

**City of Beach City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
& Public Hearing for FY 2013/2014 Budget**

The Beach City Council met for a Regular Meeting and a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at the Beach City Community Building.

Those present were:

MAYOR: Billy Combs

MAYOR PRO TEM: Jackey Lasater

ALDERMEN: Paul Newman; Doug Walker; Ray Smith; Dana Colquitt

CITY ATTORNEY: Daniel Jackson

CITY SECRETARY: Evonne Donnelly

ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY: Marge Bercaw

I. Call to order:

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order Tuesday June 25, 2013 at 6:01 pm. Alderman Colquitt offered prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

II. Public Hearing for Citizens Comments concerning FY 2013/2014 Budget:

None

III. Citizens Comments:

None

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

Commissioner Senac commented on the two nuisance complaints that Chambers County has been working on for many months. One home has complied with the County. The home located at 8521 Ocean Drive has not complied with the County's request to clean up the property and the County is reevaluating its plan of action. Secretary Donnelly will resubmit another nuisance complaint to Chambers County regarding the dilapidated condition of 8521 Ocean Drive.

Mayor Combs and Commissioner Senac discussed the condition of

the Enderli property in Walker Subdivision and will speak again in a few days to discuss a plan of action to get it cleaned up.

Commissioner Senac informed Council of Mayor Combs and Secretary Donnelly's request for the County to repaint the outside of the community building, the City office and the Fire Station. The City Office will also get new flooring; the beautification project is scheduled for sometime in July.

Mayor Combs asked the Commissioner if the City purchases lights for the flag pole will the County install the lights; Commissioner Senac replied, yes.

On FM 2354 and Fishers Rd. dump trucks are being ticketed for being overweight and speeding. The Sheriff's department has been trying to address this issue and DPS has been patrolling as well. Sheriff Hawthorne gave an update on the new definition of a vicious dog: Any dog that shows aggression, and is not on a leash or behind a fence.

The Sheriff's department has received a grant for two new airboats and there will now be a deputy patrol on the water.

V. Hear report and update from Beach City VFD.

Beach City VFD Chief Robert Campise gave the Council and Mayor a copy of their approved working budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014. The BCVFD hopes to be able to purchase a set of Hydraulic Rescue Tools (Jaws of Life, ramps, cutters, spreaders, etc.) that work better with the neighboring fire departments. The current tools are good but do not work well with the newer tools used by the other fire departments.

Alderman Newman politely suggested to Chief Campise that they plan on doing a fundraising mail out to the residents. The Chief agreed that the BCVFD needs to do a mail out.

The City will be doing a survey in the near future and Mayor Combs suggested the BCVFD do a merged mail out with the City to save money on postage. Chief Campise will speak to the Mayor at a later date to discuss that possibility.

VI. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 28th, 2013.

Motion to approve the minutes:

Motion: Walker

Second: Newman

Approved: 5-0

VII. Approve CenterPoint Franchise Payment FY 2013/2014.

Motion to approve CenterPoint Franchise Payment:

Motion: Newman **Second:** Lasaster **Approved:** 5-0

Regular Council Meeting Suspended for Executive Session:

6:06 pm.

Regular Council Meeting Convened:

7:13 pm

VIII. Financial Consent Agenda;

- 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**

Mayor Combs reminded Council that there is an updated Expenditures sheet in front of them.

The Mayor also reviewed with Council that an additional \$3,000.00 has been added to the Beach City Volunteer Fire Department's June payment. This came about from a suggestion during the Budget Workshop. The \$3,000 comes from this Fiscal Year's Budget and is being pulled out of next Fiscal Year's Budget 2013/2014.

The TCEQ bill did arrive today and it is \$510.00.

There is also an allowance of \$2,050.00 for payment to Russell & Rodriguez for an estimate of what might be expensed through the end of this month for this Fiscal Year 2012/2013.

Mayor Combs has purchased some electronic items for the office: a new computer, which is being built; a new shredder; and a projector to be used in our workshops. These items show up under the Mayor's Expenses.

Next month's meeting would require an amendment for the Beach City Volunteer Fire Department.

Motion to accept the financials.

Motion: Walker **Second:** Newman **Approved:** 5-0

IX. Review and approve the city budget for fiscal year 2013/2014.

Mayor Combs reviewed the budget with Council.

Motion to approve the budget:

Motion: Newman **Second:** Lasater **Approved:** 5-0

X. Executive Session Authorized by Chapter 88 of the Texas Government Code (a) Section 88.011. Consult with Attorney concerning legal issues with The Natural Gas Company.

Executive Session: 8:09 pm
Executive End: 7:08

XI. Discussion and possible action on performance concerns and customer charges from The Natural Gas Company.

Mayor asked Council if there are any objections to continuing items XI and XII; there were no objections from Council.

XII. Discussion and possible action for retaining outside auditor to audit the city with an audit of The Natural Gas Company.

Attorney Daniel Jackson spoke about several issues with The Natural Gas Company.

The first issue is The Natural Gas Company's attempt to pass on approximately \$80,000 of costs to its 187 customers in Baytown. After losing his gas supplier, TNGC did not have a back up supplier on hand. Attorney Jackson spoke with an attorney about a month ago regarding the visibility and/or burden of the proposed pass through charges and the longevity of how these charges will be passed through.

Another issue with TNGC concerns the correctness of the accounting process they may be using. Attorney Jackson has spoken with an auditor and there may be cause to discuss a full audit of TNGC.

With the authorization Daniel Jackson and Mayor Coups to contact the Federal Commission; also to authorize the Committee, which had been formed to evaluate the previous rate case, to look into and evaluate auditors.

Attorney Newman Second: Walker Approved: 8-0

XIII. Update on FEMA Flood Mapping.

FEMA will hold an Open House this Thursday, June 27, 2013 from 2:00 - 8:00 at the Baytown Community Center. There is also a FEMA website where you can view color coded maps and...

- X. Executive Session Authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government code:**
a) Section 551.071, Consult with Attorney concerning legal issues with The Natural Gas Company.

Executive Session: 6:09 pm
Executive Ends: 7:06

- XI. Discussion and possible action on performance concerns and customer charges from The Natural Gas Company.**

Mayor asked Council if there are any objections to combining Items XI and XII; there were no objections from Council.

- XII. Discussion and possible action for retaining outside auditor to assist the city with an audit of The Natural Gas Company.**

Attorney Daniel Jackson spoke about several issues with The Natural Gas Company.

The first issue is The Natural Gas Company's attempt to pass on approximately \$60,000 of costs to his 167 customers in Barrow Ranch, after losing his gas supplier. TNGC did not have a back up supplier on hand. Attorney Jackson spoke with an attorney about a month ago regarding the viability and/or prudence of the proposed pass through charges and the longevity of how these charges will be passed through.

Another issue with TNGC concerns the correctness of the accounting process they may be using. Attorney Jackson has spoken with an auditor and there may be cause to discuss a full audit of TNGC.

Motion to authorize Daniel Jackson and Mayor Combs to contact the Railroad Commission; also to authorize the Committee, which had been formed to evaluate the previous rate case, to look into and evaluate auditors.

Motion: Newman **Second:** Walker **Approved:** 5-0

- XIII. Update on FEMA flood Mapping.**

FEMA will hold an Open House this Thursday, June 27, 2013 from 2:00 - 8:00 at the Baytown Community Center.

There is also a FEMA website where you can view color coded maps, etc: www.riskmap6.com

XIV. Hear report and updates from the Mayor.

Mayor Combs asked council if anyone wants to purchase shirts, at their cost, with the City logo to let him know.

XV. Council Member Comments

Alderman Colquitt will spear head a benefit for her neighbor who has Pancreatic Cancer on July 20th at Tri-Cities Beach Grocery. You can purchase tickets from Dana or at the grocery store.
Alderman Newman will be hosting a small fireworks display.

XVI. Adjournment

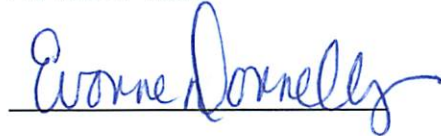
Motion made to adjourn at 8:26pm:

Motion: Newman

Second: Colquitt

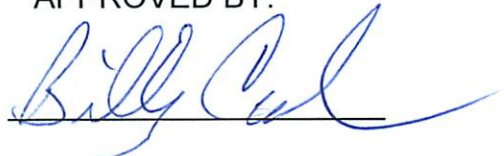
Approved: 5- 0

ATTEST TO:



City Secretary
Evonne Donnelly

APPROVED BY:



Mayor
Billy Combs