

**Minutes  
Special Meeting  
January 27, 2009**

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2009, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Special Meeting, the same being opened to the public at their regular meeting place, thereof at City Hall, 303 S. Teel Drive, Devine, Texas. Notice of said meeting having been prescribed in Chapter 551, Government Code and Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, and the following members thereof, being present:

Mayor Steve A. Lopez  
Alderman John Ramirez  
Alderman Frank Cortez, III  
Alderman David Espinosa  
Alderman Hal Lance  
Alderwoman Marina M. Antu

Thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel Present: Dora V. Rodriguez, City Administrator; Ofilia Pedroza, Assistant City Secretary; Nancy Pepper, City Treasurer; and Rob Flores, Chief of Police.

Others present: Edna Cuellar, Executive Director, and Edna M. Ybarra/Southwest Family Life Center, Hondo, Texas; Sandy Herrera, Devine News; Ernest Ruston and Sonia Lance of Devine, Texas.

Mayor Steve A. Lopez, presiding, declared the meeting opened.

The first order of business was to discuss and consider ordering a City Election to be held on May 9, 2009 for Mayor, District #1 for the Unexpired Term, District #2 and District #5. *(El primer orden de negocio fue para discutir y considerer ordenar una Elección de Ciudad que se llevará a cabo el día 9 de Mayo, 2009, con el propósito de elegir un Alcalde, un Concejal para Distrito #1 (para un termino no completado), un Concejal para Distrito #2, y un Concejal para Distrito #5.)*

Motioned by Alderman Cortez, seconded by Alderwoman Antu to order a City Election to be held on May 9, 2009 for Mayor, District #1 for the Unexpired Term, District #2 and District #5. *(Mociónado por Concejal Cortez, segundado por Concejal Antu para ordenar una Elección de Ciudad que se llevará a cabo el día 9 de Mayo, 2009, con el propósito de elegir un Alcalde, un Concejal para Distrito #1 (para un termino no completado), un Concejal para Distrito #2, y un Concejal para Distrito #5.)*

Ayes <i>(si, voto afirmativo)</i>	--	Four (4) <i>(Cuatro)</i>
Nays <i>(voto no afirmativo)</i>	--	None <i>(Ninguno)</i>
Absent <i>(ausente)</i>	--	One (1) (Alderman Ramirez) <i>Uno (1) – Concejal Ramirez</i>

Motion carried. *(Moción aprobado).*

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The second order of business was to discuss and consider approving Joint Election Agreement between the Devine Independent School District and the City of Devine.

*(La segunda orden de negocio fue para discutir y considerar aprobar un Contrato de Elección Conjunto entre Devine Independent School District y la Ciudad de Devine.)*

City Administrator Dora V. Rodriguez explained that the school is in the process of changing the contract to using more generic wording rather than using actual dates; this way City Council doesn't have to approve the contract every year. *(La Administradora de la Ciudad, Dora V. Rodriguez, explicó que la escuela está en el proceso de cambiar el contrato usando palabras mas generales en vez de usar fechas actuales; asi el Consejo no tendrá que aprobár el contrato cada año.)*

Motioned by Alderman Espinosa, seconded by Alderman Lance to approve the Joint Election Agreement between the Devine Independent School District and the City of Devine on the condition that the changes get made using more generic wording. *(Mociónado por Concejal Espinosa, segundado por Concejal Lance para aprobár un Contrato de Elección Conjunto entre Devine Independent School District y la Ciudad de Devine con la condicion que se aga el cambio usando palabras mas generales.)*

Ayes <i>(sí, voto afirmativo)</i>	--	Four (4) <i>(Cuatro)</i>
Nays <i>(voto no afirmativo)</i>	--	None <i>(Ninguno)</i>
Absent <i>(ausente)</i>	--	One (1) <i>(Uno)</i> – Alderman Ramirez <i>(Concejal Ramirez)</i>

Motion carried. *(Moción aprobado).*

The third order of business was to discuss and consider request submitted by Edna Cuellar of Southwest Family Life Centers for Funding of Shelter Victims of Domestic Violence.

Ms. Edna Cuellar, Executive Director of 16 years for the Battered Women's Shelter, addressed Council on the dire need for funding for a new shelter in Hondo, Texas. The shelter is through the Southwest Family Life Centers. Ms. Cuellar presented Council with statistics and spoke in detail about some of the services provided by Southwest Family Life Centers, Inc. for domestic violence, sexual assault and victim advocacy.

At 7:05 p.m., Alderman Ramirez arrived for the meeting.

Ms. Cuellar informed Council that around 8-10% of the women they service are from Devine, and explained they have no boundaries.

Mayor Lopez mentioned that he and Alderman Lance had attended an Elected Official's Meeting recently where they had discussed funds from an old Economics Development Board fund in Medina County. He said the money was in a CD and savings in a

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Hondo/Devine fund in Hondo. He said after talking to Judge Barden, they found out that the money is now up to \$11,700.00. Mayor Lopez stated that they had discussed splitting the money between the two cities (Hondo and Devine) but after discussion, a decision was made by all the mayors from Medina County to give the money to the Battered Women's Shelter; they felt it would go to a good cause. Mayor Lopez stated that he is waiting on a letter from Judge Barden to confirm this.

Council held discussion with Ms. Cuellar on possibly putting it in the budget to give \$1,000.00 annually to this program. Ms. Cuellar said she would be happy to come and address Council every year.

Motioned by Alderman Lance, seconded by Alderman Espinosa to contribute an additional \$5,000.00 to the Women's Battered Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence, and amending the current budget.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The fourth order of business was the Executive Session: Pursuant to Provision of the Open Meetings Law §551.071 through §551.076, §551.086, §551.0087 Texas Government Code, (Consultation with Attorney, Deliberation Regarding Real Property, Deliberation Prospective Gift or Donation, Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations and Personnel Matters).

- a. §551.074 Personnel Matters – Police Department-Personnel Issues.

At 7:17 p.m., Mayor Lopez announced to the public that the Council would go into a Closed Session. At 7:55 p.m., Closed Session was opened to the public

No action was taken in Closed Session.

The fifth order of business was to Reconvene into Regular Session and consider action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session.

No action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the governing body, motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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Mayor

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City Secretary