

**COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY-SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 5:00 P. M.  
COUPLAND FIRE STATION  
403 FM 1466  
COUPLAND, TEXAS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. Call Regular Meeting to Order and Declare a Quorum.**

Mayor Jack Piper called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. and declared a quorum with the following Aldermen present: Susan Garry, Barbara Piper, Karen Marosko, Megan Cargill, and John Ralston-Bates.

**2. Review and Approve minutes of Council Meeting held on August 12, 2021 & the Workshop held on August 27, 2021.**

Barbara Piper made a motion to accept the minutes as presented for the meeting on August 12, 2021. Karen Marosko seconded the motion. The vote to approve the August 12, 2021 minutes was unanimous. Karen Marosko made a motion to accept the minutes as presented for the workshop meeting held on August 27, 2021. Susan Garry second the motion. The vote to approve the August 27, 2021 workshop minutes was unanimous.

**3. Financial Report as of August 31, 2021.**

The City's net worth as of August 31, 2021 was \$356,860.46.

**4. Citizen(s) Communications.** The City Council welcomes public comments on items not listed on the agenda. However, the Council cannot respond until the item is posted on a future meeting agenda. Citizens who wish to speak at a council meeting must complete an "Appearance Before City Council" form at the meeting. (Three minutes limit).

**5. Discussion & approval of Ordinance No. 2021-9-9-01 to pass the levy of an ad valorem tax on all property real and personal within the corporate limits of the City of Coupland, Texas at a rate of \$0.215934 /\$100 valuation of property.**

John Ralston-Bates made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-9-9-01 to pass the levy of an ad valorem tax for the City of Coupland at a rate of \$0.215934 /\$100 valuation of property. Barbara Piper seconded the motion. The vote to approve the ad valorem tax rate was unanimous.

**6. Discussion & Approval of Ordinance No. 2021-9-9-02 adopting the annual budget for the FY October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.**

John Ralston-Bates made a motion to approve the annual budget for FY October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. Barbara Piper seconded the motion. The vote to approve the budget was unanimous.

**7. Discussion regarding road maintenance in the City of Coupland.**

Mayor Piper reported CR 458 looks good since the repairs were made. Alpha Paving will be requested to accompany Mayor Piper for a drive through Coupland and point out where repairs are needed. Immediate repairs will be identified. Other road work will be identified and looked at for inclusion in a grant proposal to Wilco (part of the CARES funding).

**8. Follow-up on HBO MAX Production.**

Mayor Piper has written a letter to HBO Max Production with stipulations as approved by the Council.

**9. Report on Muery/So. Broad project.**

The project to renovate Muery and South Broad has been advertised for bids and is part of the Wilco Bond Project. Anticipated start date for the project is the beginning of November of 2021.

**10. Discuss establishing a City Facebook page.**

Discussion ensued regarding establishing a Facebook page for the City. It would be used as a conduit to announce specific items such as road repair work and other noteworthy issues. An outside administrator would need to be appointed as it was pointed out that it would not be in the best interests of the City to have a council member serve as the administrator. Mayor Piper will contact K. Voelker to see if she would be interested in assuming this task. The decision was made to table the discussion until more information is obtained.

**11. Coupland Volunteer Fire Department activity.**

The fire department received a \$16,000 equipment grant along with matching funds of \$6,000 from ESD#10. This will allow the department to purchase new equipment including a camera. The fire department has been accepted as back up speakers for the Texas A & M leadership council.

**12. Coupland citizens/events/announcements/recognitions.**

It was suggested that Council meetings be moved to 6:00 p.m. rather than the 5:00 p.m. time slot.

**Choo Choo Fest - September 26.**

A barbecue dinner will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Peter's Church. There will be a silent auction, bake sale and the Kiddie Express train. The funds are used to help fund the CCO and restoration of the caboos and maintenance of the depot.

CCO will have a representative from CARTS speak at their general meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

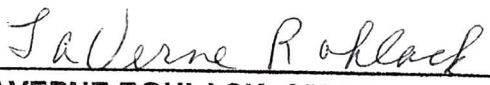
Mayor Piper reported since there will be write-in candidates for City offices, they will not have to be written in but will be printed with instructions on how to access each name. Mayor Piper stated that he had gone to Wilco Elections and proofed the ballot.


Barbara Worthy reported there will be a City-Wide Garage sale in Coupland on September 18th.

13. The next Coupland Council meeting will be October 14, 2021.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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**LAVERNE ROHLACK, CITY SECRETARY**

  
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**JACK R. PIPER, MAYOR**