

**Minutes
Special Meeting
September 29, 2020**

On this 29th day of September, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened at the Dr. George S. Woods Community Center, 202 E. Hondo Avenue, 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 Cory Thompson
Alderman Steve A. Lopez
Alderman David Espinosa
Alderwoman Debbie Randall
Alderman Chuck Guzman

Absent being Alderman Vega; thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; and Denise Duffy, City Accountant.

Others present: Marly Davis, Devine News; Angela Pichardo; Cindi Billebault; Scott Grego; Fred Morales; Eva Thompson; and Sandy Herrera, of Devine, Texas.

Mayor Thompson, presiding, called the meeting to order.

The first order of business was a Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate for FY 2020-2021.

At 6:01 p.m., Mayor Thompson announced that the Public Hearing was open.

At 6:02 p.m., hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Thompson closed the Public Hearing.

The second order of business was to discuss and consider Amending Current Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Mayor Thompson went over the budget amendments with Council and explained the correction to the amendment given to them on Sunday. He explained that some formulas had not carried over the Excel spreadsheet and had not totaled because the formulas were missing. Council reviewed handouts.

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez explained the two budgets to Council, and told them that Mayor Thompson visited the office today and he had seen how the systems cross over to the Excel spreadsheets.

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Discussion was held on Airport Fuel Farm grant. Council also discussed Water & Sewer. Director of Public Works Ismael Carrillo explained about the lines that are broken by AT&T. Council also held discussion on Emergency Management items that we will be submitting to get reimbursed through the CARE's Act.

Motion by Alderman Espinosa, seconded by Alderman Lopez to approve the Amended Current Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Budget attached as Exhibit A.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The third order of business was to discuss and consider Adopting Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Council reviewed budget, and went over the TIFF Fund and the property we are purchasing.

Motion by Alderman Lopez, seconded by Alderman Espinosa to Adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Budget attached as Exhibit B.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The fourth order of business was to discuss and consider Adopting an Ordinance establishing the Budget beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2021, appropriating funds for the operation of the General Fund, Water Fund, and Sinking Fund to pay interest and principal due on all city indebtedness.

Council reviewed Ordinance.

Motion by Alderwoman Randall, seconded by Alderman Guzman to Adopt Ordinance 9-20B, establishing the Budget beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2021, appropriating funds for the operation of the General Fund, Water Fund, and Sinking Fund to pay interest and principal due on all city indebtedness.

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Ordinance attached as Exhibit C.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The fifth order of business was to discuss and consider Adopting 2020 Tax Rate.

Mayor Thompson explained that our tax rate is \$.5298 on each \$100.00 valuation of property.

Motion by Alderman Guzman, seconded by Alderwoman Randall to Adopt 2020 Tax Rate for the maintenance and support of the general government (General Fund) \$.5298 on each \$100.00 valuation of property.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The sixth order of business was to discuss and consider Adopting an Ordinance levying ad valorem taxes for use and support of the municipal government of the City of Devine for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year; providing for appointing each levy for the specific purposes; and, providing when taxes shall become due when same shall become delinquent if not paid with \$.5298 on each \$100.00 valuation of property for the maintenance and support of the general government (General Fund).

Council reviewed ordinance.

Motion by Alderman Espinosa, seconded by Alderman Lopez to Adopt Ordinance 9-20C, levying ad valorem taxes for use and support of the municipal government of the City of Devine for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year; providing for appointing each levy for the specific purposes; and, providing when taxes shall become due when same shall become delinquent if not paid with \$.5298 on each \$100.00 valuation of property for the maintenance and support of the general government (General Fund).

Ordinance attached as Exhibit D.

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Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The seventh order of business was to discuss and consider Golf Course Insurance Letter on Required/Mandatory actions needed in order to maintain Insurance Coverage.

Code Compliance Officer Ruben Chapa informed Council that Bureau Veritas went out to the Golf Course on Thursday, September 24, 2020. They got a partial pass inspection because they had the fire extinguishers but they needed to get inspected, which we've done already. He told council that a local electrician came out today and did an estimate on the exit signs to install with the emergency lighting; he said the bid was for \$425.00 for two lights (exits). Mr. Chapa explained Shirl Grego has already purchased the devices and the electrician will just need to do the installation and the hard wiring. Mr. Chapa explained they should meet their deadline of October 18, 2020, and the Bureau Veritas inspector will come back to give their stamp of approval to be able to submit to the insurance company.

Motion by Alderman Espinosa, seconded by Alderman Guzman to approve bid of \$425.00 to move forward and to get this done in order to maintain insurance coverage. This will be in the October budget.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Espinosa, Guzman, Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

The eighth order of business was Informational Items.

Council discussed the following:

- Sidewalk Project – Alderwoman Randall informed Council that Jerry Beck, Commissioner Precinct 4 had inquired about the sidewalk project. When she told him that that she was not sure, she said Mr. Beck took it upon himself to contact the District Coordinator, and said there might be state or county funds available for this project. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez will be reaching out to Jerry Beck on this.

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- Streets – Alderwoman Randall inquired if there’s a chance that City Engineer Raul Garcia could turn in a list of streets by our next regular meeting in October. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez stated that we will reach out to Mr. Garcia to see where he is on this.
- Little League – Mayor Thompson commented on Mr. Juan Zamora’s comment a few weeks ago where he stated that the Mayor did not care about children. He said he found the text between him and Mr. Zamora, and he shared a copy of the text with Council, for the record, so they would know this is not what he had said or how it was presented to Council that night.
- Apology – Alderman Lopez apologized to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez and City Accountant Denise Duffy for being attacked by Council last week and being bombarded with questions about information on the budget. He said the ladies put in a lot of hours on the budget, and he apologized for how they were treated.

There being no further business to come before the governing body, motion made by Alderman Guzman, seconded by Alderwoman Randall to adjourn meeting.

Ayes	--	Four – Aldermen Guzman, Espinosa Lopez & Alderwoman Randall
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Vega

Motion carried.

Mayor

City Secretary