

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Brazos Country, Austin County, Texas, convened in regular session Thursday, May 15th 2025, 7:00 pm, at St. Mary's Catholic Church Faith Formation (Education) Building, 10471 Grotto Rd, Sealy, Texas.

- 1-2. **Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation** - Mayor Bob Ray called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and offered the invocation.
3. **Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum** - Council members present were:
Bob Ray, Mayor
Joe McSloy, Mayor Pro Tem
Neil Howard, Alderman
Shelly Main, Alderwoman

Albert Sykes and Dave Carrasquillo were absent. Mayor Ray certified there was a quorum. Also present were City Secretary Jan Shelton, Taylor Tharp with Aspen Fiber Networks and approximately nine city residents.
4. **Oaths of Office – Bob Ray and Shelly Main** – City Secretary Jan Shelton administered the oath of office to Bob Ray as Mayor and Shelly Main as Alderman-at-Large.
5. **Appoint replacement council member – consideration and action as appropriate** – Mayor Ray asked Joe McSloy if he was able to find a replacement for the open position on council. Joe McSloy stated he asked Shelly Main for her assistance and that they had not found anyone interested. Mayor Ray asked if anyone knows of someone interested to coordinate with Joe McSloy.
6. **Swear in new council member** – Mayor Ray recommended this item be skipped.
7. **Appoint Council Committee Members** – Mayor Ray recommended no change and whoever is appointed will be on the road committee.
8. **Election of Mayor Pro Tem** – Mayor Ray asked for a motion for Mayor Pro Tem. Neil Howard made a motion that Joe McSloy be elected as Mayor Pro Tem. Shelly Main seconded and motion carried.
9. **Public Comments** – None.
10. **Old Business**
 - a. **Roads – Update; consideration and action as appropriate** – Mayor Ray reported the Chew Rd bridge is open and the county is working on the edges of Chew Rd. Mayor Ray said he spoke with Chip Reed and the county will replace the Chew Rd wooden bridge with culverts and remove the zig-zag to straighten Chew Rd at Lezak Rd.
 - b. **Culverts & drainage – Update; consideration and action as appropriate** – Joe McSloy said he will ask Chip Reed to bring in some stabilized sand for patching up some areas in need of repair.
 - c. **Water department – Update; consideration and action as appropriate** – Mayor Ray reported the city had all the tanks inspected and the report found the old ground storage tank has inside and outside rust spots and a small leak. The new ground storage tank has minor rust on the outside and the old pressure tank has some rust spots beginning on the inside ceiling. Mayor Ray said Michael Carman and Cullen Brotherton are both working on quotes for the repairs and once the city gets the repair cost the council can make a decision on how to move forward. Discussion followed. Mayor Ray said the ground storage tank would be out of service for several day for repairs and recommended they be done in the fall.

11. New Business

a. Distribution of 2025 Opioid Abatement Funds – consideration and action as appropriate

Mayor Ray recommended the opioid funds of \$268.59 be donated to the volunteer fire department. Joe McSloy made a motion to donate the opioid abatement funds to the San Felipe-Frydek Volunteer Fire/EMS Department. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

b. Presentation by Taylor Tharp with Aspen Fiber Networks - Mayor Ray introduced Taylor Tharp with Aspen Fiber Networks. Taylor Tharp said from experience working for AT&T, he is familiar with the outdated communication system in Brazos Country and would like to offer a much faster and reliable option of fiber optics. Mr. Tharp said Aspen Fiber Networks would like to perform a survey and if there was enough interest in the city, Aspen would bring the service in, at no cost to the residents. Mr. Tharp said the fiber is brought in through a boring process which does not disturb the ground. Discussion followed. Joe McSloy made a motion to authorize Aspen Fiber Networks to conduct a community survey to determine interest in fiber optic service. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

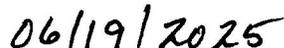
12. Consent Agenda – consideration and action as appropriate – Mayor Ray asked if there were any questions regarding the items in the consent agenda. Joe McSloy commented on Hot Taps delaying in their repair and valve survey billing process. Mayor Ray asked for a motion to accept. Neil Howard made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

13. Comments – Mayor/Council/City Secretary – Mayor Ray reminded council that the June meeting is scheduled for the 19th. Joe McSloy said he would be absent for the June meeting. Mary Lou Craig said Linda Williams has completed the internal audit.

14. Adjourn – Joe McSloy made a motion to adjourn. Shelly Main seconded, and motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.



Jan Shelton, City Secretary



Date