

AGENDA

EAST MOUNTAIN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
July 11, 2024
MONDAY 6:00 PM
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

***CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL**

***PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Must sign in. 3 minute limit on Agenda Items Only

***APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES June 10, 2024 Regular Session Minutes**

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Go over 2022-2023 Audit-Amanda Wells
2. Discuss Jurisdiction with County-Mayor Marc Covington
3. Discuss Letter Concerning Open Records Request-Mayor Marc Covington
4. Discuss Medical Insurance-Mayor Marc Covington
5. Talk about Hiring Court Clerk-Mayor Marc Covington
6. Discuss Change to Employee Handbook & Resolution for Council on Ethics with Social Media-Mayor Marc Covington
7. Discuss Budget Workshop Days-Mayor Marc Covington
8. Adjournment

Witness My Hand and Official Seal
Of the City of East Mountain, Texas
On This 8th day of JULY, 2024



Lisa Stewart, City Secretary

Posted the 8th day of JULY at 12:30 PM

THIS FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY OFFICE AT 903-297-6041.

The City Council of the City of East Mountain reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters above, with respect to and as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.074 (Personnel Matters) and 551.087 (Negotiations).

CITY OF EAST MOUNTAIN
CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION
July 11, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Marc Covington. The invocation was given by Mr. Danny Medlin. All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Those Council Members present were: Mr. Danny Medlin, Mr. Eugene Brown, Paul Barber, Stormie Combs, and Richard Lattier

Open Discussion:

Renee Barber asked about the Tik Tok video that had been put out.

Approval of the Previous Minutes:

Mr. Eugene Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2024 for Regular Session Meetings and Mr. Danny Medlin seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item One: Go over 2022-2023 Audit-Amanda Wells

Amanda went over the audit. Explaining how the revenue has gone up and expenses have gone down. The overall change is flat.

Kevin mentioned how our revenue should go up more since we had the large land purchase in 2022-2023. He let us know that there were lots of improvements.

The Mayor mentioned that we would be working on the new water project and Kevin mentioned that there are several different loans for this. One thru the water board which has debt forgiveness. He mentioned that after we our contract that he would look over it if we would like for him to.

Kevin mentioned that he would come to our first budget workshop if we would like him to attend.

The Mayor asked if the council approved the audit. Eugene Brown approved and Richard Lattier second, the vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item Two: Discuss Jurisdiction with County-Mayor Marc Covington

The Mayor and Pro-tem Eugene Brown went and met with Sheriff Webb. The decision was made that Chief would only help the county when called and ask if he could help. Chief will stay and maintain the city & city limits. Mayor asked Sheriff Webb if this was how it should be and Webb agreed to this.

A citizen then asked a question about the issue on their road, Floy Lee, saying that there were drugs being run between the game room and the Morgan house next to theirs. This house is in the county and not in the city limits. She mentioned that either the game room needed to be shut down or something fixed. She would put a sign in her yard pertaining to the drugs next to her or go to the game room with a sign pertaining to where the drugs are. It was mentioned that they have videos of the cars and also have followed them to both places and things are being unloaded at the Morgan house. They mentioned that there a lot of kids now on this road and what was going on is a danger. She thinks that if the game room gets closed down that it would stop the drugs coming thru.. Sheriff Webb mentioned that Chief Rathbun cannot be everywhere at once since it is only him in the city. Chief mentioned he would make his presence more at the game room and see if he can see this action going on.

Agenda Item Three: Discuss Letter Concerning Open Records Request-Mayor Marc Covington

Mayor mentioned the letter had been sent to the lawyer before approving for open records request, which the lawyer sent to Attorney General. Terry Carter mentioned that this took more than 10 days which made it late. The attorney general office took quite some time to get the approval to give the information out.

Terry Carter was upset because of copies of the letter were put out on the table for the public. Mayor let him know that after his request was approved that it is now public knowledge.

It was mentioned that there had been here say going around with a remark of "easier to replace a court clerk instead of a police chief." It was unknown where the remark came from.

Renee Butler made the statement that all the other letters were fabricated none were true and they didn't go to get proof on anything that was said.

She mentioned that she was fired because she would not get along with the Chief. She was told no she was not fired she chose to resign.

The one letter was not used to make any decisions and was not used.

Richard Lattier said he didn't make any decisions from the letters written he made them from other things.

Terry Carter asked if anyone was investigated over the allegations of sexual harassment and he was told no.

It was also asked why Renee had not been written up before for the things.

Agenda Item Four-Discuss Medical Insurance-Mayor Marc Covington

Mayor let the council know that the medical insurance keeps going up and the deductible higher. The employees have asked if they would just give them the money and let them get the insurance their selves. They would show proof of the insurance. Richard asked that the employees show the amount of the other insurance and let a decision be made if that amount would be given or the same amount that would paid monthly.

Eugene agreed to council and asked that we get with the lawyer on it.

They asked that more be found out and table it til the next meeting

Agenda Item Five: Talk about Hiring Court clerk-Mayor Marc Covington

The Mayor brought up about hiring a court clerk part-time from the applications that we have received. It was decided on to interview the candidates and make a decision from there.

Agenda Item Six: Discuss Changes to Employee Handbook & Resolution for Council on Ethics with Social Media-Mayor Marc Covington

At this time there is nothing in the hand book about social media. Need to incorporate a social media policy. Would get with the Lawyer and have his answer for next meeting along with any more information received.

Agenda Item Seven: Discuss Budget Workshop-Mayor Marc Covington

A decision was made to have two workshops, one on August 6th and a following on August 27th. Will contact Kevin to let him know the date to attend.

Agenda Item Eight: Adjournment

Eugene Brown made motion to adjourn and Richard Lattier second, vote was unanimous. Adjourned at 8:30pm

Accepted and approved this 12th Day of August, 2024



Mayor Marc Covington

Attested:



City Secretary, Lisa Stewart