

City of Coldspring, Texas
Minutes of the Regular Called Council Meeting
Monday, August 3, 2026

1. Meeting called to order 7:00 PM
2. Roll call

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

ABSENT: Alderman Jessica Sewell

VISITORS: Derren Hall-SJNT, Judi Benestante-Visit Coldspring, Linda Almaguer, Michelle Haylock-CVFD, Shawna Holman-CVFD, Luke Sweeney-Pct 1 Commissioner, Linda & Gerald Deeter, Roger Samoff-ESD, Linda Farber – Garden Club, Chad Farber, and Jo Anderson.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Linda Deeter spoke of the Quilts for Kids program. She wanted to remind the community of the program and its benefits. Linda Farber from the Garden Club asked if she needed to store the concrete benches that were donated to the Coldspring Community Center when construction on the new building started. The Mayor said he would let her know when to pick them up. He wants them to stay in place until construction is scheduled.
4. AGENDA: Mayor Benestante presented the agenda for the meeting. Alderman Nichole Gatewood made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Alderman Jennifer Manual seconded the motion. All in favor.
5. MINUTES: Mayor Benestante presented the minutes from the regular meeting called July 6, 2026. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting called July 6, 2026, was made by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. This motion was seconded by Dianne Griffin. 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 Kyle Currie. All in favor.

7. REPORTS:

- A. Mayor's Updates: Mayor John Benestante briefly discussed the percentages the General Fund and Sewer Funds were at regarding expenses and income through the month of July.
- 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 36% percent capacity for the month of July and flowed an average of .072 MGD. Rain total was 7.0 inches. There were no issues for the month with sampling.
- 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. Shawna Holman reported on the Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department for the month of July. 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: No report
- F. SEWER REPORTS: Briefing on sewer adjustments & sewer cutoffs – Mayor, John Benestante briefed Council that there were no adjustments for the month of July.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on recommendation on adjusted sewer rate structure. Mayor John Benestante briefly discussed the recommendations and said the issue would be tabled until the next meeting to give alderman more time to review the options.
- B. Discussion and possible action on engaging the CPA firm of Todd, Hamaker and Johnson for the 2025 City financial audit. After a brief discussion Jennifer Manuel made motion to engage the CPA firm of Todd, Hamaker, and Johnson for the 2025 City financial audit. The motion was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.

- C. Discussion and possible action on the City of Coldspring Ordinance 2026-06 establishing a comprehensive land development and subdivision administration system; creating the development services office. After a brief discussion Nichole Gatewood made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-06 for the establishment of a comprehensive land development and subdivision administration system; creating the development services office

9. NEW BUSINESS:

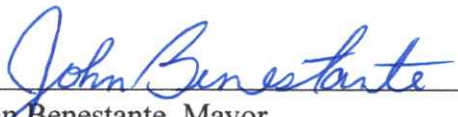
- A. Discussion and possible action approve the addition of \$216,547.50 in local funds to cover construction overages for the CDBG GLO-MIT MOD Grant #24-065-001-E158 SW Sewage Collection System Improvements. After a brief discussion Kyle Currie made a motion to approve the addition of \$216,547.50 in local funds to cover the construction overages for the CDBG GLO-MIT MOD Grant #24-065-001-E158 SW Sewage Collection System Improvements. This motion was seconded by Dianne Griffith. All in favor.
- B. Discussion and possible action on interlocal agreement with SJC Permit Office. This item was tabled by the mayor until the next council meeting.
- C. Discussion and possible action on adopting City Ordinance 2026-05 establishing the City of Coldspring Fire Marshal Office. After a brief discussion Kyle Currie made a motion to adopt the City Ordinance 2026-05 to establish the City of Coldspring Fire Marshal Office. This motion was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.
- D. Discussion and possible action for city council to appoint Michelle Haylock and Raelyn Phillips as Enforcement Officers for the applicable ordinances under the discretion and direction of the Mayor. After a brief discussion Nichole Gatewood made a motion to appoint Michelle Haylock and Raelyn Phillips as enforcement officers for the applicable ordinances under the direction of the Mayor. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manue. All if favor.
- E. Discussion and possible action to give the mayor to enter The Local Government Purchasing Cooperative interlocal participation agreement for the purpose to facilitate compliance with state procurement requirements, to identify qualified vendors of commodities, good and services, to relieve the burdens of the governmental purchasing function, and to realize the various potential economies, including administrative cost savings, for Cooperative members.

After a brief discussion Dianne Gatewood made a motion to give the mayor to enter The Local Government Purchasing Cooperative interlocal participation agreement for the purpose to facilitate compliance with state procurement requirements, to identify qualified vendors of commodities, good and services, to relieve the burdens of the governmental purchasing function, and to realize the various potential economies, including administrative cost savings, for Cooperative members. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manual. All in favor.

- F. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2026-07 Resolution stating that the City of Coldspring desires to participate in a local government cooperative Buy Board in accordance with and pursuant to the Act and Section 271.101, et seq., of the Texas Local Government Code. After a brief discussion Jennifer Manuel made a motion to approve the 2026-07 Resolution stating that the City of Coldspring desires to participate in a local government cooperative Buy Board in accordance with and pursuant to the Act and Section 271.101, et seq., of the Texas Local Government Code. This motion was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.

10. ADJOURN:

- A. A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Kyle Currie at 7:57 PM and was seconded by Alderman Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.



John Benestante, Mayor

Attest:



Jody Barr, City Secretary