



NOTICE OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF EAST MOUNTAIN, TEXAS  
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM  
MONDAY February 10, 2025  
6:00 P. M.

All agenda items are subject to action. The City of East Mountain Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters below, with respect to and as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071,.072,.074 and .087

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matter under litigation, for length of time not to exceed 3 minutes. No Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.551.042*

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES OF CITY OF EAST MOUNTAIN COUNCIL MEETINGS:  
January 13, 2024

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Discuss Water Rate Increase-Mayor Marc Covington
2. Trash Day (May 2-32025)-Mayor Marc Covington
3. Adjournment

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board outside of City Hall, City of East Mountain, TX, a place readily accessible to the general public at all times, on the 7th day of February, 2025 by 12:30pm and remained posted for at least 72 continuous hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting

*Lisa Stewart*

Lisa Stewart, City Secretary

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. For further information, please contact the city office at 903-297-6041



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION  
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Marc Covington. The invocation was given by Eugene Brown.

All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Open Discussion:**

Mr. Clay Voyles ask about the monthly police reports not being showed and ask that they be put back on the agenda. The Mayor mentioned it had been being put in the council notebooks and was suspended do to taking up to much time. Mr. Voyles mentioned that he believes it helps the community to understand what is going on and where the money is going.

**Approval of the Previous Minutes:**

Ms. Stormie Combs approved and Mr. Danny Medlin seconded minutes from January 13, 2025 meeting. The vote was unanimous.

**Agenda Item One Discuss Water Rate Increase-Mayor Marc Covington**

Mr. Eugene Brown mentioned that he thinks the outside city limits rates should go up an extra 20% due to the ones in the city pay city taxes. Mayor disagreed. Ms. Combs ask if there would be a grandfather clause for the customers that have been on the system already outside the city. Mr. Richard Lattier doesn't agree with a grandfather clause. Mr. Eugene Brown says the increase should be all customers. The ones out of the city could request for annexation to the city. Mr. Richard Lattier doesn't think a increase is unreasonable. Resident Terry Johnson mentioned that the ones in the city limits pay city taxes. It was asked about out of city limits residents choosing to annex. Mayor let everyone know that, could not annex if not touching the city. It was mentioned that its not fair and Mayor mentioned that outside city is voluntary. Mr. Clay Voyles ask if there is a cap on water increase each year. Mr. Eugene Brown says there is non on water rates, its handled separately. Mr. Paul Barber ask if there is a target amount and they Mayor suggested a base rate increase of \$3.00 a month which would bring in another

\$42,000.00. "If you didn't buy soda a month it would take care of the increase" Mayor let Mr. Barber know there is no target just a small increase because of inflation to be able to keep up. Not looking for large jump just small increments. Mr. Johnson ask why not an increase everyone goes up each year. Ms. Stormie Combs ask if there is a time frame and mentioned concerned about the people on a fixed income. Mr. Voyles ask if it could be put out to be voted on as a proposal. Mr. Richard Lattier commented, "if the people say no what do we do then, project is already started." Mr. Johnson said, "that is why we elect city council."

Mr. Richard Lattier ask how many increments are for seen. Mayor said maybe yearly as long as supplies, fuel and other things don't start increasing. Mr. Terry Carter mentioned that the increase of \$3.00 would not be bad. Mayor mentioned that the water rate increase is not to pay for project, we are behind other communities and don't want to get far behind and don't want to have to have a major increase at one time. Mr. Voyles ask when the last increase was and he was let know it was in 2022.

Mr. Terry Carter asks what the time frame is before getting the Longview water connected. Mayor mentioned that the tank should be painted within the next 30 days and we are waiting on pump prices. It should be by the end of summer before it is tied in.

It was asked how much of Longview will be mixed. Mayor mentioned it will depend on how much is needed. Can not be 50-50, if use over 6 million a month, then city will be fined \$10,000.00. Ms. Combs ask how much water is used already and she was told around 6 million gallons. New water could double our capacity without being fined.

The water will pump to the upper tanks. Mr. Carter asks the closer to the lower tank will be better water and he was told yes. Mrs. Barber asks if a filter system will be added for the new cleaner water or will it still look dirty. Mayor says no filter will be added. The dirty look is the settlement in the lines. When it gets stirred up it causes the brown water

Mayor asked once again if council have any other suggestions. Ms. Stormie Combs agreed that the base rate increase would be the best.

Mr. Carter mentioned that Bobby needs to handle all water system. When the fire department opens the hydrant cap is taken off it causes the water to pull the settlement and cause it to pick up the trash. Mayor let everyone know fire department can no longer take the cap off to check, this will keep settlement from moving.

Mayor let everyone know that the water will be terrible when hooked up. Bobby will have to reverse the flow and it will stir up everything. Mr. Voyles ask when will he be doing that and the Mayor let him know the flushing will happen at night when less people are using water.

Ms. Combs mentioned that everyone can see the tank and see that work is being done. Lisa mentioned that there are pictures on the website and Ms. Combs says seeing the tank is more tangible.

Mr. Richard Lattier proposed to increase the rate and revisit it in a year. Ms. Stormie Combs seconded. The vote was unanimous.

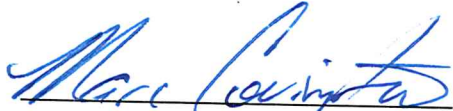
### **Agenda Item Two: Trash Days–Mayor Marc Covington**

Mayor let everyone know that the trash days have been set for May 2 & 3.

**Agenda Item Three: Adjournment-Mayor Marc Covington**

Mr. Eugene Brown made motion to adjourn and Mr. Richard Lattier second. The vote was unanimous. We adjourned at 6:45.

Accepted and Approved this 10th day of March, 2025

  
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Mayor Marc Covington

Attested Lisa Stewart  
City Secretary, Lisa Stewart