

Notice of a Regular Meeting
CITY OF BEVIL OAKS, TEXAS

May 21, 2026

1. **Call to Order @ 4:00 p.m.**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation given by Councilman Thibodeaux**
3. **Roll Call- All Present**
4. **Conflict of Interest Statement- None**
5. **Citizen Comments- None**
6. **Review/Approve Consent Items M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette- Approved-Unanimous**
 - a. **Financial Reports for City of Bevil Oaks**
 - b. **Financial Reports for Public Works**
 - c. **Utility Innovations Report**
7. **Review/Approve Action Items**
 - a. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval of accepting the financial operating expenses the Southeast Texas Alerting Network (STAN). M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Thibodeaux- Approved-Unanimous**
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** For clarification, asks a grant ran out and now the City is having to fund their portion of it?
 - **Mayor Mitchell-** Yes. This is the call out system that we use.
 - **Sabrenna Crain-** States that the City's portion of the cost is \$869
 - b. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval of revision of ordinance # 266 (dangerous, substandard, and dilapidated buildings). M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette- Tabled**
 - **Councilman Merendino-** States that he would like to suggest tabling all of the ordinances on the agenda until Sabrenna finishes all of her code enforcement training and they are also broad. States that over the years, there have been a lot of unenforceable ordinances. States that he doesn't think that these are specific enough to be able to enforce. States that he isn't sure if the attorney has reviewed them or not.
 - **Dru Montgomery-** States that he has reviewed them, but most of what he is looking for in an ordinance is most of the basis in state law, can they all pass that. In drafting an ordinance, we have a cart/horse issue on do we see a problem and pass an ordinance, or do we see the potential and do as much as we can to anticipate them. These are broad and these came on the heels of the Mayor and Sabrenna attending code enforcement classes. Often times if he starts drafting an ordinance from whole cloth, they start being fairly large and fairly unwieldy and unless they're addressing a specific problem, they are overwhelming in detail. States that he thinks that it will be fine to table them, but he would like Council to review them and send him suggestions on how they think the ordinances need to read.
 - **Mayor Mitchell-** States that even though her and Sabrenna have not taken the code enforcement exam, the City still have Mike Collier (City

inspector and current code enforcement officer). States that there is still a big issue with the vacant houses that need to be addressed.

- **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that he noticed that in the previous version of these ordinances, it stated that the City had to take the violations to court. In the presented revised copy of these ordinances, it now states that the issues have to be taken to City Council.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** Yes. States that last year, there was a resolution written that states that the ordinance enforcement will be taken to City Council rather than court.
- **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that there is a lot of things within these ordinances that need to be compared . States that he is working on doing that, but it takes a long time to read through that.
- **Councilman Smith-** States that part of the issue is enforceability. It also states that you have 30 days to get the problem resolved and you may or may not get it done within that time frame. States that he doesn't think that 30 days is long enough to address some of those issues.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** States that the vacant houses have been abandoned for 7 years.
- **Councilman Smith-** States that 30 days still isn't long enough to address the issue.
- **Councilman Wright-** Doesn't it say that you have 90 days with a plan?
- **Councilman Smith-** Only if it is approved after 30 days.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** States that the person needing an extension has to come to Council to ask for it.
- **Councilman Smith-** States that dealing with the City of Beaumont, it's different from that.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** States that the City of Beaumont is home rule.
- **Councilman Wright-** States that one thing he didn't see in the ordinance is dead trees. States that dead trees need to be addressed.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** Asks the Council if they want to table the ordinances.
- **Councilman Wright-** States that if the ordinances are tabled, the Council needs to have a plan. Asks Dru for clarification, you are wanting the Council to give input on the ordinances?
- **Dru Montgomery-** Yes. States that he looks typically, he looks at similar ordinances around Texas and see what those Cities have done to solve the problem. States that this is state approved with how it is written. States that all of these proposed ordinances are fine. States that being that we have a active Council, it will be easier to address things in the ordinances. States that if the Council will give him recommendations, it will save him a lot of time in research.
- **Councilman Wright-** Suggest giving Dru their input within a certain time frame.
- **Mayor Mitchell-** States that the Council needs to have their recommendations to Sabrenna by June 5th.

- c. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval** of revision of ordinance # 269 (regulation on weeds, grass, rubbish, junk and other unsanitary matter). **M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette- Tabled**
- d. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval** of revision of ordinance # 199 (regulation of junked motor vehicles). **M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette- Tabled**
- e. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval** of filing an application with the TWDB for financial assistance for water supply and infrastructure. **M/M/2/C- Councilman Mannette/Councilman Merendino-Approved-Unanimous**
 - **Councilman Wright-** States that this agenda item and the next two items on the agenda are items that we have to do to apply for the grant.
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** Asks who brought the agenda item to the agenda?
 - **Mayor Mitchell-** Sabrenna
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** Asks Sabrenna to explain it.
 - **Sabrenna Crain-** Explains that this grant is for water infrastructure. States that with the grant, the project plan is to increase the water main size on Shipley and Riverbend to 6in so that way we can facilitate fire hydrates, installing isolation valves, and installing auto flushes where the regular flushes are.
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** So, this is just a formality that we can move forward on?
 - **Councilman Mannette-** Asks when the last time the lines were flushed?
 - **Sabrenna Crain-** States that the lines get flushed daily. States that the utility contractor has a flush schedule.
- f. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval** of application affidavit for TWDB water supply and infrastructure grant. **M/M/2/C- Councilman Wright/Councilman Merendino-Approved-Unanimous**
 - **Sabrenna Crain-** Explains that we are looking at doing auto flushes in place of the regular flushes so that no one has to manually go flush the lines. States that an auto flush was installed on Carroll. States that the auto flushes can be set to flush at night and so it doesn't disturb anyone during the day.
 - **Councilman Mannette-** Asks if that will eliminate having to flush the fire hydrants?
 - **Sabrenna Crain-** Yes.
 - **Councilman Wright-** States that the auto flushes will eliminate having to flush hard. States that when we are flushing hard, it releases the sediment in the lines which are minerals that settle.
- g. **Consideration/Discussion/Approval** of application resolution-certificate of secretary. **M/M/2/C- Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette- Approved-Unanimous**
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** Asks who the secretary would be?
 - **Dru Montgomery-** States that the secretary would be Councilman Thibodeaux since he is the City Council Secretary.

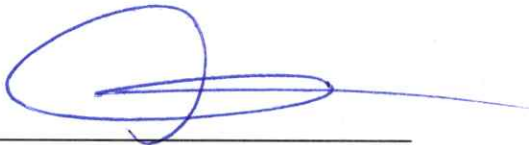
8. Reports

- a. **Mayor Mitchell-** None
- b. **Councilman Wright-** States that the new maintenance employee, Wesley, is outstanding. States that he will save the City a bunch of money in the long run.
- c. **Councilman Merendino-** States that he and Wesley have filled potholes. States that they called DD6 about a tree on Riverbend and DD6 will get it taken care of. States that we don't have any plan for road work right now, but he plans to talk to the County Commissioner, Brandon Willis, to do road repair at the corner of Capital and Sweetgum. States that that area is heavily traveled. States that the City might be able to afford putting some kind of black top. States that the County has the capability of patching it. States that he isn't sure how much it will cost at this time. States that there is also a bad area on the corner of Rolling Hills and Shipley. States that if there are other areas that someone notices that needs repair, to let him know so that he can get it addressed. States that these road repairs will be more expensive than the road repairs that were done last year on Thousand Oaks, Chimney Rock and the Blvd because the City doesn't have any more rock, so we will have to buy more material. States that he has heard of some ditches that need to be dug out. States that there are a couple work orders currently turned in with the County. States that there is a work order turned in to do the ditch by the Event Center. States that the work order is to also blow out the culvert so that it drains properly. States that since he has been over the roads and drainage, his biggest focus is keeping water out of people's homes. States that the second focus is water going over the roads. States that there are 22 miles of ditches in Bevil Oaks. States that it would take 17 years for the County to dig out all of the ditches. States that DD6 is in Bevil Oaks any time that it mows. States that they have been spraying the ditches and taking good care of them. States that the police department has been out here as well. States that the City would not be able to hire a police officer from Jefferson County to write tickets, so if someone sees something, they need to call the Sheriff's department.
- d. **Councilman Mannette-** No Report
- e. **Councilman Smith-** States that there is a kid in Bevil Oaks that stands up while he is riding. States that he isn't sure if the County could do extra patrols or not.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** States that reporting four wheelers or side by sides to the County is a catch 22. States that someone told him about a kid that rode their four wheeler into the playground area. States that if someone sees something like that that they need to address the situation.
 - **Councilman Mannette-** States that the main problem that he has seen is adults doing well over the speed limit. States that he also has an issue with 8 to 10 year olds riding four wheelers or side by sides on the road and they shouldn't be.
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that the County should address the age limits.
 - **Councilman Mannette-** States that he has talked to the Sheriff's office and they told him that anyone riding a side by side or four wheeler on the road could be given a ticket unless they have a drivers license and the ATV had a license plate.

- **Councilman Smith-** States that if we get the Sheriff's office to address the age thing, then it will open a can of worms and no one will be able to ride.
- **Councilman Merendino-** States that school is about to be out. States that sometimes you don't see people so everyone needs to pay attention.
- f. **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that we had our third meeting for the 250th celebration. States that they have a great team. States that there will be a budget for the Council to approve. States that there is no way that they will go over the proposed budget that the Council has already approved. States that he would like some latitude to go ahead and start ordering items.
 - **Dru Montgomery-** States that the transaction has to be approved by Council.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** Asks what the cost of the items that he needs to order is?
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** Not to exceed \$500.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** Asks what the rules say?
 - **Mayor Mitchell-** That all expenses have to be brought to Council.
 - **Dru Montgomery-** Suggests that Councilman Thibodeaux brings all of the invoices to Council for approval. States that Council can't individually be given authority to spend money. It has to be approved.
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that there is one meeting between now and July 4th. States that he was under the impression that if it was under the approved budget, then it was okay as long as it didn't exceed the budget. States that there are a lot of street lights out. States that there has been a list of street lights turned into Entergy and they haven't fixed any of them.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** States that the rep is out. States that he has the tree cutting guy for Entergy. States that Entergy is in Bevil Oaks for 3 weeks doing work.
 - **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that the light at the sewer plant is out and the Verkada cameras don't pick anything up at night due to low visibility. States that Crenshaw doesn't have an issue getting in touch with our rep. Asks who is in charge of the street lights?
 - **Mayor Mitchell-** States that Councilwoman Cramer, Councilman Thibodeaux and her are in charge of the street lights.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** States that he has looked at a van for the maintenance department. States that it is \$8,000. States that the vehicle budget was already approved by the Council. States they have already test drove it. States that he needs to give the guy an answer.
 - **Councilman Wright-** States that Wesley would rather drive a truck.
 - **Councilman Smith-** States that it is easier to work out of a truck.
 - **Councilman Merendino-** States that he was just thinking about the fact that with a van, he would be able to plug his tools up at night to charge. States that the van is a 2016 GMC Savanna. States that Sabrenna has pictures of it.

- **Councilman Mannette-** States that we won't necessarily have the same maintenance person forever. States that he would rather have a van than a truck so that everything can be locked up.
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- **Councilman Smith-** Suggests getting shirts for Council for the 250th anniversary celebration.
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- **Councilman Merendino-** States that he likes the van too so that everything can be locked up.
- **Councilman Thibodeaux-** States that he likes the van better than a truck too.

9. Adjourn Meeting @ 4:40 p.m. - Councilman Merendino/Councilman Mannette



Mayor Cheri Mitchell

Attest: 
City Secretary, Jeff Thibodeaux

Approved this 17th day of August 2026.