

City of Coldspring, Texas
Minutes of the Regular Called Council Meeting
Monday, July 7, 2025

1. Meeting called to order 7:01 PM

2. Roll call.

Present: Alderman Jessica Sewell, Jennifer Manuel, Dianne Griffith, Kyle Currie, and Mayor John Benestante

Absent: Alderman Nichole Gatewood

Visitors: Ray McCoppin, Michelle Haylock & Shawna Holman-CVFD, Gerald & Linda Deeter, Judi Benestante, Greg Magee-City Attorney, Barbara Justice, Calandra Johnson, Jocelyn Traylor, Linda Almaguer, Luke Sweeney-Precinct 1 Commissioner

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Linda Deeter gave her appreciation to the city for cutting the weeds down on Cemetery Road. Mrs. Deeter requests that the city work on getting a map of the city made because of the increase in visitors and new residents. And lastly, she spoke to ask if anyone knew of a child that was in the flood that happened on the July 4th holiday weekend or any tragic event to let her know and Quilts for Kids will get a handmade quilt to them.

4. **AGENDA:** Mayor Benestante presented the agenda for the meeting. Alderman Kyle Currie made a motion to adopt the agenda. Alderman Jessica Sewell seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. **MINUTES:** Mayor Benestante presented the minutes from the regular June 2, 2025, meeting and the minutes from the special called June 23, 2025, meeting. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular called June 2, 2025, meeting, was made by Alderman Jessica Sewell and seconded by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. A motion to accept the minutes from the special called June 23, 2025, meeting, was made by Dianne Griffith and seconded by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. All in favor of both motions.

6. **APPROVAL OF BILLS:** The list of bills paid and to be paid were reviewed by the Council for approval. A motion to pay the bills was made by Alderman Jennifer Manuel and seconded by Alderman Dianne Griffith. All in favor.

7. **REPORTS:**

A. **Operation of Treatment Plant and Collections System-** Josh Taylor, the City's sewer operator, presented the report on the Operation of the Treatment Plant and Collections Systems. The plant operated at 23 percent capacity for the month of June and flowed an

average of .047 MGD. Rain Total was 5.75 inches. Josh updated on Lift Stations 1,2,3,4,5 & 6 having no issues. No sampling issues for the month of May.

- B. Financial & Legislative Reports - Mayor John Benestante briefed Council with the current financial profit and loss statements for the General account, Sewer & Maintenance, Hotel/Motel, Capital Projects, Investment Report, Community Center, Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department, San Jacinto County Historical Commission. Michelle Haylock reported on the Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department for the month of June. Mayor Benestante asked for any comments or questions regarding the profit and loss statements. There were none.
 - C. GRANT/FUND Reports: Mayor John Benestante briefed Council with the current Grant/Fund Reports for the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act-COVID-TDEEM), CDBG-MITMOD (GLO-\$631,000-Sewer Expansion), Texas CDBG (TDA \$500,000- Sewer), RCP-(GLO-\$300,000 Flood Mitigation/Mapping Studies/Zoning), Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TxDOT \$3,000,000-Sidewalks), Texas Parks and Wildlife (\$300,000 City Park 2) Mayor Benestante asked for any comments or questions regarding reports. There were none.
 - D. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: City Attorney Greg Magee shared with council there will be some new laws that will come into effect on September 1, 2025, and he will review and share the ones that will affect the city at the next council meeting.
 - E. Sewer Reports: Briefing on sewer adjustments & sewer cutoffs - Assistant City Executive Administrator, Amanda Villa briefed the Council on the sewer adjustments made to customer accounts in the month of June. Amanda also briefed Council that there were two customer accounts that were locked off for non-pay. Both have since paid and been reinstated.
8. OLD BUSINESS:
- A. Briefing on Visit Coldspring, Texas- Mayor Benestante briefed council that Visit Coldspring, Texas is on hold due to a family emergency.
 - B. Discussion and possible action regarding approving fence required in Ordinance 88-4 (Salvage and Junk Yard) at 301 SH 150 Coldspring, Texas 77331- After a brief discussion with City Attorney Greg Magee, a certified letter will need to be sent to the owners at 301 SH 150 Coldspring, Texas 77331 regarding the approving fence required in Ordinance 88-4 (Salvage and Junk Yard)
 - C. Briefing on Record Retention Building- Mayor Benestante briefly updated the plans on the Record Retention Building. Will be getting quotes for the plans and removing a large tree on the property.

D. Briefing on Community Center Design and future financing available- Mayor Benestante briefly reviewed the Community Center Design and future financing that will be available to help with the project.

E. Discussion and possible action on Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department Corporations plan: After a brief discussion this item was tabled and no action was taken.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion and possible action on the City's current financial standing (6-month review). Mayor Benestante briefed the Council with the City's current financial standing. Mayor Benestante asked for any comments or questions regarding the 6-month financial review. There were no questions and this item was tabled.

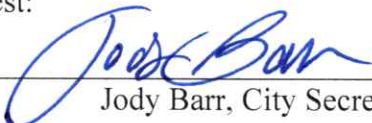
10. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Jessica Sewell at 7:48PM and was seconded by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.



John Benestante, Mayor

Attest:



Jody Barr, City Secretary