

DRAFT

MINUTES SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING September 16, 2025

A Regular Meeting was held by the Schertz City Council of the City of Schertz, Texas, on September 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Hal Baldwin Municipal Complex Council Chambers, 1400 Schertz Parkway, Building #4, Schertz, Texas. The following members present to-wit:

Present: Mayor Ralph Gutierrez; Councilmember Paul Macaluso; Councilmember Michelle Watson; Councilmember Robert Westbrook; Councilmember Allison Heyward; Mayor Pro Tem Tim Brown

Absent: Councilmember Mark Davis

Staff present: City Manager Steve Williams; Deputy City Manager Brian James; City Attorney Daniel Santee; Assistant City Manager Sarah Gonzalez; City Secretary Sheila Edmondson; Deputy City Secretary Sheree Courney

Call to Order

Hearing of Residents

This time is set aside for any person who wishes to address the City Council. Each person should fill out the speaker's register prior to the meeting. Presentations should be limited to no more than 3 minutes.

All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body, and not to any individual member thereof. Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks while addressing the Council may be requested to leave the meeting.

All handouts and/or USB devices must be submitted to the City Secretary no later than noon on the Monday preceding the meeting. Handouts will be provided to each Councilmember prior to the start of the meeting by the City Secretary. All USB devices will be vetted by City IT staff to ensure City property is protected from malware.

Discussion by the Council of any item not on the agenda shall be limited to statements of specific factual information given in response to any inquiry, a recitation of existing policy in response to an inquiry, and/or a proposal to place the item on a future agenda. The presiding officer, during the Hearing of Residents portion of the agenda, will call on those persons who have signed up to speak in the order they have registered.

No one signed up to speak.

Discussion and Action Items

1. **Join the American Flood Coalition** (Councilmember Heyward)

Councilmember Heyward spoke about joining the American Flood Coalition and the membership is free. The American Flood Coalition is a nonprofit organization and funded through philanthropy.

When flooding occurs, the American Flood Coalition reaches out to the area affected and can help find resources for grants. They are looking at ways to teach cities how to mitigate some of the flooding.

Individuals can join as well as sign up as a city for membership. They are working not only in the State of Texas, but nationally as well.

Councilmember Watson agreed with joining. With no cost of membership and additional resources before and after flooding, it is a great idea.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown agreed with Councilmember Watson about signing up as a city.

City Manager Williams will have staff reach out to the American Flood Coalition and sign up.

2. **Join Coalition Against Bigger Truck** (Councilmember Heyward)

Councilmember Heyward presented information about the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks. This organization lobbies the federal government against trucks carrying more than 80,000 lbs. of cargo.

Companies are carrying 90,000 lbs. of weight are transporting with two trailers.

Studies show that it is dangerous to have companies carry more than 80,000 lbs.

It also costs the cities' money to repair roads that are damaged by larger loads.

There is no membership for this Coalition, and they ask that when they go before the federal government, the cities provide letters or resolutions saying they are against bigger trucks on the road.

Councilmember Macaluso states it is unnecessary for the city to join. There are standard weight limits and special permits are needed for larger loads. He knows that there is legislation to increase the weight of trucks hauling cargo, but it does not have a lot of support. Councilmember Macaluso explained that the railroad industry supports this coalition. Railroad industries want to keep trucks off the street because it takes freight away from them. Councilmember Macaluso recommends that we pass on this organization.

Mayor Gutierrez added that most of the big trucks are on state roads and very few go into neighborhoods. We have not had too many complaints regarding the bigger trucks on our city streets.

There are regulations on who drives, how long they can drive and weight limitations.

Council will not take action on this topic and will wait until it becomes necessary

in the future.

Adjournment

Mayor Gutierrez adjourned the meeting at 5:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor

Sheila Edmondson, City Secretary