

**Duncanville Special Called City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 26, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Duncanville City Council was called to order on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall with a quorum to wit:

Council Present: Mayor Greg Contreras
Mayor Pro-Tem DeMonica Gooden
Councilmember Joe Veracruz
Councilmember Don McBurnett
Councilmember Jeremy Koontz
Councilmember Kyle Pennebaker
Councilmember Jarred Davis

Council Arriving At:

Council Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

WORK SESSION / BRIEFING

- A. Briefing and Deliberation on the Status of the Life School Project

City Attorney Robert Hager presented the background of the Life School property and the process since the property was purchased by Life School in 2022. He reviewed the decision to deny the request by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council, which led to the current lawsuit. TML Attorney Jim Jeffreys presented the status of the lawsuit.

Citizens were allowed time to address the City Council and staff and ask questions. They wanted to present the proposed restrictions they would like Attorney Jeffreys to present to Life School before moving forward with a settlement.

Mayor Contreras recessed the meeting at 7:53 PM to allow the citizens to meet and agree on restrictions they would like to present.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:20 PM.

Citizens Cory Johnson and Alicia Brown Young presented the following proposed restrictions:

- No usage by third-party renters - restricted to Life School
- Limit the size of the facility to the current plans for the facility for thirty years
- No outdoor activities after 5 PM and on weekends
- More mature trees on the site as a barrier

- Fifteen-foot screening wall as opposed to the eight-foot wall
- No band rehearsal before 7 AM or after 8 PM except as part of football games
- Traffic mitigation plan after Phase 2 to include athletic events

Mayor Contreras recessed the meeting to convene in executive session at 8:49 PM.

1. CITIZENS' INPUT

Dr. Simmonds 939 Fairway Dr.
Life School

Dr. Nesa Sasser 1531 McArthur
Life School

Steve Madison 514 Shelly Ct.
Life School

Mark Cooks 1106 Bradley
Life School

Alicia Brown Young 1503 Halsey Dr.
Life School

Joneice Preston 1503 McArthur Dr. - did not speak
Life School opposition

Aris Preston 1503 McArthur Dr.
Life School

James Tetteh 939 Fairway Dr. - did to speak
Life School opposition

Tonya Kirkendoll Lewis 1502 McArthur Dr. (email)
Life School

James & Torana Wright 1510 McArthur Dr. (email)
Life School

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session was called into session at 8:55 PM and Mayor Contreras read the item into record.

The Council closed the Executive Session at 10:02 PM.

- A. City Council shall convene into closed session for consultation with City Attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 regarding Life School vs the City of Duncanville.

2. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. Take any necessary action as a result of the Executive Session.

Mayor Contreras reconvened the meeting at 10:04 PM.

Councilmember Don McBurnett made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a settlement agreement once the final plans have been reviewed and approved by the Interim City Manager and staff as proper for the permit application process and after the seven items requested by citizens have been requested from Life School, Councilmember Kyle Pennebaker seconded the motion. The vote was cast 7 for, 0 against.

Councilmember Don McBurnett made a motion to direct attorney Jeffrey to conclude the case pursuant to the settlement agreement and present the Judge with the settlement agreement, including final plans review and approval by the Interim City Manager and staff, Councilmember Kyle Pennebaker seconded the motion. The vote was cast 6 for, 1 against (Councilmember Jarred Davis).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 PM.

APPROVED:

Chiquita Taylor

CITY SECRETARY