

Prior to the Regular City Council Meeting, March 11, 2025, from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the City of Monahans held a reception honoring retiree Richard Covington. Family, friends and co-workers attended the reception, too many to name. Mr. Covington was the Public Works Director and a Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Covington worked for the City of Monahans for 35 years, 6 months and 24 days. City Manager Rex M. Thee presented Mr. Covington with a personalized plaque, a street sign with his name and years of service, and a retirement gift. Mr. Covington said a few kind words of his time with the City. City staff served cake and punch. (A quorum of the council was present, but no formal city business was discussed, or action taken by the City Council.)

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

The City Council of the City of Monahans, Texas convened on the above date at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members, officers and visitors present:

Adam Steen	Mayor
Gerald Stava	Council Member District No. 1
Jeppie S. Wilson, Jr.	Council Member District No. 2/Mayor Pro Tem
Calvin Carrell	Council Member District No. 3
Ivy Valenzuela	Council Member District No. 4
Richard Hawkins	Council Member District No. 5
Rex M. Thee	City Manager
Frank Heslin	Assistant City Manager
Tonya Todd	City Secretary
Justin Till (<i>absent</i>)	Attorney for the City
Kristofer Quintana	Chief MPD
Stormey Laws	Captain MPD
Xavier Ramon	Lieutenant MPD
Joel Melendez	Building Inspector
Aaron Huffty	Code Enforcement Officer
Guy Thames	County Commissioner Precinct 1
Dixie Briggs	Monahans News
Loris Scott	Self
Teresa Burnett	Executive Director Chamber of Commerce

ITEM #1 & ITEM #2 Mayor Steen called the meeting to order and Councilman Wilson gave the invocation.

ITEM #3 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council on approving the minutes of the February 25, 2025, Regular Council Meeting.

Motion by Councilman Stava, seconded by Councilman Valenzuela to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Votes were as follows:

“Aye”	Gerald Stava
“Aye”	Jeppie Wilson
“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #4 Presentation by citizens to be heard. None

ITEM #5 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council regarding the 2025 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to Municipal Telecommunications Right-of-Way Access Line Rates. Mr. Thee indicated that the City will see an increase of 1.4785% due to inflation. Mr. Thee stated that if the council takes no action, this increase will take effect, increasing the rate the City charges for telecommunications lines in city rights-of-way. Mr. Thee mentioned that the FCC ruled that local franchise authorities cannot regulate nonvideo services offered by incumbent cable operators, such as broadband internet service, business data services, and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services. Mr. Thee recommended taking no action on this item and accepting this maximum rate increase. Mr. Thee stated that the new rates will go into effect no later than July 1st this year.

No action taken.

ITEM #6 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council regarding the First Reading of Ordinance No. 1326 Suspending the Proposed Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Interim Rate Adjustment of Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of ONE Gas, Inc. Mr. Thee indicated that Texas Gas Service proposes to capture the net increase in capital invested (\$7,272,326) from 1/1/2024 through 12/31/2024 system wide for the West North Service Area (WNSA) by charging an additional \$1.81 per month on average to residential customers for meters read on or after April 12, 2025. Mr. Thee mentioned that the City is part of the El Paso service area which has more customers than the other WNSA cities combined, what the City of El Paso does is usually the determining factor for the entire service area. Mr. Thee stated that if El Paso ultimately decides to contest the rate increase after this 105-day period, Monahans can opt to join the PUC rate case as well. Mr. Thee indicated that these rate increase requests, by Texas Gas Service, go into effect after this process unless contested by El Paso. Mr. Thee recommended approving this ordinance suspending the rate adjustment decision for forty-five days.

Motion by Councilman Carrell, seconded by Councilman Hawkins to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 1326:

ORDINANCE NO. 1326

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONAHANS, TEXAS SUSPENDING THE PROPOSED GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM INTERIM RATE ADJUSTMENT OF TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ONE GAS, INC.; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE COMPANY

Votes were as follows: “Aye” Gerald Stava
 “Aye” Jeppie Wilson
 “Aye” Calvin Carrell
 “Aye” Ivy Valenzuela
 “Aye” Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #7 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council with regards to a request from Ward Memorial Hospital to close 5th Street between S. Allen and S. Calvin for Farmers Market at Hill Park, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., July 19th, August 16th, and September 20th, 2025. Mr. Thee stated that they have held this event before and the City will prepare the park for each event.

Motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stava to approve the request from Ward Memorial Hospital to close 5th Street between S. Allen and S. Calvin for Farmers Market at Hill Park, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., July 19th, August 16th, and September 20th, 2025.

Votes were as follows: “Aye” Gerald Stava
 “Aye” Jeppie Wilson
 “Aye” Calvin Carrell
 “Aye” Ivy Valenzuela
 “Aye” Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #8 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council with regards to authorizing reclamation and paving of North Eva Avenue from the intersection of West ‘A’ Street to ‘I’ Street by Ward County. Guy Thames, Ward County Commissioner Precinct 1, was present to answer any questions from the Council. Commissioner Thames stated that the project will begin on West ‘B’ Street. Mr. Thee thanked Commissioner Thames for attending and the City is grateful for the offer to include this portion in the project.

Motion by Councilman Stava, seconded by Councilman Wilson authorizing reclamation and paving of North Eva Avenue from the intersection of West ‘B’ Street to ‘I’ Street by Ward County.

Votes were as follows: “Aye” Gerald Stava
 “Aye” Jeppie Wilson
 “Aye” Calvin Carrell
 “Aye” Ivy Valenzuela
 “Aye” Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #9 Motion by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Stava to adjourn meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Votes were as follows: “Aye” Gerald Stava
 “Aye” Jeppie Wilson
 “Aye” Calvin Carrell
 “Aye” Ivy Valenzuela
 “Aye” Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

Passed and approved by the Monahans City Council on March 25, 2025.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Tonya Todd, City Secretary

Adam Steen, Mayor