

Minutes
Special Meeting
October 22, 2024

On this 22nd day of October 2024, at 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Special Meeting, the same being open to the public, at the Dr. George S. Woods Community Center, 200 E. Hondo Avenue, Devine Texas 78016. 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 Butch Cook
Aldерwoman Debbie Randall
Alderman Ray Gonzales
Alderman Josh Ritchey
Alderman Jeff Miller
Alderman Michael Hernandez

Absent Alderman Gonzales for part of the meeting, thus constituting a quorum.

Personnel Present: David L. Jordan, City Administrator; Dora V. Rodriguez, City Secretary; Denise Duffy, City Accountant; and Tom Cate, City Attorney.

Others Present: Mark & Casey McLiney, SAMCO Capital; Aurora Henandez, Devine Little League and Linda Bales, Devine Texas.

Mayor Cook, presiding, declared the meeting open and advised that the Zoom Meeting was not necessary any longer.

Mayor Cook requested that the Agenda Item #3 be addressed first.

Motion made by Alderman Ritchey, seconded by Alderwoman Randall to move Agenda Item #3 to the beginning of the meeting.

Ayes	--	All
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The first order of business was to consider and act upon the Water & Sewer Rate Study.

City Administrator Jordan informed the Mayor and Council that the City has fallen behind in Water & Sewer rate increases and that the last time there was increase was in 2018. He advised that our Water & Sewer has been running in deficit. He explained that we are currently attempting to obtain a loan/grant from the Texas Water District Board (TWDB) for the mandated Lead and Cooper Service Line Replacement. He advised that the Loan amount of \$5,665,000 and Grant amount of \$5,926,224.

City Administrator Jordan went over the Water & Sewer Rate Study with the Mayor and Council.

Special Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2024

Page 2

Financial Advisor Mark McLiney addressed the Mayor and Council that the Water & Sewer Rates needed to be in effect by January in order for the City to show that the loan repayment would be obtainable. He informed that the Council could split the rate increase between January 2025 and then another increase in October 2025. He stated that this should satisfy the TWDB, showing we are doing something.

The Mayor and Council held a discussion on this item and were in agreement that splitting the increase would be helpful for our residents. The City Staff will work on splitting the increase into two increases and will bring it back to the Council in two weeks.

No action taken under this item.

At 7:06 pm Alderman Gonzales excused himself from the meeting.

The second order of business was to consider and act upon the request from Go Medina for the City of Devine to be a Sponsor for the Medina County First Responder Appreciation Day Meat Up.

City Administrator Jordan informed the Mayor and Council that we received a request from Stephanie Banks with Go Medina to support this event.

The Mayor and Council held discussion on this item.

Motion by Alderman Ritchey, seconded by Alderman Hernandez to deny the request to donate.

Ayes	--	Three
Nays	--	One – Alderwoman Randall
Absent	--	One – Alderman Gonzales

Motion carried.

The third order of business was to consider and act upon the Little League Contract.

The Mayor and Council went over the corrected contract with the City Attorney, Tom Cate.

Alderman Ritchey wanted the contract wording for #8 last sentence to read: “At all times the City shall trim vegetation from the fence lines and maintain the curbs and gutters”.

Aurora Henandez, President of the Little League agreed with the contract.

City Attorney Tom Cate informed the Mayor and Council that he would make the change and send it over for the Mayor to sign.

Motion by Alderwoman Randall seconded by Alderman Miller, to approve the new Little League Contract with the change for #8 effective January 1, 2025.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Gonzales

Motion carried.

Special Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2024
Page 3

The fourth order of business was Informational Items.

- Alderman Ritchey added that he got a good response and thank you on the large canopy that was placed in Curcio Park for shade.
- Mayor Cook wanted everyone to know that Burnt Boot Creek is looking much better. Public Works has been assisting the County with getting it cleaned up.
- Mayor Cook wanted to schedule a meeting for Thursday, November 7th to discuss the Water & Sewer Rates.
- Alderwoman Randall reminded everyone that on Halloween evening the Devine Police Department closes Jack Nicklaus down to one way traffic.
- Alderwoman Randall advised that on the website there are no minutes posted for 2024. City Administrator Jordan and City Secretary Rodriguez advised it will be completed.
- City Administrator Jordan advised that the base has been laid on McAnnely and the contractor will be starting the base on Live Oak and then lay asphalt on both streets next week.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Alderman Ritchey made a motion, seconded by Alderman Miller, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Gonzales

Motion carried.

Mayor

City Secretary