

# City of Beach City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes

The Beach City Council met for a Special Called Meeting on  
**November 16, 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, Alderman Dana Colquitt and Alderman Ray Smith

**Staff Present:** City Secretary Evonne Donnelly and Assistant Secretary Marge Bercaw  
**Legal Counsel Present:** City Attorney Daniel Jackson

## 1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Wednesday November 16, 2016 Mayor Combs announced enough members are present for a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6: 05 pm.

## 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Combs offered prayer.  
Alderman Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

## 3. Administer Oath of Office for recently re-elected Aldermen and Mayor

Attorney Daniel Jackson administered the Oath of Office for the three unopposed candidates:

1. Mayor Billy Combs
2. Alderman Dana Colquitt
3. Alderman Douglas Walker

## 4. Appoint Mayor Pro Tem

**Motion** for Jackey Lasater to be appointed Mayor Pro Tem

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Smith

**Approved:** 5-0

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

None

**6. Hear report and update from Chambers County Commissioner, Rusty Senac**

No report

**7. Hear report and update from Beach City Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD)**

No report

**8. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Motion** to approve the minutes of October 25, 2016

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Colquitt

**Approved:** 5-0

**9. 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

There is an updated Expenditure on the table for each Alderman.

Due to an error on the CenterPoint budget information, Secretary Donnelly corrected all financials and emailed them to Council Monday.

**Motion** to approve the Financials

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Colquitt

**Approved:** 5-0

**10. Resolution approving a financing by the Beach City Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation in the amount of \$5,600,000 for the benefit of the HOUSTON AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES and related matters**

Bill Blicht updated Council that the Beach City CEFFC Directors passed a resolution approving financing between the Houston Area Community Services and Frost Bank.

Mr. Blicht read certain parts of the loan agreement to Council, establishing the borrower is the obligator of this loan and not the City. The City shall not be held liable for the repayment of this loan.

**Motion** to approve financing by the Beach City Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation in the maximum amount of \$5.6 million for the benefit of the Houston Area Community Services and related matters.

**Motion:** Walker

**Second:** Newman

**Approved:** 4-0

**Opposed:** Smith

**11. Discussion on Nominations for the 2016 Volunteer of the Year Award**

Mayor Combs will send this out via email blast.

**12. Hear report and update from Bayridge Home Owners Association (HOA)**

No report.

**13. Hear report and update on possible formation of Utility District from Bayridge and Oaks at Houston Point residents**

No report

**14. Update, discussion and possible action on a potential Sales & Use Tax for Beach City**

Mayor Combs invited various business owners throughout the City. Two business owners were in attendance: Wolfgang Fisher owns RWJ Airpark and the Kawasaki Dealership in Beach City; Salim Momin who owns Tri-City Beach Grocery.

Council is opposed to implementing any type of tax in Beach City. However, the state allows up to 8.25% as the maximum sales and use tax rate. The reason Council is considering this tax has to do with the fact that currently there is a 6.75% sales and use tax rate on purchases in the City of Beach City. Note: The City does not collect any of the money from the 6.75%. This money goes to the State at 6.25% and Chambers County Health Service District at .50%. There are other entities such as, Emergency Response, Navigation District, Economic Development, etc. that can add some, or all of the remainder of the 1.50% tax available to the ballot. If the voters County wide approves this it would remove the option for Beach City to ever benefit from the sales and use tax. Alderman Newman reiterated that any sales tax would have to be approved by a majority of the voters. He also added that if another entity tries to take this 1.5% by adding it to the ballot, it would not just be voted on by the residents of Beach City, this would be a County wide vote. Once the 1.50% gap is gone, how will this affect the City two years, ten years or twenty years down the road? Alderman Newman feels that Council needs to conduct a thorough outreach to the citizens. Mayor Combs would like to see a group of citizens that represent a cross section of the community including business owners, on the committee with Aldermen Smith and Newman.

Aldermen Smith and Newman will reach out to some of the local business owners and citizens to build the committee.

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

Attorney Jackson has drawn up a draft for an ordinance for Council to review.

Alderman Walker feels this ordinance is much more complex than he was thinking it would be.

Mayor Pro Tem Lasater and Alderman Walker do not want to tell business owners what they are allowed to do on their property. There was discussion on what the gist of this ordinance represents.

Mayor Combs suggested Council take the time to thoroughly read this draft and bring this item back to the next meeting.

**16. Update and possible action on the City Survey**

Alderman Walker and Mayor Pro Tem Lasater presented a revised survey, per Council's previous comments. Items nine, eighteen and twenty-two, have been reworded. Mayor Combs asked if Council wants the Survey's out as soon as possible or wait until next year. The general consensus is to get the survey out quickly. Assistant Secretary Bercaw noted that Anchor Printing in Baytown printed, sorted and mailed the BCVFD's mail outs in October. She will check with the BCVFD on obtaining their mail out list and Anchor Printing on an estimate for the City's survey mail out. City Secretary Donnelly requested an addition to item ten regarding permits for pools, buildings, OSSF's, etc.

**Motion** to approve with the recommended changes

**Motion:** Walker

**Second:** Newman

**Approved:** 5-0

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

The Reliant bills have seemed to straighten out some according to Secretary Donnelly. The Barrow Ranch HOA would like Council to readdress the streetlights they would like the City to install on McCollum Park Road. The money for the BC CEFFC should be in soon for the Catholic Charities closing. The new communications tower has made some of the residents unhappy. The lights on the tower on the first night were set to white, instead of red. Santa on the Bay is December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

**18. Council Comments**

Alderman Colquitt would like to have a Christmas celebration at the December meeting.

**19. Adjourn**

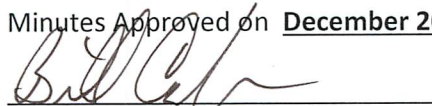
**Motion** to adjourn at 7:28 pm

**Motion:** Newman

**Second:** Walker

**Approved:** 5-0

Minutes Approved on December 20, 2016



Billy Combs, **Mayor**

Attest:



Evonne Donnelly, **City Secretary**