

City of Coldspring, Texas
Minutes of the Regular Called Council Meeting
Monday, July 6, 2026

1. Meeting called to order 7:00 PM

2. Roll call

PRESENT: Alderman Jessica Sewell, Dianne Griffith, Nichole Gatewood, and Mayor John Benestante

ABSENT: Alderman Jennifer Manuel and Alderman Kyle Currie

VISITORS: Derren Hall-SJNT, Tony Sewell, Judi Benestante-Visit Coldspring, Linda Almaguer, Kris Eastham-TDEM, Greg Magee, City Attorney, Linda and Gerald Deeter, Michelle Haylock-CVFD, Shawna Holman-CVFD, Roger Samoff-ESD, Charline Smith-SJSC

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 Jessica Sewell seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. MINUTES: Mayor Benestante presented the minutes from the regular meeting called June 1, 2026. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting called June 1, 2026, was made by Alderman Jessica Sewell. 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 Dianne Griffith and seconded by Alderman Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.

7. REPORTS:

- A. Mayor's Updates: Mayor John Benestante briefly updated the progress on the walking trail, new sewer line installation, and TML update on Data Centers.

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 24 percent capacity for the month of June and flowed an average of .065 MGD. Rain total was 4 inches. The Onsite Lift Station, located at 211 Jones Road, EFS has installed the new pump in the lift station. Josh updated on Lift Stations 3, Allied has installed the new pumps, guide rails, and the new piping in the lift station. Everything is operating normally. Lift Stations 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6 had no issues. No sampling issues for the month of May.

C. FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mayor John Benestante briefed Council with the current financial profit and loss statements for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, Hotel Motel Fund, Capital Projects, Investment Reports, Community Center and Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department reports. 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 was none.

D. CAPTIAL 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

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 June. Amanda also briefed Council that there were seven customer accounts that were locked off for non-pay. Six of the seven have paid and been reinstated.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discussion and possible action on recommendation on adjusted sewer rate structure. Mayor John Benenstante briefly discussed sewer rate structure. This will be on next agenda. No action taken.

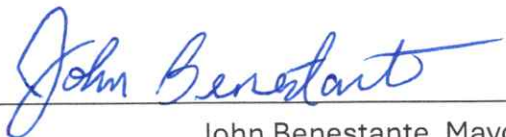
- B. Discussion and possible action on 2025 City financial audit. Mayor Benestante briefly discussed the 2025 City financial audit. No action taken.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on a City of Coldspring subdivision ordinance. City Attorney Greg Magee presented a draft subdivision ordinance for review. This will be on next agenda. No action was taken.
- B. Discussion and possible action on approving and adopting Resolution 2026-05 that certain 1.248 acres known as TEXAS STREET, in the City of Coldspring, was abandoned by Ordinance #2026-02 and is hereby ordered closed and is conveyed to Applicant, Travis Dean. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to approve adopting Resolution 2026-05 that certain 1.248 acres known as TEXAS STREET, in the City of Coldspring, was abandoned by Ordinance #2026-02 and is hereby ordered closed and is conveyed to Applicant, Travis Dean. This was seconded by Dianne Griffith. All in favor.
- C. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution 2026-06 City of Coldspring Flexible Benefits Summary Plan for the benefit of eligible employees. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dianne Griffith to adopt Resolution 2026-06 City of Coldspring Flexible Benefits Summary Plan for the benefit of eligible employees. This was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.

10. ADJOURN:

- A. A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Jessica Sewell at 8:00PM and was seconded by Alderman Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.



John Benestante, Mayor

Attest:



Jody Barr, City Secretary