adopt the city council policy guidelines as presented.

Second: Teresa Allison

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

J. Resignation and Replacement of City Judge

Council acknowledged the resignation of City Judge Alex Davison.

Discussion included:

- Statutory qualifications for municipal judges.
- Training requirements.
- Possible temporary or permanent appointment options.

Motions by: Teresa Allison

1. Accept the resignation of Judge Alex Davison.
2. Contact the Justice of the Peace to determine interest in serving as City Judge (temporarily or otherwise).

Second: Melissa Kerby

Vote: Motions carried unanimously.

K. Purchase or Lease of Backhoe

Council revisited prior discussion regarding leasing versus purchasing a backhoe.

Motion by: Melissa Kerby to continue the backhoe lease program.

Second: Teresa Allison

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

L. Chief of Police – Training Schools (March & May)

The Chief requested approval to attend required state training schools. Costs limited to incidentals and meals.

Motion by: Teresa Allison to approve attendance for March and May training schools.

Second: Melissa Kerby

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

M. Leased Police Vehicles & Budget Line Item 6581

Council discussed police vehicle lease obligations, prior authorizations, budget inconsistencies, and negotiation options.

Motion by: Teresa Allison

- Remove (zero out) Line Item 6581 (leased vehicle payments) from the proposed budget.

- Authorize the city attorney to negotiate lease obligations.

Second: Chris Kennedy.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

N. Community Center Repairs – Quotes & Bids

Council reviewed repair quotes for the Community Center, including flooring, kitchen, bathrooms, and structural concerns.

- Estimated costs discussed (\$32,000–\$35,000).
- Budgeted funds are currently insufficient.
- Council emphasized safety concerns and continued public use of the facility.

Motion by: Teresa Allison to table the item until next month pending budget review.

Second: Melissa Kerby.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

O. Amendments to FY 2024 Budget & Related Resolutions

Council discussed discrepancies between authorized and expended funds in the prior fiscal year.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin to take no action on Item O (budget amendments).

Second: Melissa Kerby.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

P. Bogata Economic Development Corporation (BEDC)

Council discussed dissolution procedures and statutory requirements. Asked City Attorney to fix it.

Motion by: Melissa Kerby take no action at this time; revisit at a future meeting after City Attorney fixes it.

Second: Teresa Allison.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Q. Credit for Missed Trash Pickup

Council reviewed communication from Waste Connections regarding a missed pickup due to weather.

- Contract does not provide for service credits.
- Missed trash was subsequently collected.

Action: No action required.

S. Financial Report – January 26, 2026

Council reviewed the financial report and acknowledged staff efforts to improve reporting accuracy.

Motion by: Teresa Allison to accept the January 26, 2026 financial report.

Second: Cecil (Tex) Loftin.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

T. Adoption of City Budget

Action: Budget adoption deferred.

Motion by: Cecil (Tex) Loftin to take no action on Item S (budget adoption).

Second: Teresa Allison.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by: Melissa Kerby to adjourn.

Second: Teresa Allison

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Approval & Signatures

These minutes were reviewed and approved by the City Council of the City of Bogata on the 17 day of March, 2026.

Larry Hinsley, Mayor

City of Bogata

