

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
July 20, 2010

On this 20th day of July 2010, at 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Regular 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 being present:

Mayor William L. Herring
Alderman John Ramirez
Alderman Hal Lance
Alderwoman Marina Antu
Alderwoman Kathy Wilkins
Alderwoman Gina Champion

Thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; Nancy Pepper, City Treasurer; Tom Cate, City Attorney; Rob Flores, Chief of Police; Billy Grote, Director of Public Works; Ismael Carrillo, Superintendent of Public Works; Barbara Moore, Library Director; and Cassandra Maldonado, Municipal Court Clerk.

Others present: Margaret Hardin, Langford Community Management Services; Sandy Herrera, Devine News; Charles Cunningham of Austin, Texas; Jerry Beck, Ashley McRay, Sarah Barnett, Dinah Medrano, Mary Jane Balderrama and Sonia J. Lance, of Devine, Texas; Megan Trogden of Moore, Texas.

6:00 p.m. - Executive Session – Personnel Matters: Interview Candidate for the City Administrator Position.

At 6:00 p.m. Council entered into Closed Session. At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Herring reopened the meeting to the public.

No action was taken in Closed Session.

7:00 p.m - Regular Meeting

Mayor Herring, presiding, declared the meeting open and welcomed all visitors. Mayor Herring also delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was Recognition.

Mayor Herring presented Ashley McRay, Sarah Barnett, Megan Trogden and Brittany Word with a Certificate for representing Devine ISD and placing 1st in their events at the National FCCLA Conference.

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Devine High School's State Officer for FCCLA, Dinah Medrano, addressed council and provided them with a brief overview of what FCCLA was and how the students participated in the organization.

The second order of business was the Visitor's/Citizen's Forum.

No one spoke under this item.

The third order of business was a Public Hearing for the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Rural Affairs for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Grant.

Public Hearing was held:

Margaret Hardin with Langford Community Management Services addressed council and informed them that as part of the grant process, a Public Hearing was needed. She also informed Council how the grants were allocated Statewide. She stated that the over the years, the City has received several grants through this program.

Public Hearing Closed.

The fourth order of business was to discuss and consider approval of Minutes: Special/Budget Workshop June 22, 2010; Special/Budget Workshop June 29, 2010; Special/Budget Workshop July 6, 2010 and Regular Meeting June 15, 2010.

Council reviewed minutes.

Motion made by Alderman Ramirez, seconded by Alderwoman Champion to approve the minutes for the Special/Budget Workshop June 22, 2010; Special/Budget Workshop June 29, 2010; Special/Budget Workshop July 6, 2010 and Regular Meeting June 15, 2010.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The fifth order of business was to discuss and consider appointing the Tax Assessor for Medina County, Loraine Neuman, to calculate and publish 2010 Effective Tax Rate and all necessary required notices for the City of Devine.

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Motion made by Alderwoman Wilkins, seconded by Alderman Lance to appoint the Tax Assessor for Medina County, Loraine Neuman, to calculate and publish 2010 Effective Tax Rate and all necessary required notices for the City of Devine.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The sixth order of business was to discuss and consider the City of Devine's Contribution Rate for TMRS effective January 1, 2011.

Alderman Lance asked why the rate was increasing and if it was mandatory that the City approve of this new rate.

City Accountant, Nancy Pepper, informed Council that the City could opt for a Phase-In Rate, which would increase at smaller increments, however, then the City would be always be behind.

Motion made by Alderman Lance, seconded by Alderwoman Antu to approve the City of Devine's Contribution Rate of 10.85% for TMRS effective January 1, 2011.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The seventh order of business was to discuss and consider the amending Chapter 94 of the Traffic Ordinance.

Discussion was held by Council along with Police Chief Rob Flores. Chief Flores stated that he would have his Department patrol the area around the intersection of Dille Street and Upson Drive. Chief Flores said that he would have a report ready for Council in time for the Special Meeting on July 27, 2010. He also suggested that it might be a good idea to lower speed limits for the smaller streets in town. He felt that lowering the speed limits might also be of some help.

Motion made by Alderwoman Champion, seconded by Alderman Ramirez to table the item until Chief Flores provided them with more information.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The eighth order of business was to discuss and consider Status on Project for Restrooms at the Park.

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Director of Public Works, Billy Grote informed Council that stakes had been placed where the restrooms would be constructed. He suggested that the Council go and look at the site.

Motion made by Alderman Ramirez, seconded by Alderman Lance to amend the Budget in the amount of \$15,329.47 to allow for the construction of the City Park Restrooms on Windy Knoll.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The ninth order of business was to Review Quarterly Reports.

Council held discussion.

City Accountant, Nancy Pepper, addressed Council and updated them on the Lonestar Investment Report.

The tenth order of business was to discuss the Reports, namely:

- City Secretary's Report – Council Reviewed Report.
- City Treasurer's Report – City Accountant, Nancy Pepper informed Council that the City was nine months into the budget and for them to keep in mind that there was still three months to go.
- Public Works – Director of Public Works, Billy Grote addressed Council and stated that the Airport Beacon had come in and that he would have it installed as soon as possible. He also mentioned that the Integrity Test was going to take an extra ten days costing the City more than expected.
- Police Chief's Report – Chief Rob Flores stated that the Police Department was still busy.
- Driscoll Public Library – Library Director, Barbara Moore said that the Library had a busy summer and they were wrapping up their Summer Program soon.
- Chamber of Commerce – No report provided. Sandy Herrera stated that they were working on the Fall Festival and had not held a meeting recently.

The eleventh order of business was Information Items:

Mayor Herring informed Council that the City held an Economic Development Meeting on July 19, 2010 and that he would keep them updated in this subject.

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There being no further business to come before the governing body, motion was made by Alderman Lance, seconded by Alderman Ramirez to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

Mayor

City Secretary