

# City of Beach City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes

The Beach City Council met for a Special Called Meeting on  
**December 20, 2016** beginning at approximately 6:00 P.M. at the  
Beach City Community Building  
12723 FM 2354 Beach City, TX. 77523

**Members Present:** Mayor Billy Combs (presiding), Mayor Pro Tem Jackey Lasater, Alderman Doug Walker, Alderman Paul Newman, and Alderman Dana Colquitt

**Members Arriving Late:** Alderman Ray Smith arrived at 6:18 P.M.

**Staff Present:** City Secretary Evonne Donnelly

**Legal Counsel Present:** City Attorney Daniel Jackson

## 1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Tuesday December 20, 2016 Mayor Combs announced enough members are present for a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6: 03 pm.

## 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Combs offered prayer.

Secretary Donnelly led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

## 3. Public Comments (Limited to five minutes per person)

None

## 4. Hear report and update from Chambers County Commissioner, Rusty Senac

Commissioner Senac will meet with BCVFD Fire Chief Pat McDonald and Chambers County Project Manager Mike Lessley to discuss the upcoming remodeling of the VFD.

Some City officials will meet with Mike Leslie after the first of the year to discuss the upcoming 2017 office renovation.

The new communications tower should be complete in the next two weeks.

## 5. Hear report and update from Beach City Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD)

No report

## 6. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Motion** to approve the minutes of November 16, 2016

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Walker

**Yays:** 5

FIVE MINUTE RECESS: 6:45

RECONVENE: 6:50

- 7. Financial Consent Agenda** (All financial consent agenda items are considered routine by Council and will be enacted by one motion. A Councilmember may request an item to be removed and considered separately.)

- (a) Review and approve the Financial Statements for previous month
- (b) Review and approve Investment Update
- (c) Review and approve Expenditures for the current month
- (d) Discussion and possible action on CD maturing January 2017
- (e) Consider and approve City participation and funding of tickets to attend the West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce (WCCCC) Awards Banquet in January 2017

Mayor Combs requested that 7 (e) be removed and considered separately.

All six CD's will be maturing in 2017. The State Farm Bank CD will mature on January 6, 2017. The rates for State Farm Bank: 28 months at 1.28%; 48 months at 1.44%. Capital Bank is 24 months at 1.05%.

Mayor Combs suggested that this CD roll back into State Farm Bank at the 28 month rate of 1.24%. Alderman Walker does not want to go over one year since the interest rates are on their way back up. Alderman Colquitt suggested going with Capital One for 12 months at the rate of 1.25%.

Secretary Donnelly will make certain that Capital One will work with the City on a CD.

Mayor Combs noted that we will find the best rate at the shortest term.

**Motion** to approve the Items 7 (a), (b), (c) and (d).

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Colquitt

**Yays:** 5

**7 (e).** Mayor Combs noted that every year Council pays for each Alderman and the Mayor's ticket, the Volunteer of the Year and one guest to the Chamber Banquet.

**Motion** for Council to pay for each member of City Council, the Volunteer of the Year and one guest.

**Motion:** Colquitt

**Second:** Lasater

**Yays:** 5

- 8. Consideration and possible action on a request from Barrow Ranch HOA for 2 (two) additional street lights to be added to McCollum Park Road at the stop signs around Barrow Ranch Subdivision and potential traffic control methods for McCollum Park Road**

Mayor Combs reviewed with Council the current costs of the Reliant bills from August - November 2016. A comparison was given to the same timeframe in 2015. This was done so Council could have a better working knowledge of what the ten LED streetlights cost is to the City.

Barrow Ranch resident Dan Dubiel represented the Barrow Ranch HOA (Home Owner's Association) and noted that other than FM 2354, McCollum Park Road is the busiest street in Beach City. The Barrow Ranch HOA believes that the lack of lighting is a safety concern for those who travel this road. There are two stop signs on McCollum Park Road, one at Stablebrook and one at Point Barrow Road.

**Motion** for the City to install two (2) streetlights, one at each stop sign, on McCollum Park RD.

**Motion:** Colquitt      **Second:** Newman      **Yays:** 3      **Nays:** 2 - Smith and Walker

**Discussion:** Alderman Walker questioned why the City would set the precedence to install streetlights on any street other than 2354. Alderman Colquitt stated that this is a busy part of the City. Alderman Walker referred to a previous City survey that showed the vast majority of the residents did not want additional streetlights. He also noted that Alderman Rita Standridge had a position of no more streetlights. Alderman Colquitt pointed out that it has been 5-7 years since Alderman Standridge was on Council and a lot has changed in Beach City during this time. Alderman Smith added that when a resident fills out the City survey are they thinking about the City as a whole or are they just thinking about their street. Mayor Combs feels that a very good point was made about setting precedence...Alderman Colquitt requested a streetlight at the corner of Jordan and FM 2354. Secretary Donnelly has pointed out the need for streetlights at other locations of FM 2354.

Alderman Walker asked if there really is a safety issue involved. Where is the data is that shows adding a streetlight make it safer? Where is the data that shows how many accidents have happened and how many accidents would a streetlight have avoided? Mayor Combs feels that the role of the City first and foremost, is the safety of our community and if it means putting lights at the intersections, then we need to give it serious consideration.

Alderman Newman noted that there is probably not any data to answer the questions that Alderman Walker has asked. Alderman Newman feels the best approach is to ask what do the residents in this area want. This would be the best way to represent them, from the safety point of view.

#### **9. Consider and approve revisions to the FY 2016-2017 Budget**

Mayor Combs reviewed the proposed budget revision form on the table.

During the June 2016 budget workshop an Alderman requested Mayor Combs not wait until the end of the FY (Fiscal Year) to make changes to the budget. The sentiment was Council should make necessary changes throughout the budget year.

Alderman Smith questioned if Council has typically made adjustments in the middle of the FY. Mayor Combs added that in June Council stated they would rather make adjustments throughout the FY, even it is numerous times.

After discussion on this item it was determined that Council as a whole would rather wait

until the end of the FY to make any line item changes to the budget.  
Due to lack of consideration by Council, this item has failed.

**10. Discuss and approve changing the January 2017 Regular Council Meeting date**

Council discussed moving the January 24, 2017 meeting due to the chamber banquet falling on the fourth Tuesday.

Alderman Walker cannot make a January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and Alderman Smith cannot make January 31<sup>st</sup> meeting. Council decided to go with January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 per Secretary Donnelly's input of it being easier on the office to prepare for Council at this time.

**11. Hear nomination(s) and select the 2016 Volunteer of the Year**

Mayor Combs reviewed the three nominees for the Beach City Volunteer of the Year:

1. Lee & Leila Bates
2. Jay Eshbach
3. Mayor Billy Combs

After a review of each candidate, Mayor Combs requested his name be removed from consideration. Council was tied among selecting M/M Bates and Mr. Eshbach.

Mayor Combs acted as the tie breaker and the decision was made to select Jay Eshbach as the Beach City Volunteer of the Year.

**Motion** to select Jay Eshbach as the Beach City Volunteer of the Year

**Motion:** Smith                                      **Second:** Newman                                      **Yays:** 5-0

**12. Hear report and update from Bayridge Home Owners Association (HOA) and/or Oaks at Houston Point Subdivision**

Secretary Donnelly spoke to Don Richardson of the Oaks at Houston Point and his subdivision is not able to obtain the CCN (certificate of need and necessity) from Nerro Supply. They are now working with Bayridge Subdivision and attempting to find a cohesive solution to going with a MUD District or some other option.

**13. Update, discussion and possible action on the formation of a citizens committee to evaluate the need of a potential Sales & Use Tax for Beach City**

No discussion

**14. Discussion and possible action on an Ordinance regulating Billboards within Beach City**

Bring back to the next meeting.

**15. Update and discussion on the City Survey results**

No action

**16. Report and update from Mayor Combs**

1. Permits are holding steady.
2. The check for the first CEFFC financing came in. The second closing has been pushed to 2017
3. The City office will be closed December 22, 2016 and December 26, 2016 in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.
4. Mayor Combs thanked all Council who participated in the Santa on the Bay.
5. Alderman Colquitt suggested that next year Council have signs made for the Councilmember's vehicle.
6. The Beach City home invasion that occurred in the spring has finally resulted in an arrest, according to Sherriff Hawthorne.
7. Mayor Combs has spoken with one of the owners of TGS (Trans Global Services) regarding greenbelt space. They are currently doing some master planning and working on drainage and offsite detention. TGS may visit with Council in the future regarding their site development plans. They are looking at the possibility of a Chemical Plant in our area.

**17. Council Comments**

Alderman Colquitt asked if there is anything that can be done about a neighbor that has five pigs in their yard.

Mayor Pro Tem Lasater noted how much of a good time he had throwing candy to the kids and collecting can goods.

**18. Adjourn**

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Colquitt

**Yays:** 5-0

Minutes Approved on January 17, 2017

  
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Billy Combs, **Mayor**

Attest:   
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Evonne Donnelly, **City Secretary**