COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2026, 6:00PM
COUPLAND JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
350 CR 460
COUPLAND, TEXAS 78615

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM.**
   Mayor Schmidt declared the meeting to order at approximately 6:00pm and declared a quorum. All members of council were present.
   The city attorney as well as the city bookkeeper were also in virtual attendance of the meeting.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING**

   2.1 Open public hearing regarding the City of Coupland 2026-2027 fiscal year proposed budget.

   The public hearing was opened at 6:00pm.
   Public comments included a comment from Monic Trevino regarding how the budget adoption was performed incorrectly in August, public access to the proposed budget, as well as concerns regarding a public hearing for the budget.

   Wells Mason also brought up concerns about current leadership claiming that it is "hostile". He also brought up concerns about the contract with the deputy sheriff, the amount of the budget set aside for business meals, the city of Coupland joining the Williamson county economic development corporation. He also is concerned that the city is setting aside $4200 for cell phones and wifi, and the lack of individuals working at the city office. He is concerned that there is a profound misuse of funds, an inability to read contracts and spending money "willy nilly". Mr. Mason also brought up concerns, again, regarding the city secretary salary.

   Gil Flatt spoke up to reiterate what Mr.Mason is concerned with. He did mention that there is a road that was paved that leads to nowhere, which is not located within the city.

   2.2 Close public hearing regarding the City of Coupland 2026-2027 fiscal year proposed budget.
   The public hearing was closed at approximately 6:12pm.

3. **OPEN REGULAR MEETING**
   The regular meeting was opened at approximately 6:12pm.

4. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUSLY HELD COUNCIL MEETING.**
   Council members were provided with the minutes of the previously held meeting ahead of tonight's council meeting. Alderwoman Sandbulte motioned to approve the minutes of the previously held meeting as approved, with Alderwoman Marosko seconding the motion. The minutes were approved.

5. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF AUGUST 31ST.**
   The monthly financial report was also provided to council members ahead of the meeting. Alderwoman Rogers motioned to approve the financial report, with Alderwoman Sandbulte seconding the motion. The financial report was approved as presented.

6. **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 citizens who signed up to speak.

7. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027.**
   A copy of the proposed budget was presented to the council members ahead of the council meeting. Alderwoman Rogers motioned to adopt the proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-2027. Alderwoman Sandbulte seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Alderwoman Patschke - "yes", Alderwoman Sandbulte - "yes", Alderwoman Marosko- "yes", Alderwoman Haverland - "abstaining", Alderwoman Rogers - "yes".
   The budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 was adopted.

8. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027.**
   Documents pertaining to the proposed tax rate for fiscal year 2026-2027 were presented to council ahead of the council meeting. Alderwoman Rogers motioned to adopt the tax rate for fiscal year 2026-2027. Alderwoman Marosko seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Alderwoman Marosko- "yes", Alderwoman Patschke- "yes", Alderwoman Sandbulte- "yes", Alderwoman Marosko- "yes", Alderwoman Haverland- "yes", Alderwoman Rogers- "yes".
   The tax rate for fiscal year 2026-2027 was adopted.

9. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CANCELLATION OF NOVEMBER 3RD, 2026 GENERAL ELECTION.**
   The City of Coupland will not be holding a general election for 2026 due to unopposed candidates. Alderwoman Rogers motioned to adopt the ordinance cancelling the general election. Alderwoman Marosko seconded the motion. The ordinance cancelling the election was adopted.

10. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE (2026-09-15-03) CREATING THE POSITION OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR.**
    Alderwoman Sandbulte motioned to adopt the ordinance number 2026-09-15-03, which creates a position of "City Administrator" for the city of Coupland. Alderwoman Haverland asked for clarification regarding the responsibilities of the position, which was included in the meeting packet for council members. The responsibilities listed were then placed on the projection board during the meeting. There were no other questions proposed regarding this agenda item.

Alderwoman Sandbulte motioned to adopt the ordinance number 2026-09-15-03, with Alderwoman Rogers seconding the motion. All members of council voted in approval of adoption of this ordinance.
There have been questions and concerns regarding the city secretary and current responsibilities of that position. Mayor Schmidt, in conjunction with the city attorney, proposed a change in title to include a detailed list of those responsibilities and to make it more clear for members of the community.

11. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION (2026-09-15-01) DESIGNATING A CITY ADMINISTRATOR.**
    Alderwoman Rogers motioned to adopt Resolution number 2026-09-15-01, designating a city administrator. All members of council voted in approval of the resolution.

12. **DR.PARCELL, COUPLAND SUPERINTENDENT**
    Dr.Parcell gave updates regarding the opening of the new gym at CJHHS, cross-county, volleyball, and football. There will also be a joint city council meeting on October 1st that will allow the school board and city council to work together and support the community. The next school board meeting will be next Tuesday. There will also be discussions coming soon regarding the VATRE, which is a slight tax increase to help fund the school district and all of its educators.

13. **MAYOR UPDATES**
    12.1 The City of Coupland has registered to hold National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6th, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

    National night out will be held on October 6th, from 6-8pm at the city office. There will be free food and drinks at this event, and everyone is welcome.

    12.2 Update on CR 458 road repair

    There was no update given at this meeting.

    There were also comments made from Mayor Schmidt and various council members in response to earlier comments made. The city council encourages everyone to do their research on these topics, ask questions and come to their own opinion. The efforts made by the council are not just for now, but for the future of coupland. For example, the city has gone from having a “city office” located in the previous Mayor’s home, to a small office built in the building of a local business that was costing the city monthly rent, to now having its very own office that can be used by other individuals in the community, including the sewage board. Regarding the use of finances, it is also important to mention that the city of Coupland has no financial debt.

14. **WILLIAMSON COUNTY ESD 10 FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**
    There were no updates at this meeting.

15. **COUPLAND CITIZENS/EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION**
    There were no updates at this meeting.

16. **THE NEXT COUPLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 20TH, 2026.**

17. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Rachel Wrzuszczak

Rachel Wrzuszczak, City Secretary

Russell Schmidt

Russell Schmidt, Mayor