

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 10, 2026

MINUTES OF THE PLUM GROVE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR OPEN MEETING HELD ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH, AT THE PLUM GROVE CITY HALL, 9485 PLUM GROVE ROAD, CLEVELAND, TEXAS 77327, IN THE CITY OF PLUM GROVE, COUNTY OF LIBERTY, STATE OF TEXAS AT 7:00 PM.

The Council met in a REGULAR session with the following council members present.

*Mary Arrendell-Mayor*

*Robert Sanchez*

*Froy Ortiz*

*Sarah Woodbury*

*Nicole Rose*

*Mildred Sowell*

\*\*\* CM denotes Council Member\*\*\*

\*\*\*AM denotes Audience Member\*\*\*

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call

**Present-**

Mary Arrendell-Mayor

Robert Sanchez-CP1

Froy Ortiz-CP2/Mayor Pro Tem

Sarah Woodbury-CP3

Nicole Rose-CP4

Mildred Sowell-CP5

Melissa Pouncey-Secretary

Jillian Frazier-Court Clerk

Frank Longoria-Chief of Police

Scott Francis-City Attorney

**Absent-**

3. Pledge of Allegiance lead by Mayor Arrendell
4. Invocation lead by Mildred Sowell
5. Public Comments-

**Aaron Montesnieto-** Good evening, Mayor and council. I am running for a position on the Cleveland ISD school board. I wanted to introduce myself to the community of Plum Grove. I was born in Mexico and moved to Cleveland in the Spring of 1996. Before moving here, we lived in Houston. In August of 1996 enlisted in the United States navy. I graduated from Cleveland High School In 1997. I have been here off and on since 1997. Being in the navy we moved around a lot, but I always called Cleveland Home. I met my wife here, she was a graduate from Tarkington, and I did not hold that against her much. So, we have raised two beautiful daughters here. Both daughters are Cleveland alumni, and the oldest one Lexi is a

bearcat and my youngest is a Cougar. I am extremely proud of what they have done. My only goal when I become a board member again. I say again because I was on the ISD board from 2016-2021. I will continue to help out each and every student and members of the staff. Everyone that lives in Cleveland and in Plum Grove. I want the students to have a better education than what I had and what y'all had. The only thing on my agenda is to continue to help and make our community including y'all is to make it better than it was before. The first thing I did as a board member previously was the nurses all got new computers, theirs was outdated. I made sure there were soccer balls and playground equipment for the kids. I try to attend every event that I can. I just want to leave the community better than it was.

**Executive Session:** Adjourned @7:06 P.M.

The City Council will hold executive session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained therein:

6. Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of certain public officers and employees of the Plum Grove Police Department pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

**Open Session:** Reconvened @ 7:43 P.M.

The City Council will adjourn Executive Session, reconvene into Open Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code and take action, if any, on item(s) discussed during Closed Executive Session.

There was no action taken by council.

7. Motion to approve February 10, 2026, minutes made by CM Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cm Sanchez, passed unopposed.
8. Motion to approve the financial report with the correction of moving the city hall copy machine amount under the division of Court for February 2026 made by CM Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.

**\*COUNCIL MEMBER NICOLE ROSE EXCUSED HERSELF AND SAT IN THE AUDIENCE.**

9. Motion to table a small tow-yard storage facility located at 21 Private Road 34901 made by CM Ortiz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Sowell, passed unopposed.

**DISCUSSION-** The City Attorney addressed the council's ongoing concerns regarding JTT Towing's failure to submit required documentation from TCEQ, EPA, and the company's insurance provider for more than two years. The attorney reiterated that no city permits or a Certificate of Occupancy have been issued for the business. Building code requirements were reviewed, including the requirement that a wrecker service must be licensed and permitted to operate within the city limits. A city permit is required for operation. The electrical permit for the property has been obtained, inspected, and passed. The perimeter fence is approximately six feet in height and therefore does not require a permit. The applicability of a building permit remains under review, as such a permit would be required if the structure exceeds 150 square feet. The City Attorney is continuing to evaluate which requirements apply to the tow yard and which do not. Jay Hall appeared before council on behalf of JTT Towing. He stated that he had emailed multiple documents to the City Secretary. The City Secretary informed council that all documents received had been placed in the council's folders. She further clarified that she had **not** received any insurance documentation. Mr. Hall stated he would provide the insurance

documents by Wednesday morning, March 11, 2026. Mr. Hall also stated that all TCEQ and EPA information is available. Council Member Sowell asked whether those documents had been submitted to the city. Business owner Jeff Johnson stated that he had turned in all TCEQ and EPA documentation in 2024. The City Secretary advised that she has never received any such documents. The only items the city has received from JTT Towing are those currently in the council folders: an elevation certificate and a permit application. No TCEQ or EPA documentation has been provided to the city. Mr. Johnson stated that his records indicate that neither TCEQ nor EPA impose requirements for a tow yard. Council Member Sowell requested that Mr. Johnson provide written documentation supporting that claim. Mr. Hall further stated that, during a flooding event, the tow company would be able to move all vehicles stored on the lot. Members of the council expressed that such an action would not be feasible during a flooding event. The City Attorney asked whether the tow company intended to conduct towing operations within the city limits. Mr. Hall stated that the towing operations would be for Liberty County. The City Attorney advised that he would compile a list of all documents required for the tow yard to operate in compliance with city ordinances. The City Secretary informed JTT Towing representatives where the applicable ordinances are located on the city's website. Mr. Johnson asserted that the ordinance did not apply to his tow company. The City Attorney clarified that the ordinance **does** apply. Mr. Hall stated that he has sent several electronic communications requesting a list of required items needed to move forward. The City Secretary confirmed that all communications have been forwarded to the City Attorney. Mr. Hall stated that JTT Towing wants to be honest, respectful, and compliant with the City of Plum Grove, and that the company is not attempting to hide anything. He emphasized a desire for transparency. The Mayor acknowledged the company's statements and explained that the city has previously encountered individuals attempting to take advantage of the city. She stated that the city seeks transparency and honesty and must apply requirements fairly and consistently across all businesses.

**\*COUNCIL MEMBER NICOLE ROSE RETURNED TO HER SEAT AFTER MOTIONS WERE MADE.**

10. No action on enforcement for construction without permits.
11. No action on replacing a culvert located on County Road 3434. Council member Ortiz was going to check some prices and wanted this placed on next month's agenda.
12. Motion to approve purchasing rectangular warning signs for orange branch and Plum Grove Road located near County Road 349 made by CM Sowell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Rose, passed unopposed.
13. Motion to approve contract agreement for platinum copier for Plum Grove police department made by CM Woodbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Sanchez, passed unopposed.
14. Motion to approve mutual aid agreement for complex emergency response and investigation planning made by CM Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
15. Motion to approve a maintenance agreement with Broadwater solutions for the following locations.
  - A. City Hall located at 9485 Plum Grove Road made by CM Woodbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
  - B. Plum Grove Police Department located at 7733 FM 1010 CM Sanchez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
16. Motion to approve and add streetlights to
  - A. Plum Grove Road and CR 349 made by CM Woodbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.

- B. Plum Grove Road and Julis Pit intersection made by CM Woodbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
- C. 347 South and Montebello made by CM Woodbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
- 17. Receive reports, discuss, and provide input on reports from:
  - A. the Plum Grove Police Department Report Averaging 45 citations a month, Hoge and Palacios completed alert training, nibrs report submitted for the month, New officer sworn, and Racial profiling report completed.
  - B. the Plum Grove Fire Department Report attached,
  - C. the Plum Grove Municipal Court attached,
  - D. Discussion of Local, County, and State Updates
  - E. GLO Grant
  - F. FEMA
    - a. Hurricane Harvey
    - b. May 3, 2024, flooding
- 18. Motion to adjourn @ 8:52 P.M. made by CM Sanchez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.





## City of Plum Grove Municipal Court

PO Box 1358, Splendora, TX 77372  
Phone: (281) 659-4300 Option 2

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March 2026 Report

*Emails to Judge Goodwin reviewing the February 2026, City Council meeting along with weekly reports to Mayor Mary Arrendell and all City Council members are reviewed below.*

No big projects are going on at the moment. Normal day-to-day operations, listed below.

Working on day-to-day operations such as on Mondays pulling down credit card payments and applying them to cases. On Fridays doing a citation audit to make sure all citations issued by Plum Grove Police Department have been turned in. If there are any questions about citations this is when I communicate with the issuing officer for clarification so I can answer any questions for the prosecutor before the court date. During the week, I also return and answer phone calls, emails, and any walk-ins. Monthly reports for GHS, Comptroller, and Omni Base have been completed on time and mailed out.

Jillian Frazier  
Certified Court Clerk