

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Iola Texas Board of Alderman  
April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

The Board of Alderman of the City of Iola, Grimes County, Texas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in the Iola Community Center Building in Iola TX. Members present: Mayor Christina Stover, presiding, Alderman present: Samantha Echols, Curtis Darby, Ben Landry.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Minutes for the regular meeting held on March 11, 2025, were read and considered for approval. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Ben Landry seconded by Curtis Darby. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business was conducted:

Curtis Darby moved to approve a Resolution to Proclaim April as Fair Housing Month, second was made by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously.

Sammie Echols moved to approve a Resolution to designate authorized signatories for the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) program for GLO state contract number 24-074-004-E287, second was made by Curtis Darby; motion carried unanimously.

Ben Landry moved to approve a resolution regarding Civil Rights which includes the following policies: with a second by Curtis Darby, motion carried unanimously.

- o Citizen Participation Plan and Grievance Procedures;
- o Section 3 Policy;
- o Excessive Force Policy;
- o Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Standards Plan;
- o Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures;
- Code of Conduct Policy; and
- Fair Housing Policy.

Curtis Darby moved to approve the expansion of Trinity Ave by the length of 230 ft. second by Sammie Echols motion carried unanimously.

Curtis Darby approved to pay invoices totaling \$12,000.00 upon completion of the audit for FY 23-24. second by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously.

The City Council discussed upon the advisement of the Davis and Heinemann, CPA the requirement that a new bank account be opened for the Interest & Sinking Fund Property Taxes to be transferred to for payment of the Sewer Fund Debt Service. Keeping these funds in a separate account is a requirement of the State of Texas. Ben Landry made a motion to open the account at First State Bank of Bédias and that the account require 2 signatures for checks; authorized signers are Christina Stover, Donna Ray, and Curtis Darby. The account is to be named Sewer -Operating. A second was made by Sammie Echols; motion carried unanimously.

Curtis Darby moved to approve to pay an invoice from Bovey and Cochran, PLLC in the amount of no more than \$262.00. second by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously.

Curtis Darby moved the City Council of the City of Iola, Texas adopt Resolution No.53 authorizing the use of the power of eminent domain to acquire a fifteen-foot utility easement on the real property located at 23842 FM 39, Iola, Texas 77861, with the legal description of Iola Block 48, Lot 1,2,3,4 (N2/ALL4) 50x70, for the public use of placing and maintaining sewer lines for the City's sewer system. Second by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously.

Curtis Darby moved the City Council of the City of Iola, Texas adopt Resolution No.54 authorizing the use of the power of eminent domain to acquire a fifteen-foot utility easement on the real property located at 23864 FM 39, Iola TX 77861, with the legal description of Iola Block 48, Lot 5(S/PT) A0118 Baird, for the public use of placing and maintaining sewer lines for the City's sewer system. Second by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously.

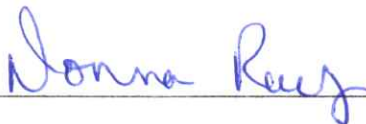
Curtis Darby made a motion to approve Finance reports as written. Second by Ben Landry; motion carried unanimously. Bank statements were reviewed and compared by Ben Landry.

Mr. Art Lozano was present but declined to comment.

Vicki Spiess with Grantworks was present to answer any questions regarding the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) program for GLO state contract number 24-074-004-E287 funding.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by



Donna Ray, Secretary