



CITY OF INGRAM

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 31, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Ingram City Hall, 226 Hwy 39
Ingram, Texas

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Claud Jordan.

2. Invocation

The invocation was offered by Mayor Jordan.

3. Public Comments

No members of the public came forward to speak.

4. Public Hearing — Proposed Tax Rate

- Public hearing opened at 6:01 p.m.

Discussion — need for the proposed tax rate increase

- Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins spoke to the need for a cushion to fund a 24-hour police force, additional officers, and dispatch service costs.
- Police Chief Dustin Breashears stated dispatch cost through the Kerr County Sheriff's Office was budgeted at \$29,000; the last figure he had heard was approximately \$29,600 (a 5% increase), and he was working to confirm the exact amount with KCSO.
- Council Member Christopher McLachlan asked whether the City could instead contract with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) for dispatch services.
- Chief Breashears noted he has had numerous meetings with LCRA, which is preparing an estimate; he added that some volunteer fire departments may also be interested.
- Chief Breashears advised the City would most likely need to contract with KCSO for dispatch services for at least one year, as there was not enough time to get LCRA service up and running before October 1.
- Mayor Jordan and Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins both noted that the tax rate has not been raised in six years.
- For reference, the no-new-revenue rate was \$0.3820/\$100 valuation (compared to \$0.5328/\$100 proposed).

- Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Rocky Hawkins to close the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.; seconded by Council Member Robert Kimbrough. Motion carried.

5. Vote to Propose Tax Rate Increase

- Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Rocky Hawkins: "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.5328/100 which is effectively a 43.92% increase in the tax rate."
- Seconded by Council Member Robert Kimbrough.
- Vote — Ayes: Mayor Claud Jordan, Mayor Pro Tem Rocky Hawkins, Council Member Robert Kimbrough, Council Member Christopher McLachlan, Council Member Brandon Dechert.
- Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously (5–0).
- This vote proposed the tax rate increase. Notice of the proposed rate was published on September 17, 2026; the vote to adopt the tax rate is scheduled for the September 28 meeting.

6. Budget Discussion

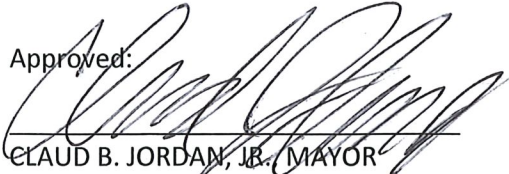
- Assistant City Secretary Melissa Wagner reported that several departments had been underbudgeted for FY2026. For example, some employee salaries were not included in the budget, and only \$1,200 was budgeted for the entire year for police department gasoline.
- Ms. Wagner noted that the FY2027 budget was built from the ground up following the prior year's staffing transition in the finance department.
- FY2026 police department: budgeted expenses were \$1.49 million; actual expenses were \$1.63 million.
- FY2027 projections: budgeted expenses are \$1.747 million; projected revenue, if the tax rate stays exactly the same, is \$1.754 million.
- Ms. Wagner presented three tax-rate scenarios and their resulting year-end cushion: taking no action on the tax rate would leave a cushion of approximately \$7,000; raising the rate halfway would leave a cushion of approximately \$110,000; and raising the rate to the maximum allowed without triggering a voter-approval election would leave a cushion of approximately \$250,000.
- In response to a question about why the Administration personnel budget increased from approximately \$53,000 to approximately \$100,000, Ms. Wagner explained that one additional position was added in Administration.
- Ms. Wagner explained her budgeting methodology: she reviewed the FY2026 budget, actual expenditures through July 31, and projected year-end spending, then built the FY2027 budget on FY2026 actual spending with a modest increase layered in to account for anticipated cost increases in FY2027.
- Council will vote on adoption of the final budget at the next council meeting.

7. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Council Member Robert Kimbrough; seconded by Council Member Christopher McLachlan. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

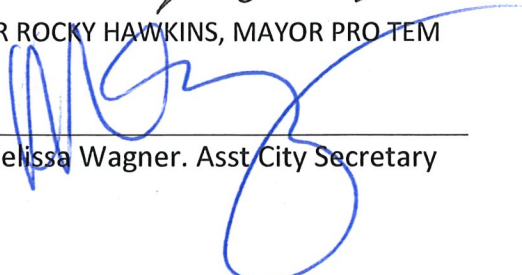
POSTED THIS ____ day of September, 2026, before 6:00 P.M. on the City of Ingram website (<https://cityofingram.com/agenda-minutes/>), the bulletin board located on the exterior wall of the Ingram Police Department and on the bulletin board in the public lobby at Ingram City Hall.

Approved:



CLAUD B. JORDAN, JR. MAYOR

OR ROCKY HAWKINS, MAYOR PRO TEM



Melissa Wagner. Asst City Secretary

DATE: 9/28/26