

# City of Bryson Council Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2025

I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Lutitia Ford called the regular meeting of the Bryson City Council to order at 7:00 pm August 11, 2025, in City Hall.

**Roll Call:** The following people were present: Mayor Lutitia Ford, Ald. Jesse Laine, Ald. JR Stearns, Ald. Justin Hand, Ald. Travis Rhoten, Ald. Heather Neer, PWD Cory Allen, City Secretary Cheryl Adams, Kevin Sharp and visitors Kyler Norman with Corlett, Probst and Boyd, Henry Birdwell, Jr. and Ashley Anderson with the Jacksboro Herald-Gazette.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

III. Guest/Visitors Comments to Council

IV. Kyler Norman with Corlett, Probst and Boyd addressed the Council and Henry Birdwell, Jr., the landowner of the current irrigation area, concerning options for sewage treatment. He explained the options the City had going forward again and provided more details. He explained that the current tanks, or lagoons, were last updated in 2012, probably with a new liner. He explained that some earth work needed to be done to prevent the tanks from breaching between each other. He explained how the current wastewater system works and the challenges that the City would have with getting TCEQ permits to utilize more property and/or discharging into the creek, etc. He explained the pros and cons of both the current Imhoff/lagoon system and moving to a package plant setup. Henry Birdwell asked about the condition of the current liners and requested soil samples to be done on his land where irrigation has occurred. He expressed concern with chemicals from the irrigation, most notably PFAS, and the irrigation being used properly to not flood the property. He also said he wants to change the vegetation to Bermuda or possibly Coastal. This would also require a new TCEQ permit. Mr. Norman recommended the package plant for the long-run and said the rehab of the lagoons would be the fastest solution.

V. A motion was made to approve the consent agenda including all bills as presented and minutes for the July 14, 2025, Regular Meeting by Ald. Jesse Laine; seconded by Ald. JR Stearns. Vote 5-0.

VI. After discussion a motion was made to begin steps to pay off the current USDA loan balance procured in 2006 for the water line from Graham by Ald. JR Stearns, seconded by Ald. Justin Hand. Vote 5-0.

VII. A motion was made to approve Resolution **2025-08-11 Denying the Rate Increase by Texas Gas Service** by Ald. Justin Hand, seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.

VIII. A motion was made to participate in the next Opioid Abatement Settlement (Rubris Reference Number CL1773254) by Ald. Heather Neer, seconded by Ald. JR Stearns. Vote 4-0. Ald. Jesse Laine had to leave on an emergency call and did not vote.

IX. A discussion was held on whether the City should open Panhandle Road around Bryson Lake. Someone has put up a fence across the road. It has been removed once by the Public Works Director but was put back up. Residents report people going back there and tearing up their fences and trashing the area. It was noted that the City may be responsible for replacing/fixing any fencing. It was decided that a lawyer should be contacted and Ordinances be studied before any action is taken.

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- X. The listed agenda item was incorrectly worded. Discussion was made to schedule the public hearing for the Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2025-26 and for the Proposed Ad Valorem Tax rate. A motion was made to set the Public Hearing date for 5:45 pm, Wednesday, August 27, 2025 by Ald. Heather Neer, seconded by Ald. Travis Rhoten. Vote 5-0.
- XI. A discussion was held on the expected rate increase from Fort Belknap Water Supply due to Graham's water rate increase of 7%. The Council discussed increasing the City's water rate by the same percentage and also discussed the option of changing the Sewer Rate charge from a flat rate to a usage rate. This item will be added to the September agenda.
- XII. Discussed the Fall Cleanup and set the date for Friday and Saturday, September 26 & 27. Times will be the same as previous cleanups. PWD Cory Allen asked for flyers and advertisements to stress that appliances containing any food products will be rejected.
- XIII. Report from Public Works Director – PWD Cory Allen reported that the field inspections for the Lead and Copper inventory had been completed; Caleb Allen has finished his summer work for the City and is going back to school; they are about to start working on roads and ditches soon; smoke testing is planned to begin soon; and hiring for a third employee should be put on hold.
- XIV. Report from City Secretary – City Secretary Cheryl Adams asked questions about the July council meeting that she missed and asked for clarification on the concerns expressed about the Narcan kits being distributed. She discussed with the Council the possibility of getting a City website and more information will be researched on this option. She also updated the Council on the TMCCP course she has begun.
- XV. Adjournment – There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm by Ald. Jesse Laine; seconded by Ald. Heather Neer. Vote 5-0.

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Lutitia Ford, Mayor  
City of Bryson

Attest

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Cheryl Adams, City Secretary  
City of Bryson