



How does Micah Parsons fallout impact on NFL?

SPORTS, 1B

LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 | LUBBOCKONLINE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Lubbock City Council gives initial nod to 2026 budget, tax rate

Mateo Rosiles
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

As budget season in Lubbock enters its final stretch this month, some still face one final test — public input and final rounds of voting.

This week, the Lubbock City Council heard from citizens and debated for four hours before giving an initial vote of 6-2 to the city’s 2026 budget and a 6-2 vote to set the city’s tax rate. Councilman David Glasheen and Mayor Mark McBrayer voted no on both items.

This is the first of two votes the council will take on the items, with the other one being Sept. 9 at 2 p.m. in Citizens Tower. But ahead of the final vote, here’s what you need to know about

what was said about the budget and tax rate.

Council debates and amends Lubbock’s 2026 budget

Even though a public hearing was called on the City of Lubbock’s proposed 2026 budget, only one person spoke, with much of the talk and debate coming amongst the council.

Mayor McBrayer, Councilwoman Dr. Jennifer Wilson, Councilman Tim Collins and Councilwoman Christy Martinez-Garcia all had amendments to change the budget, but they went about it slightly differently.

However, it was Wilson’s motion, which Martinez-Garcia amended, that prevailed, which stated that the city

will pull \$1.7 million from the \$2 million discretionary fund set aside for road bond projects to the general fund, and slash the city council’s budget by \$15,000 for meal/food expenses.

In essence, the \$1.7 million is a buy-down to the city’s tax rate in response to the city trying to find that amount after receiving a lower amount of funding from property taxes after the Lubbock County Central Appraisal District did its math.

The motion passed 6-2, with McBrayer and Collins opposing it.

The council also considered other proposals to save additional money through dropping non-sworn employees — like firefighters and police — cost

See BUDGET, Page 2A

Copper Caboose shuts down location

Claims another is ‘on the horizon’

Alana Edgin
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

After 24 years of serving American and Mexican food, one of Lubbock’s iconic restaurants and sports bars has shut down with little notice, but with tentative plans to re-locate.

Copper Caboose, 5609 Villa Drive, suddenly announced its immediate closure Tuesday night via social media. In the post, it directed people to join them at their other location, 50th Street Caboose, 5027 50th St., and hinted at a new location.

“With heavy hearts, we have closed our Avenue Q location,” the owners stated on social media. “We are truly grateful for all management and staff who have given so much heart and energy over the 17,600 shifts worked since 2001. It’s that same dedication and spirit that keeps the Caboose tradition alive at 50th Street & Slide—and with a new location on the horizon, the best is yet to come.”

This business is not alone in closing a space while hinting at more. Curby’s Express Market, 1903 Milwaukee Ave., announced an immediate closure of its only Lubbock location on July 22. The move left only one location, 7200 W. McCormick Road in Amarillo.

Alana Edgin writes about business for the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. Got a news tip? Contact her via email at aedgin@lubbockonline.com.

Beef industry faces uncertainty



Byron Stephenson, owner and pit master at The Shed Market, demonstrates how he trims a brisket for the audience at the Big Country Beef Conference in the Taylor County Expo Center on Aug. 21. RONALD W. ERDRICH/REPORTER-NEWS

Low supply fuel beef prices, helped by a winged threat

Ronald W. Erdrich
Abilene Reporter-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Do soaring beef prices have ranchers living high off the hog? Perhaps, but any beef producers will be the first to tell you even the brightest days ends in sunset.

Last week’s Beef Country Beef Con-

ference at the Taylor County Expo Center featured an array of topics for cattle producers — not the least of which was the topic that led the day-long symposium.

David Anderson, professor and extension economist in livestock and food marketing in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University, kicked it all off with the one

subject on everybody’s mind: Where is the cattle market headed?

Supply vs. Demand

But you’re not a rancher, you say? Even if cats are all you herd, the effects of rising beef prices are felt everywhere

See BEEF, Page 2A

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to lubbockonline.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



103rd Year | No. 264
To subscribe 806-762-8844
©2025 \$2.00

