

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Brazos Country, Austin County, Texas, convened in regular session Thursday, July 17th 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
  - Charles Kalkomey, Alderman
  - Dave Carrasquillo, Alderman
  - Neil Howard, Alderman
  - Shelly Main, Alderwoman

Mayor Ray certified there was a quorum. Also present were City Secretary Jan Shelton and approximately thirteen city residents.

#### 4. **Public Comments**

Albert Sykes complimented Cullen for doing a good job as the water system operator.

#### 5. **New Business**

##### a. **Replat of 956 Sodolak Lane – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray said per the attorney, replating the property will not violate Ordinance 2024-05 because the property shares a private road that connects to a public road. Mayor Ray said there would not be any more divisions allowed on those two plots of land. Council reviewed the replat pointing out several issues. Charles Kalkomey made a motion to table the replat until it has been corrected. Neil Howard seconded, and motion carried.

##### b. **Water Plant Operator's Contract – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray said there are no changes to the Crobul Services contract renewal. Charles Kalkomey made a motion to renew the contract with Crobul Services. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

##### c. **TMLIRP Insurance – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray reviewed the insurance coverage pointing out changes in the deductible and incorrect addresses which will be corrected for the renewal in September. Discussion followed. Neil Howard made a motion to accept the TML insurance. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

##### d. **Repair of Tanks at Water Plant – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray reviewed the ground storage and pressure tank repair proposals and recommended they be done in October to avoid the high usage months. Mayor Ray said after repaired, the 1979 ground storage tank should last another 10 – 15 years. Mayor Ray said Tank Sandblasting and Painting would guarantee the repairs for five years and hold the proposal pricing until October 1st. Charles Kalkomey said any repair cost over \$20,000.00 needs to be certified by an engineer. Discussion followed. Charles Kalkomey made a motion to table the tank repairs until the city can consult with an engineer. Dave Carrasquillo seconded, and motion carried.

##### e. **Proposed 2025 – 2026 Budget – discussion only**

Mayor Ray reviewed the preliminary general and water fund budgets. Dave Carrasquillo and Joe McSloy said the county has informed them, due to retirements, they are shorthanded and unable to assist the city with repairs. Mayor Ray said road repair material is around \$135.00 a ton but he budgeted \$140.00 and asked Charles Kalkomey and Neil Howard to recommend roads for repair. Discussion followed. Mayor Ray said the no advertised bid minimum amount has been raised from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00 by the state legislature. Mayor Ray asked council to get back with him on their budget numbers, so the proposed budget will be ready for the August meeting.

**f. Water Rates – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray said the current base rate for water is \$21.50 which includes 1,000 gallons and \$2.50 for each additional 1,000 gallons. Mayor Ray recommended a rate increase to build up funds for building a cinder block shell around the electrical control building and replacing the ground storage tank in ten years. Joe McSloy said to keep up with inflation the rates should be increased. Dave Carrasquillo recommended comparing water rates to neighboring cities. Charles Kalkomey recommended running a customer billing and usage report to help in determining rate increases. Mayor Ray suggested council consider increasing the base charge or the per 1,000 gallon usage charge, or both. Discussion followed. Joe McSloy made a motion for Mayor Ray to investigate base rate and usage increases. Shelly Main seconded, and motion carried.

**g. Aspen Fiber Networks – update; consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray said Taylor Tharp told him no final decision has been made.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Roads – Update; consideration and action as appropriate**

Neil Howard said no changes to report.

**b. Culverts & drainage – Update; consideration and action as appropriate**

Joe McSloy reported last week he and Dave Carrasquillo cleared the blockage in the outflow to the river. Dave Carrasquillo reported the city needs to have a contractor address the areas needing stabilized sand because the county does not have the time or manpower to assist the city. Dave Carrasquillo also said, due to work inconsistency and delayed invoicing he is looking to replace Brown Landscaping.

**c. Water department – Update; consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray said due to rain the city's water usage and income are down over the past few months.

**7. Consent Agenda – consideration and action as appropriate**

Mayor Ray asked if there were any comments regarding the items in the consent agenda. Charles Kalkomey verified bank account totals. Mayor Ray asked for a motion to accept. Charles Kalkomey made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Dave Carrasquillo seconded, and motion carried.

**8. Comments – Mayor/Council/City Secretary – Mayor Ray reminded council that the August meeting is scheduled for the 21st at 7:00 pm. Mayor Ray said the state legislature has revised the law pertaining to meeting notice posting. The notice must be posted three business days prior to the meeting, the day of posting and weekends cannot be counted, the goal is to finish the agenda on Wednesday for posting on Friday.**

**9. Adjourn – Dave Carrasquillo made a motion to adjourn. Shelly Main seconded, and motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Shelton, City Secretary

08/21/2025  
Date