

Minutes
Special Meeting/Public Hearing
December 29, 2021

On this 29th day of December, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Special Meeting/Public Hearing, the same being opened to the public at their regular meeting place, thereof, at the Dr. George S. Woods Community Center, 200 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:

Alderman David Espinosa, Mayor Pro-Tem
Alderwoman Debbie Randall
Alderman Rufino Vega
Alderwoman Kathy Lawler
Alderwoman Angela Pichardo

Absent being Mayor Cory Thompson; thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; Denise Duffy, City Accountant; and Eddie Diaz, Waste Water Treatment Plant Foreman.

Others present: Rolando Rios, Attorney, of San Antonio, Texas; Frank and Patricia Tapia of Arizona City, Arizona; and Steve A. and Sofia R. Lopez of Devine, Texas.

The first order of business was a Public Hearing on the City of Devine Redistricting the Boundaries of its Council Members' Election Districts after the release of the 2020 Census data.

At 6:01 p.m., Mayor Pro-Tem Espinosa announced that the Public Hearing was open.

At 6:03 p.m., hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Pro-Tem Espinosa closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Espinosa, presiding, declared the meeting open.

The second order of business was Public Recognition.

Mayor Pro-Tem Espinosa presented an appreciation award to Steve A. Lopez for his many years of service to the City of Devine; he served 13 years as Mayor and 19 years as Councilman.

Discussion was held on several other organizations that Mr. Lopez was/is a member of. Mr. Lopez told Council that "It's been a pleasure and it went by too fast. We brought in a lot of business, and I appreciate what you all are doing." He was supported by family members in the audience.

The third order of business was to discuss and consider Approving the Redistricting Plan submitted by Rolando Rios and Associates, PLLC.

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Mr. Rolando Rios, a San Antonio attorney of the Rolando Rios and Associates, PLLC presented three plans (A, B, and C) to Council for review. Council held lengthy discussion on all three plans, especially the deviations between districts on each of the plans.

Each council member was given the opportunity to comment on which plan they liked, and the consensus of Council was to go with Plan C which had the lowest deviation percentage.

Motion by Alderwoman Lawler, seconded by Alderwoman Pichardo to approve Redistricting Plan C submitted by Rolando Rios and Associates, PLLC.

Plan C attached as Exhibit A.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

Discussion was held after the motion. Council inquired if we can look at this again or if we need to wait another 10 years. Mr. Rios told Council that they can make changes and redistrict anytime. He said City Attorney Tom Cate will be drafting a resolution or ordinance later.

The fourth order of business was Informational Items.

- Water Lines – Alderwoman Pichardo inquired about the timeline of the asbestos water lines so that we can inform the public.
- Grant applications – Council asked for updates on where we are with the sidewalks.
- Interviewing – Council inquired about the interviewing process for City Administrator and held discussion.

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

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

Mayor

City Secretary