

COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024, 6:00PM
410 FM 1466
COUPLAND, TEXAS 78615

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM.

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02pm and declared a quorum. All members of council were present.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUSLY HELD COUNCIL MEETING.

Alderswoman Piper moved that the minutes from February's meeting be approved as they are presented. Marosko seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and minutes were approved.

3. FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 31, 2024

City accountant Terri Rose joined the meeting via online, and presented the financial details from the fiscal year starting with October 1st through February 29th. After looking at the report, all of the balances are accurate minus the exception of the current credit card balance (as of February 29th). Looking at the overall expenses, our current balance shows a total of \$46,020.99, which leaves around \$126,000 in the operating budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. When breaking the remaining operating budget balance down by the remaining months, we are right on target.

Accountant Terri Rose is going to add a comparative model to next month's financial packet, that gives us a current month-to-date compared to last year's month-to-date.

Our current revenue is a bit over our projected total, however, that will begin to slow down. According to the packet, we are currently under our projection for Ad Valorem tax revenue, but that does not include a significant deposit that was made in March. Terri proposed adding a "Total Expenses" line directly under the "Tax Fund" line to help make it a bit clearer to read.

There are also two bills from Alpha Paving that have not come out yet and are not reflected in the current report. Those two bills will come out of "Street Maintenance".

4. CITIZEN 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 minute limit.)

There were no citizen communications at this meeting.

5. TONY PRETE: UPDATE ON SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

This issue will be postponed until the next meeting so that Tony Prete can be in attendance and give us his presentation.

6. UPDATE ON ALLEYWAYS

TML and the City Attorney are both in agreement that any obtaining of alleyways will need to be done through a lengthy legal process that will still need the city's approval. However, mowing/fencing off, or any other activity does not make the alleyway part of your property- they still belong to the city.

To reiterate, putting a fence, building, utilities, etc., will result in said items needing to be moved. We will consult with Deron Henry on the occurrences of these structures being put up prior to the city's incorporation. We will also ask him to prepare case scenarios from other areas in the state that have dealt with this situation previously.

As it stands, we do not have a specific map that shows us the current alleyways, and if it comes to it, we will need to have a survey done of the city. Our current process is to consult with the city's attorney to get clarification on prior incorporation, and keep the alleyways as is.

7. LETTERS FOR NUISANCE ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

We are currently in the process of creating letters to address nuisance violations from various addresses in the city. We have utilized the City of Taylor's resources to do so, and will get the letters approved by Deron Henry. Once approved, the letters will be sent out via certified mail to said locations (current residents AND owners).

8. STOP SIGNS & STRIPING UPDATE

The four way stop signs are currently up and have been successful in slowing down traffic on Hoxie, especially large trucks. It has been asked that we put up four-way stop signs, as well as traffic striping to make it clear where people can park. It has also been proposed that we include four white striping lines to show where cars should stop for the signs.

We are currently giving citizens a 30 day grace period before we start enforcing the signs. Although there have been numerous residents stating that they would not follow the stop signs, the signs have cut down on traffic which will be beneficial for the overall road maintenance. The city's goal with the stop signs is compliance, not penalty. However, if needed, the deputies will give out warning tickets and then take further action if the stop signs continue to be ignored.

9. COUPLAND ESD 10 FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

The Coupland Fire Department will be hosting a chili supper this Saturday (March 23rd) at 5pm. It is a community event, and not a fundraiser since the ESD is tax-payer funded.

There is also a reminder to put Mayor Schmidt to be included on the reminder emails for ESD board meetings.

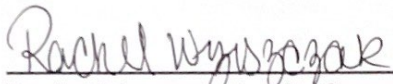
10. COUPLAND CITIZENS/EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION

The CCO will be meeting Monday (March 25th). There will be a speaker talking about native plants, as well as a sloppy-joe supper and homemade cookies.

As a follow up from last month's sewage discussion- there will be an updated map of the city following the re-mapping from the grant they were awarded. It was suggested that we hold a discussion at a council meeting, or a special meeting, with the current sewage board just to get introductions and get the discussion started on the sewer system being taken over by the city.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

THE NEXT COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE APRIL 16TH, 2024.



Rachel Wrzuszczak, City Secretary



Russell Schmidt, Mayor