

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2026 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Let it be remembered that the City Council of El Cenizo, Texas met Thursday March 12, 2026 at the Council Chambers located inside the El Cenizo City Hall at 507 Cadena St., El Cenizo, Texas 78046 at 6:30pm with the following members present to wit:

**Honorable Carina Hernandez, City Mayor
Honorable Juany Valdez, City Commissioner
Honorable Daisy Perez, City Commissioner**

Thus constituting a quorum, the City Council proceeded to act upon the agenda as posted in the meeting notice of March 12, 2026.

Item 1. Call to order by the Honorable Mayor, Carina Hernandez.

Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and moved to proceed with the meeting in English. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez and approved without objection.

Item 2. Roll Call.

Mayor Hernandez called roll. Present were: Mayor Carina Hernandez, City Commissioner Juany Valdez and City Commissioner Daisy Perez.

Also present: Raul Reyes, Noelia Elizondo and Lesley Gonzalez.

Item 3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hernandez led the pledge of allegiance.

Item 4. Communications.

No communications were made.

Item 5. Public Comments.

No speaker cards were presented therefore there were no public comments.

PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

No items were considered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE

Mayor Hernandez announced that the City Council of El Cenizo reserved the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any of the matters listed below as authorized by the Texas Government Code Sections:

551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)
551.072 (Deliberation about Real Property)
551.073 (Deliberation about Gifts and Donations)
551.074 (Personnel Matters)

She further informed the members of the public that the City Council would reconvene to take any final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the City Council. The item may subsequently be removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.)

Item 6. Approval of minutes, bills and monthly reports.

Motion to approve the minutes and monthly reports was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS – INTRODUCTIONS & PUBLIC HEARINGS

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING
CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS – RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

Item 7. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on adopting a resolution of the City of El Cenizo, Texas modifying the 2025-2026 fiscal year meeting schedule to reflect changes from Monday meetings to Thursday meetings, same time and location; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to adopt and approve the resolution as presented was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

MAYOR CARINA HERNANDEZ

Item 8. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action to approve RFP-2026-0312-A, Request for Independent Auditing Services for services related to conducting the pending financial audits for the City of El Cenizo; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to approve the RFP as presented was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 9. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding traffic calming measures, including the potential installation of speed bumps on streets that

currently do not have any, and the consideration of replacing the existing rubber speed bumps on Cadena Street with permanent cement speed humps; and any other matters incident thereto. [Implementation may begin with one street at a time.]

A motion to postpone the item until after a budgetary analysis is conducted and further authorize the replacement or removal of the speed hump structure in front of City Hall was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 10. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding seeking and/or hiring a Code Enforcement Specialist to enforce property maintenance and cleanliness ordinances throughout the City; and any other matters incident thereto.

After healthy discussion of the item and information provided to the council by Mr. Raul Reyes, the item was tabled and no action was taken.

Item 11. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action to request a formal update regarding the City's outstanding balance with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and to consider establishing a payment plan to begin addressing and making payments toward the debt; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to direct staff and PMC, LLC to inquire on the balance so that the city begin repayment efforts was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

COMMISSIONER JUANY VALDEZ

Item 12. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on directing PMC, LLC. to formulate a comprehensive budget utilization analysis for FY's 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and this current fiscal year 2025-2026; authorizing any cost associated with said comprehensive analysis report; and any other matters incident thereto.

Commissioner Valdez expressed the need for the city commissioners to have a full picture of where the city stands in regards to the budget to see what projects can realistically be undertaken.

After discussion, a motion to approve the item with a cost estimate of services to be provided prior by PMC, LLC was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 13. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on directing the city's leadership administrative staff to create and bring back a listing of all pending

previously approved projects that have not been completed; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to direct the city's leadership administrative staff to create and bring back a listing of all pending previously approved projects that have not been completed was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 14. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on directing the city's leadership administrative staff to create and bring back a listing of all current full time and part time employees with detailed duties and responsibilities; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion on directing the city's leadership administrative staff to create and bring back a listing of all current full time and part time employees with detailed duties and responsibilities was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 15. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on directing PMC, LLC., to formulate a city building/property use policy for consideration at the next regularly scheduled city council meeting; and any other matters incident thereto.

Item 16. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on directing PMC, LLC., to draft a guide on what actions are permissible and not permissible related to hosting city events, attending events on behalf of the city, and the authority the mayor and city commissioners have as individual elected officials to conduct any public events; and any other matters incident thereto.

Mayor Hernandez expressed her concern on the timing of items 15 and 16 when so close to re-election. Commissioner Valdez and Commissioner Perez both commented on previous incidents where members of the council had been prevented to participate of host events respectively.

After continued discussion on the item a motion to approve Item 15 and 16 was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

COMMISSIONER DAISY PEREZ

Item 17. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on obtaining professional services for photography services for the official headshots of city elected and appointed officials, department heads and city staff; and any other matters incident thereto.

Mayor Hernandez had questions on the use of the pictures and expressed her concern with the timing. Commissioner Perez replied that it would be nice to have historical

memorabilia of members having served. Hernandez stated that she would more than likely be paying for her own because she didn't think the item was appropriate as the pictures might be used for political purposes. Commissioner Valdez replied that the Mayor was entitled to do as she pleased.

A motion to approve the item for City Elected Officials only was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 18. Status update with discussion, consideration and appropriate action regarding the Mellon Foundation Grant; and any other matters incident thereto.

Commissioner Perez expressed her frustration with the lack of the communication and follow-up from the fiscal sponsor. Mr. Reyes offered to assist Commissioner Perez with drafting a status update letter from the fiscal sponsor and cc'ing the Mellon Foundation.

No action was taken.

Item 19. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on authorizing the 3rd party funding disbursements to the El Cenizo Community Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. as per approved and authorized agreement for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and the 2025-2026 fiscal year in the amount of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars and zero cents); and any other matters incident thereto.

Background information was provided to the council regarding the item. After discussion a motion to re-issue the 2024-2025 disbursement due to the misplacement of the check was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

The second disbursement will be issued upon the restructuring of the board.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

Item 20. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action to ratify the canceling of the December 8, 2025 regularly scheduled city council meeting; and any other matters incident thereto.

Item 22. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action to ratify the canceling of the February 9, 2026 regularly scheduled city council meeting; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to approve items 20 and 22 was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 21. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action to ratify the canceling of the January 12, 2026 regularly scheduled city council meeting; and any other matters incident thereto.

No action was taken on Item 21 because a meeting was held and the minutes were approved in the consent of agenda.

Item 23. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on renewing the Atrium Express Annual Subscription and the OPAC Snapshot Cover Images Only: Yearly Subscription from Book Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$895.00 for the period of 12/28/2025-12/27/2026; and any other matters incident thereto. [Library]

No action taken due to the item approved at the January 12, 2026 meeting.

Item 24. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action related to the Apparatus & Equipment grant award(s) for El Cenizo Volunteer Fire Department; and any other matters incident thereto.

AE -1782-90465 – Fire and Rescue Equipment \$20,000.00

A motion to pursue the feasibility of the council participating and allocating \$20,000.00 towards the grant funding and a cooperative reimbursement agreement was made by Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Valdez. The motion was approved with Commissioner Perez abstaining.

Item 25. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on participating the 2026 LULAC National Scholarship Fund with a silver sponsorship of \$2,500.00 for the 2026 Orgullo Latino Legacy Award Program; and secure (15) \$250.00 scholarships for qualifying High School Seniors within the limits of the City of El Cenizo; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to approve participating the 2026 LULAC National Scholarship Fund with a silver sponsorship of \$2,500.00 for the 2026 Orgullo Latino Legacy Award Program; and secure (15) \$250.00 scholarships for qualifying High School Seniors within the limits of the City of El Cenizo was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Item 26. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the need for a portable building to operate the City's Animal Control shelter and euthanization activities, including the potential purchase or construction of such a facility, and/or the possibility of sharing space at the Fire Station for this purpose; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to proceed to with the purchase of a portable building to operate the City's Animal Control shelter and euthanization activities not to exceed \$15,000.00 was made

by Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved 2-1 with Commissioner Valdez voting against.

Item 27. Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the council a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm was made by Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Valdez.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above minutes are true and correct and were approved by the El Cenizo City Council on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

City Secretary