

**City of Coldspring, Texas**  
Minutes of the Regular Called Council Meeting  
Monday, May 4, 2026

1. Meeting called to order 7:00 PM

2. Roll call

PRESENT: Alderman Jennifer Manuel, Nichole Gatewood, Kyle Currie and Mayor John Benestante

ABSENT: Alderman Jessica Sewell and Alderman Dianne Griffith

VISITORS: Linda Deeter, Judi Benestante, Roger Samoff, Derren Hall-SJNT, Greg Magee-City Attorney, Michelle Haylock-CVFD, Shawna Holman-CVFD, Linda Almaguer, Ray McCoppin-SJC TV

3. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

4. AGENDA: Mayor Benestante presented the agenda for the meeting. Alderman Nichole Gatewood made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Alderman Kyle Currie seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. MINUTES: Mayor Benestante presented the minutes from the regular meeting called April 6, 2026. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting called April 6, 2026, was made by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. This motion was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.

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 Kyle Currie. All in favor.

7. REPORTS:

A. Mayor's Updates:

B. 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 25 percent capacity for the month of April and flowed an average of .094 MGD. Rain total was 4.75 inches. The Onsite Lift Station, located at 211 Jones Road, had Hillside Field Services install a new control panel.

Josh updated on Lift Stations 3 and 5, had a new control panel installed by Hillside Field Services. Lift Stations 1, 2, 4 & 6 had no issues. No sampling issues for the month of March.

- C. FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mayor John Benestante briefed Council with the current financial profit and loss statements for the Community Center and Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department reports. Michelle Haylock reported on the Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department for the month of April. Mayor Benestante asked for any comments or questions regarding the profit and loss statements. There was none.
- D. CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORTS: Mayor John Benestante briefed Council with the current Capital Project Reports for the Texas Parks and Wildlife City Park #2 Project, TxDot Sidewalk Projects, and General Land Office - MIT MOD - Grant Project (SH 150 W/ FM 2025 Sewer Project). Mayor Benestante asked for any comments or questions regarding reports. There were none.
- E. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: City Attorney Greg Magee discussed the options the city could do for the regulation of game rooms.
- F. SEWER REPORTS: Briefing on sewer adjustments & sewer cutoffs – Assistant City Executive Administrator, Amanda Villa briefed Council on the sewer adjustments made to customer accounts in the month of April. Amanda also briefed Council that there were two customer accounts that were locked off for non-pay. Both customers have since paid and been unlocked.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on Interlocal Agreement between the City of Coldspring and the San Jacinto County Emergency Services District. We sent the original agreement back to them, they looked it over and were asking for bills that need to be paid. Those have been provided. This will be back on next agenda.


9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action to accept depository bid from People's State Bank. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to accept the depository bid from People's State Bank. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. All in favor.

- B. Briefing on developing city permitting office. Mayor John Benestante briefed council on developing a city permitting office.
- C. Briefing on sewer rate study. Mayor John Benestante briefed council on sewer rate study. The city has had some issues with high usage on grease samples from quarterly sampling. We have a couple of accounts that need to have a sampling tube installed so when the lab gets the sample its not coming straight thru the grease sitting on top. Some locations have grinder pumps to help break down before it comes to the plant. However, those pumps need to be inspected and make sure they are working properly.

10. ADJOURN:

- A. A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Nichole Gatewood at 7:47PM and was seconded by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.

  
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John Benestante, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Jody Barr, City Secretary