

City of Coldspring, Texas
Minutes of the Regular Called Council Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026

1. Meeting called to order 7:02 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: Judi Benestante-Visit Coldspring, Michelle Haylock-CVFD/Fire Marshal, Shawna Holman-CVFD, Derren Hall-SJNT, Tracy Shipley, Rhonda Bax, Anne Latour-Visit Coldspring and Luke Sweeney-SJC Precinct 1

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Rhonda Bax was not pleased with the new signs that are posted around the courthouse, saying no dogs are allowed. Mayor Benestante informed her that it is county property and not city property along with the other park located by Head start.
4. AGENDA: Mayor Benestante presented the agenda for the meeting with corrections in new business under d and e to change 51 Slade to 50 Slade, also c is skipped just leave it blank. Alderman Nichole Gatewood made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented with corrections. Alderman Kyle Currie seconded the motion. All in favor.
5. MINUTES: Mayor Benestante presented the minutes from the regular meeting called August 3, 2026, and the special meeting called August 20, 2026. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting called August 3, 2026, and the special meeting called August 20, 2026, was made by Alderman Jennifer Manuel. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. 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: Mayor John Benestante briefly spoke on the TML update.
- 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 27 percent capacity for the month of August and flowed an average of .054 MGD. Rain total was 1.25 inches. The Onsite Lift Station, located at 211 Jones Road, had no issues. Lift Stations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 had no issues. No sampling issues for the month of July.
- 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 Haylock reported on the Coldspring Volunteer Fire Department for the month of August. 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. NO CITY ATTORNEY REPORT
- 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 August. Amanda also briefed Council that there were three customer accounts that were locked off for non-pay. Two of the three have paid and been reinstated and one has been pulled by the water office.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on Ordinance 2026-07 amending Ordinances 87-4, 94-3, 2021-1, 2024-02 with regard to certain policies set forth for the operation of the sanitary sewer system to replace section 1 (one) in Ordinance 2024-02. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Jennifer Manuel to

approve Ordinance 2026-07 amending Ordinances 87-4, 94-3, 2021-1, 2024-02 with regard to certain policies set forth for the operation of the sanitary sewer system to replace section 1 (one) in Ordinance 2024-02. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. All in favor.

- B. Discussion and possible action on first amendment to the interlocal agreement between the City of Coldspring, Texas and San Jacinto County, Texas regarding Development Administration, 911 Addressing, and Floodplain Administration amending the Interlocal Agreement dated June 2024. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to approve the first amendment to the interlocal agreement between the City of Coldspring, Texas and San Jacinto County, Texas regarding Development Administration, 911 Addressing, and Floodplain Administration amending the Interlocal Agreement dated June 2024. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. All in favor.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action of a resolution #2026-08 for the purpose of closing Highway 150 and FM 1514 for the Annual San Jacinto County Fair & Rodeo Parade. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Kyle Currie to approve Resolution #2026-08 for the purpose of closing Highway 150 and FM 1514 for the Annual San Jacinto County Fair & Rodeo Parade. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.
- B. Discussion and possible action on the Interlocal Agreement for animal control between the City of Coldspring, Texas, and San Jacinto County. Jennifer Manuel made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for animal control between the City of Coldspring, Texas, and San Jacinto County. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. All in favor.
- C. Blank (Accidentally Skipped)
- D. Discussion and possible action to amend the 2026 budget for the purchase of property at 50 Slade Street, by taking \$250,000 from the City Savings Account and adding it to the investment income of the Capital Project Fund and adding an expense line item for the purchase of 50 Slade Street and other capital projects. After a discussion, a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to approve to amend the 2026 budget for the purchase of property at 50 Slade

Street, by taking \$250,000 from the City Savings Account and adding it to the investment income of the Capital Project Fund and adding an expense line item for the purchase of 50 Slade Street and other capital projects. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.

- E. Discussion and possible action on giving the Mayor approval to purchase the property at 50 Slade Street for \$250,000. After a brief discussion, a motion from Kyle Currie was made to give Mayor Benestante approval to buy the property at 50 Slade Street for \$250,000. This motion was seconded by Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.
- F. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution #2026-09 establishing a professional-review escrow requirement for certain subdivision and plat applications; establishing initial escrow amounts; providing for replenishment, accounting, refund, and payment of costs; and providing an effective date. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to adopt Resolution #2026-09 establishing a professional-review escrow requirement for certain subdivision and plat applications; establishing initial escrow amounts; providing for replenishment, accounting, refund, and payment of costs; and providing an effective date. This motion was seconded by Kyle Currie. All in favor.
- G. Discussion and possible action on Sam Houston Electric's request to have a new ordinance issued related to granting Sam Houston Electric the non-exclusive right, privilege and franchise to erect, construct, maintain, operate, use, extend, remove, replace, and repair electric transmission and distribution system to supply electricity to the city and exempting churches, hospitals and schools. After a discussion, a motion was made by Nichole Gatewood to deny Sam Houston Electric's request to have a new ordinance issued related to granting Sam Houston Electric the non-exclusive right, privilege and franchise to erect, construct, maintain, operate, use, extend, remove, replace, and repair electric transmission and distribution system to supply electricity to the city and exempting churches, hospitals and schools. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.
- H. Discussion and possible action to take bids for an awning to be added to the City Concession stand at City Park #1. A motion was made by Kyle Currie to approve

taking bids for an awning to be added to the City Concession stand at City Park #1. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Manuel. All in favor.

10. ADJOURN:

- A. A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Jennifer Manuel at 7:54PM and was seconded by Alderman Nichole Gatewood. All in favor.



John Benestante, Mayor

Attest:



Jody Barr, City Secretary