

City of Big Sandy

Big Sandy, Texas 75755

MINUTES TO PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

September 2, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

The City Council for the City of Big Sandy met in Special Session on September 2, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at the City of Big Sandy Heritage Center, 162 E. Gilmer Street, Big Sandy, Texas.

Call to Order: Mayor Baggett called the special session public hearing and meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- a. **Invocation** – Rocky Ware
- b. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Sally Allen
- c. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Linda Baggett, Sally Allen, Trey Beahm, David Fonteno and Rex Rozell.
- d. **STAFF PRESENT:** Chief David Easterling, City Administrator/City Secretary Laura Rex, Utility Clerk Sarah Strub and Public Works Director Rocky Ware.
- e. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Janet Beahm, Michael Isabell, Staci Killingsworth and Melissa Messer with Linebarger Attorneys at Law, Tony Pytlak, George Strub and Rhonda Turner.

PUBLIC HEARING: At 6:00 p.m. the Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate for the 2025-2026 Budget Year was opened.

PUBLIC HEARING: At 6:00 p.m. the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for the 2025-2026 Budget Year was opened.

Mayor Baggett asked if anyone in attendance wanted to address the council regarding the proposed tax rate of \$.46 per \$100 valuation for the October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 fiscal year. Mayor Baggett then asked if anyone in attendance wanted to address the council regarding the proposed budget for the October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 fiscal year. The city council and department heads answered some questions from those in attendance. The public hearings were closed at 6:16 p.m.

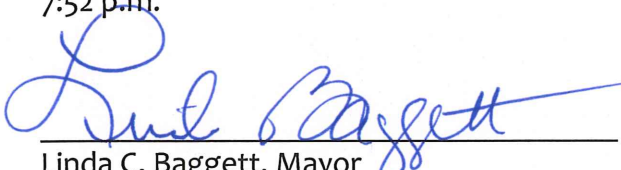
Agenda Items:

1. **Wildcat Drive: change in traffic flow for certain hours on days Big Sandy ISD is in session:** Big Sandy Superintendent Rhonda Turner addressed the council and requested that Wildcat Drive be a one way street (southbound only) from the intersection of FM 2911 to College Street during the hours of 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.


After discussion, Rozell moved that Wildcat Drive become a one way street, southbound only, from the intersection of FM 2911 to College Street during the hours of 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the days Big Sandy ISD is in session for a trial period from September 15th, 2025 through December 16th, 2025 (Dec. 16th, 2025 is regular city council meeting date) when the city council can decide if they want to make this a permanent change. Allen seconded. Allen, Beahm, Fonteno and Rozell voted aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.

2. **Staci Killingsworth with Linebarger Attorneys at Law:** Ms. Killingsworth gave the council an update on the collection of delinquent property tax accounts.
3. **Resolution approving proposed Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:** Beahm moved to approve **Resolution #2025-021** approving the budget for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 and Allen seconded. The roll call vote: Sally Allen: Aye; Trey Beahm: Aye; David Fonteno: Aye; Rex Rozell: Aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.
4. **Resolution approving proposed tax rate for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:** Beahm moved to approve **Resolution #2025-022** approving the tax rate of \$.46 per \$100 valuation for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 and Allen seconded. The roll call vote: Sally Allen: Aye; Trey Beahm: Aye; David Fonteno: Aye; Rex Rozell: Aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.
5. **Resolution ratifying the proposed tax rate increase for the 2025-2026 fiscal year:** Beahm moved to approve **Resolution #2025-023** ratifying the property tax rate increase and Allen seconded. The roll call vote: Sally Allen: Aye; Trey Beahm: Aye; David Fonteno: Aye; Rex Rozell: Aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.
6. **Credit Card Processing Costs & Timeline:** After discussion, Rozell moved to change the timeline for customers paying a convenience fee if they want to pay their utility bill with a credit card to January 1st, 2026 (at the June 17th, 2025 city council meeting, *Beahm “moved that as of October 1, 2025, City of Big Sandy utility customers pay a convenience fee if they want to pay their utility bill with a credit card with more details to be provided at future meetings. Fonteno seconded. Allen, Beahm, Fonteno and Rozell voted aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.”* Beahm seconded. Allen, Beahm, Fonteno and Rozell voted aye. The motion to extend the timeline to January 1st, 2026 for customers paying a convenience fee carried 4-0-0.
7. **Dial Works Road Repairs:** Upshur County Road Supervisor Phil Stegall has provided the city with a quote of approximately \$15,000 to rebuild the base and reseal Dial Road from Old Waters Bluff to the city limit sign. Rozell moved to approve the repair at a cost of up to \$15,000 to be paid from the street maintenance fund and Fonteno seconded. Allen, Beahm, Fonteno and Rozell voted aye. Motion carried 4-0-0.
8. **College Street Well Yard Equipment Repairs:** The level control system on the 100,000 gallon ground storage tank located at the College Street Well Yard stopped working on August 23rd, 2025 apparently due to an electrical power surge. Fonteno moved to approve the emergency repair of the ultra-sonic level control system on this 100,000 gallon ground storage tank at a cost of \$7,446 and Beahm seconded. Allen, Beahm, Fonteno and Rozell voted aye. Motion carried 4-0-0. Public Works Director Ware also presented a bid for the repair of the electrical system for the well yard. The council requested a 2nd bid for the repair.


Adjourn: There being no further posted business before this Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



 Linda C. Baggett, Mayor



 Laura M. Rex, City Secretary



 Date