

**COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025, 6:00PM  
ESD 10 (COUPLAND) FIRE STATION  
410 FM 1466  
COUPLAND, TEXAS 78615**

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

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00pm and a quorum was declared. All members of council were present.

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

The minutes were reviewed. Alderwoman Haverland motioned to accept the minutes as presented, with Alderwoman Sandbulte seconding the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 28TH.**

The financial reports were reviewed, with Alderwoman Rogers motioning to approve and Haverland seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous in approval.

**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 two citizens present at this meeting.

**5. REQUISITION OF TRAIN DEPOT & ADJOINING LAND**

The Coupland Civic Organization has come together and offered to give the City of Coupland the train depot, the museum and surrounding land for free. The only stipulation to this would be that the city would need to maintain the museum as a museum, with the city office being able to move in as well. The lease on the current city office ends in October. The city would also be responsible for maintaining the depot and land behind & adjacent to it.

Along with this, the city would be responsible for paying to publish the Coupland Herald, which is around \$700 every 3 months. These costs would be added in/considered for the 2025-2026 budget, otherwise a supplemental budget would need to be done if we took over these responsibilities before October.

Upon approval, the city would need to take steps to do a deed research, survey and get everything set up to be taken over.

Alderman Mason motioned to approve taking on the train depot, museum and surrounding land, with Alderwoman Sandbulte seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous in approval. He also created a second motion that the City of Coupland agrees to help with the partial publishing cost of the Coupland Herald beginning when the CCO disperses. Alderwoman Sandbulte seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in approval.

## **6. DISCUSSION ON LOST/ABANDONED ANIMALS**

After a recent incident in the city involving a dog that had been hit by a car, Alderman Mason wanted to discuss any measures that may need to be taken in order to “dispose” or take care of any lost or abandoned animals. In the future, when coming across a dog or other animal that is found to be lost, please call the Williamson County Sheriff's department NON-EMERGENCY number and request animal control. Refer to the animal's last seen location and description of the animal. The number for WILCO animal control is 512-864-8200.

As a reminder, there is a leash law in Williamson County, and you can be fined for not abiding by this law.

## **7. DR.PARCELL, COUPLAND SUPERINTENDENT**

There was a big construction meeting recently with architects, contractors, TXDot, etc. The meeting went well, and they received 100% plans for the widening of CR 460. The next step would be the surveyors coming out. Most of the operations for the school have been at surface level, but soon they will become vertical, and there will be drone footage coming out to update the community.

8th grade graduation will be the 22nd of May, and reminders will be coming out soon. There will be a STEAM inspired camp the 16th-20th that will include activities such as art & music, fun with food, robot, drones, fishing, etc. There will be 60 kids from all age groups, divided evenly into groups.

With the possibility of property tax decreasing, it could affect the finances for the building of the new school due to no “hold harmless” on the bond money.

## **8. MAYOR UPDATES**

### **(Dynamic Systems & School Construction)**

Mayor Schmidt met with Dynamic Systems, as well as the fire marshal and they are progressing as expected. They are working on the foundation, and will be going vertical within the next few weeks. They are still working out driveways, and culverts. Initially, the location will employ 30-40 individuals.

We are sending out new nuisance violation letters to individuals who need to clean up their properties.

Mayor Schmidt will also be handing out emergency weather radios to members of council.

## **9. COUPLAND ESD 10 FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY**

There have been a number of extreme fire danger days recently. They have increased the number on crews, which has been very helpful with a recent fire that involved 4 acres and ran for 1,050 feet. Currently, there is not a burn ban due to the change in the county judge. At the moment, all the fire department can do is place signage and advertising asking people to please not burn.

In January and February, there were 95 calls and only 52 so far in March. The chili supper will be moved to October (with a provisional date of October 25th) to align with fire prevention month since it is no longer being run as a fundraiser. National night out will be ran either in early August or October.

**10. COUPLAND CITIZENS/EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION**

The Huntington sculpture foundation open house will be next month on April 5th.

**11. THE NEXT COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE APRIL 15TH, 2025.**

**12. ADJOURN MEETING.**

Alderwoman Haverland motioned to adjourn the meeting, with Alderwoman Rogers seconding the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:04pm.

*Rachel Wrzuszcak*

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Rachel Wrzuszcak, City Secretary

*Russell Schmidt*

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Russell Schmidt, Mayor