

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ODEM, TEXAS
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Odem will meet at the Odem Public Library, 516 Voss Avenue, Odem, Texas at 7:00 p.m. in a **SPECIAL CALL MEETING** on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, and the following matter will be the subject of the **SPECIAL CALL MEETING**:

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

- A. Declare a quorum
- B. Pledge the Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and the Texas Flag
- C. Public Comments - Citizens to be heard- **PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE {3} MINUTES**
APERSONSHALLNOTBEALLOWEDTOASSIGN THE
THREE {3} MINUTES TO ANYONE ELSE.

II. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED:

- A. Presentation by Zac Tax, Mr. Doug Martella. - Councilmember Virginia Garza
- B. Consider and take action to approve contracting Zac Tax. – Councilmember Virginia Garza
- C. Discuss and consider the handling, accounting, and deposit of City funds collected by city hall staff, including current procedures, internal controls, and recommendations for improvement. – Mayor David Maldonado
- D. Executive Session
The City Council will convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to deliberate the appeal filed by City employee Angela Witten pursuant to the applicable appeal provisions of the City of Odem Employee Handbook, including the underlying personnel action, employee response, and matters concerning the evaluation, duties, discipline, or employment of the employee.

OPEN SESSION RIGHT: Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.074(b), an Executive Session may not be conducted under this section if the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation requests a public hearing. Accordingly, either employee identified above may request that the deliberation concerning that employee be conducted in open session rather than Executive Session.

- E. Reconvene into Open Session
The City Council will reconvene into Open Session to consider and take possible action, if any, regarding Angela Witten's employee appeal pursuant to the City of Odem Employee Handbook, including any action authorized or required under the City's appeal procedures.

F. Executive Session

The City Council will convene into Executive Session pursuant to **Texas Government Code § 551.074 (Personnel Matters)** to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee concerning the following City employees: - Councilmember Billy Huerta

1. Betsy Soto – Finance Administrator
2. Lisa Hernandez – City Administrator

OPEN SESSION RIGHT: Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.074(b), an Executive Session may not be conducted under this section if the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation requests a public hearing. Accordingly, either employee identified above may request that the deliberation concerning that employee be conducted in open session rather than Executive Session.

G. Reconvene into Open Session

The City Council will reconvene into Open Session to consider and take possible action, if any, regarding matters discussed in Executive Session concerning:

1. Betsy Soto – Finance Administrator; and/or
2. Lisa Hernandez – City Administrator.

H. Discuss, consider and take action to adopt the proposed 2025-2026 Annual City Budget with a record vote being required. – Finance Administrator Betsy Soto

This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$178,912, which is a 20.53% percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$23,321.

I. Discuss, consider and take action to adopt a tax rate with the following language included the resolution. – Finance Administrator Betsy Soto

This year's proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate. The vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order setting the tax rate must be a record vote and 60% of the governing body must vote in favor of the adoption of the tax rate. A motion to adopt the ordinance, resolution, or order must be made in the following form:

I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.618399, which is effectively a 20.04 percent increase in the tax rate.

If this year's proposed tax rate does not exceed the no-new-revenue tax rate. A motion to adopt an ordinance, resolution, or order setting the tax rate does not require the language about "tax increase" as stated in §26.05(b) of Property Tax Code.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE. THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 19.84 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$90.44.

- J. Discuss, consider, and ratify leasing the property CR 1694/ Highway 77 to the Edcot Coop Gin not to exceed \$750.00 a month. – Mayor Maldonado

III. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. Adjourn.

NOTE: The City of Odem reserves the right to recess into executive session concerning any of the items on this agenda whenever it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Open meeting Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.



LISA HERNANDEZ
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

I, Lisa Hernandez, City Administrator, certify that the above notice of the Special Call Meeting was posted on the Bulletin Board at City Hall of the City of Odem, Texas on September 9, 2026 @ 5:00pm



LISA HERNANDEZ
CITY ADMINISTRATOR