



City of Starbase

City Commission Meeting Minutes

39046 L B J Boulevard

Starbase, TX 78521

Thursday, September 11, 2025

7:00 PM

A Special Meeting was held by the Starbase City Commission of the City of Starbase, Texas, on September 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the temporary city hall located at 39046 LBJ Blvd, Starbase, Texas, 78521. The following City Commission members were present:

Mayor Bobby Peden

Commissioner Jordan Buss

Commissioner Jenna Petzelka

Commissioners absent: none

Staff Present:

City Administrator: Kent Myers

City Clerk: Caroline Cole

City Attorney: Judy El Masri (by Teams video conference)

A. Call to Order and Quorum Determination

Mayor Peden called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and a quorum was present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Peden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Comment on All Agenda Items – comments limited to two minutes per individual.

There were no speakers.

D. Consent Agenda

1. Action regarding the minutes of the August 20, 2025, City Commission meeting.
2. Discussion and action on an interlocal agreement with Cameron County for the provision of law enforcement services.

Kent Myers, city administrator, made some comments on item D2, the interlocal agreement with Cameron County for law enforcement services. This is a milestone in the city's evolution. Residents have been requesting the expansion of law enforcement services, and that can be accomplished with this agreement. The county has already approved this agreement, so if the city commission approves, it will be ready to go. The agreement includes eight officers from the county, two per shift, 24/7 coverage. It also covers vehicles, and any equipment they might need. The cost is approximately \$1.3 million per year and has been negotiated over the past several months with the sheriff's office. A jail services agreement with the county is in process, and that will be on the next agenda. Hopefully in the next few months a municipal court will be created. These are all aspects of improving the public safety services for the city.

Mayor Peden asked what the duration of this agreement is, Mr. Myers stated that it was for one year, subject to reapproval. Mayor Peden asked if the reapproval rate would be the same, Mr. Myers stated that the rate for the second year of an agreement has already been quoted, which is less because vehicles will be purchased the first year.

Commissioner Petrzekka asked if the zone would include the section of Highway 4 in the city limits of Starbase. Mr. Myers replied that they would have jurisdiction over State Highway 4.

A motion was made by Commissioner Petrzekka to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Buss seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

E. Regular Session

1. **2025-09-11-E01-OR** Discussion and action on ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the City of Starbase.

Kent Myers, city administrator, presented the item. He acknowledged that there was a presentation on this at a previous meeting, a public hearing, and an involved process to get to this point. He pointed out in the packet that there are some "budget highlights," which we may want to share with our residents. It includes not only what is proposed for next year, but what has already accomplished this year, such as approvals, permits, annexations, zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, and

more. The budget will allow addition of new services, such as law enforcement, volunteer fire department, mosquito services, startup costs for municipal court and jail services. Budget revisions are in the packet, along with tax rate information, so everything is ready for consideration. This requires a roll call vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Buss to approve an ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the City of Starbase. Mayor Peden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken by the city clerk.

Voting For:

Mayor Peden
Commissioner Petrzelka
Commissioner Buss

Voting Against:

None

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

2. **2025-09-11-E02-OR** Discussion and action on ordinance levying taxes and adopting the tax rate on all taxable property for the year 2025 at the rate of \$0.55 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed value on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Starbase.

Kent Myers, city administrator, presented the item. The rate that was preliminary approved several weeks ago was \$0.55 per hundred-dollar valuation. He recommends final approval of that tax rate. It is comparable to other tax rates in the area. The city does have a heavy reliance on property tax, as the city does not have a sales tax, franchise tax, or other revenues. It will provide funding of \$4,279,661. He thinks it will be sufficient to fund operations for the coming year.

Commissioner Petrzelka made a motion to approve the ordinance levying taxes and adopting the tax rate on all taxable property for the year 2025 at the rate of \$0.55 per one hundred dollars assessed value on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Starbase. Commissioner Buss seconded.

A roll call vote was taken by the city clerk.

Voting For:

Mayor Peden
Commissioner Petrzelka
Commissioner Buss

Voting Against:

None

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

3. 2025-09-11-E03-RE Discussion and action on resolution ratifying the property tax revenue increase reflected in the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

Kent Myers, city administrator, introduced the item. This is a relatively new requirement in state law to provide better transparency for taxpayers. The commission must ratify that the property tax revenue is reflected in the budget. The increase must be reported, and since there was no property tax last year, the amount of the proposed property tax equals the amount of the increase.

Commissioner Buss made a motion to approve the resolution ratifying the property tax revenue increase reflected in the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026. Commissioner Petzelka seconded.

A roll call vote was taken by the city clerk.

Voting For:

Mayor Peden
Commissioner Petzelka
Commissioner Buss

Voting Against:

None

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

4. Discussion and action to appoint Wade Cain as the Building Official.

Kent Myers, city administrator, introduced the item. He stated that the current building official, Tracy Rodriguez, has done an outstanding job, but her role at Safebuilt has changed, and the staff recommends Wade Cain to take over as the building official. Mr. Cain has already been working in the community and working closely with staff and contractors. The staff is recommending his appointment as building official, and Ms. Rodriguez will still have an oversight role. His resume is in the packet, and he will be assuming other responsibilities as he gets more training and certification.

Commissioner Petzelka made a motion to appoint Wade Cain as the Building Official. Commissioner Buss seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

F. Adjourn

A motion was made by Commissioner Buss to adjourn. Commissioner Petzelka seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Approved by the City Commission on this 15th day of October, 2025.

APPROVED:



Bobby Peden

Bobby Peden, Mayor

ATTEST:



Caroline Cole

Caroline Cole, City Clerk

