

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
July 15, 2025

On this 15th day of July 2025, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Regular 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
Alderman Josh Ritchey
Alderman Ray Gonzales
Alderman Jeff Miller
Alderman Michael Hernandez
Alderman Harold Lance

Thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel Present: David L. Jordan, City Administrator; Stephanie Martinez, Utility Supervisor; Pete Sanchez, Director of Public Works; Christine Green; Interim Finance Director, Tom Cate; City Attorney

Others Present: Travis Pruski Chief Operations Officer for Nueces River Authority; Anton Riecher, Devine News; Jeff Swaim, 6S Engineering.

Mayor Cook welcomed everyone to the regular meeting at 7:13pm.

The second order of business was invocation. Alderman Ritchey delivered the Invocation. Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and the pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

The third order of visitor's/citizens forum. Someone did want to speak on the issue of Tiny Homes, but the item did not make the agenda.

The fourth order of business public recognition. There was nothing at this time.

The fifth order of business was employee recognition. City Administrator David Jordan took time to thank Dora Rodriguez outgoing City Secretary for her 41 years of service to the City of Devine.

The six order of business was approval of the Council Meeting Minutes from the regular meeting of June 17, 2025.

Alderman Ritchey made a motion to table the approval of the meeting minutes until the next meeting. Alderman Miller seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

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The seventh order of business was to approve the Nueces River Authority Water Rights Contract.

City Administrator David Jordan introduced Travis Pruski from Nueces River Authority. Mr. Jordan said this is regarding the desalination plant and possibility alternative source of water. This is different from our ASR concept and would like for council to hear Mr. Pruski's presentation. Mr. Jordan currently is not asking for approval from the council. Mr. Pruski said that Devine is a part of Regional Water Planning Group. Nueces River Authority has seen a lot of growth from different areas all the way down to Corpus Christi. We have been looking at different concepts of how to improve water supply. Nueces Water Supply was established 90 years ago and their mission is to protect and defend water resources. They were instrumental in working with the City of Corpus Christi in building Lake Corpus Christi which serves 90% of the water to Corpus Christi today.

Pruski says that although a lot of rain has fallen in the month on July, we still have a shortage of water. Devine is in Region L and he shared numbers of where Devine is. By 2030 we are looking at a little over 200 million gallons deficit in our basin said Pruski. He also said that that number can increase by 470 million gallons a day by 2070. If data centers come in, they could consume between 5 and 15 million gallons a day of water. Pruski states that Nueces River Authority is working on a marine desal plant with state legislation. Mayor Cook asked if Nueces River Authority is the only party overseeing this project. Pruski did say that primarily it will be them. Pruski presented a possible idea if the City of Devine would like to purchase first water rights. Council did pose some questions on logistics, cost, and timeframe. They also asked questions on how the partnership works with the City of Devine and Nueces River Authority to Mr. Pruski. Mayor Cook said he would like for the City of Devine to be well prepared in the event there is an emergency water need in the future.

No vote was conducted as this was a presentation only.

The eighth order of business was to consider going to Pooled Cash with Incode for the Finance Department. Christine Green Interim Finance Director said pooled cash is a better way to handle city funds. Its purpose is to combine all the city's money into several main bank accounts. Currently the City of Devine is managing 35 bank accounts. Each of the department's balances are tracked within the city software system and it eliminates the need to hold money in separate physical accounts. All ACH and EMT Processing still require signatures by the authorized signers. Pooled cash would allow for faster processing of invoice payments. Alderman Miller did mention that when he was doing interviews for the finance position. One question came up as to why the City of Devine has 35 accounts. Alderman Miller said this would make it more efficient and easier to make transactions and get away from the old-fashioned way of doing things. Alderman Miller said that this is a no brainer to have pooled cash accounts. Mayor Cook asked about if the accounts would be accruing interest or do we need to keep them in there for so long. Christine Green responded with that the accounts accrue interest daily according to the daily balance. Alderman Ritchey motioned to approve the pool account. Alderman Miller seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 5-0.

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The ninth order of business was to consider and act upon awarding the Bid Proposal to MGB Construction, Inc for the construction and installation of a new pump station. City Administrator Jordan said this is a part of the rehabilitation of the groundwork for the new tank. A bid was ran for three weeks along with a national civil engineering bidding process called CIVCAST that goes all over the United States for bids. Three bids were received. MGB came in as the lowest responsible bidder at \$866,000. Mr. Swaim with 6S Engineering came up and spoke to council. He assisted in reviewing the bids and gave a recap to council. He recommend going with MGB due to them providing the best bid. Alderman Ritchey made the motion to accept this bid for construction of installation of a new water. Alderman Ray Gonzales seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 5-0

The tenth order of business was to consider and act upon the proposed budget for 2026 for the Medina Central Appraisal District approved by the Board of Directors on June 5, 2025. Alderman Miller made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Alderman Hernandez second the motion.

Motion Carried 5-0

The eleventh order of business was to review the quarterly investment report. A report wasn't received. Alderman Ritchey made a motion to table this item. Alderman Miller seconded.

Motion Carried 5-0

The twelfth order of business was informal items. City Administrator David Jordan states that these past few weeks he has been doing interviews. He has also been working on the ground work storage tank project and provided an update on that. Alderman Ritchey asked for an update on the website. Mr. Jordan said the website is close to completion and will be reviewed by City Directors for review and input. The updated website will allow for online payments from residents and link to the City's accounting system. Alderman Miller mentioned that items like brush pick up would be great if they could be published right on the front page of the webpage so its easier for residents to know about that information. Alderman Ritchey asked about better AV Solutions for Council Meetings. City Administrator Jordan said he has a proposal that he will be bringing forth for review. Alderman Ritchey also asked about if we have done any research about on payback contracts that the Police Department has to secure a code enforcement officer. City Administrator Jordan said he can look into this as time allows. The code enforcement contract is with the Fire Department at this time due to experiencing high turn over with the code enforcement officer position. Alderman Ritchey also expressed concern about seeing homeless people near and around the library. He recommended we have more police patrolling around this area. City Administrator Jordan said we have put electronic locks over outdoor electrical plugs and addressing with Police Department for assistance. Mayor Cook mentioned about a concrete project that is being worked on to help with drainage. Zig Zag and Malone is another street project that is being worked as well. Improvements to Curcio Park were also discussed.

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The thirteenth order of business executive session pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code-Personnel Matter. Accountant Position and Municipal Court Clerk.

Mayor and Council went into closed session at 8:46pm.

The fourteenth order of business was RECONVENE into Regular Session and Consider Action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session.

At 9p.m., the Mayor and Council came out of executive session.

At 9p.m., the Mayor and Council Reconvened into Open Session.

Mayor Cook said no action was taken during closed session.

The fifteenth order of business was to Adjourn.

Alderman Ritchey made a motion to adjourn at 9:05pm. Alderman Gonzales seconded the motion.

Motion carries 5-0.



City Secretary



Mayor