

City of Beach City – City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes

The City Council of the City of Beach City, Texas met in a **Regular Session** on **February 26, 2019** at the Beach City Community Building, 12723 FM 2354 Beach City, TX. 77523

Members Present: Mayor Jackey Lasater, Mayor Pro Tem Dana Colquitt, Alderman Doug Walker, Alderman Paul Newman, Alderman Ray Smith and Alderman Ryan Dagley

Staff Present: City Secretary Evonne Donnelly and Assistant Secretary Deanna Wallace

Legal Counsel Present: City Attorney Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Tuesday, February 26, 2019 Mayor Lasater called the Regular Council meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lasater offered prayer and Alderman Newman 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 Pct. 4, Billy Combs

Chambers County Day in Austin was a success.

HoltMar pulled their application from the Corps of Engineers. The application requested dredge material be moved to a property on McCollum Park Road, owned by HoltMar, from an area of concern at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits. Commissioner Combs thanked Council and Mayor Lasater for their hard work on this matter.

The FM 3180 / FM 2354 improvements running south to Fisher Road will go out for bid in March. Baytown Sand and Clay has a contract with GPI (Grand Parkway Infrastructure) to provide more than one million cubic yards of dirt for the TX 99 improvements. Baytown Sand and Clay will have approximately two hundred additional dump trucks and/or eighteen wheelers running in and out of their FM 2354 facility during this time. GPI will conduct the excavation and loading of the dirt. Commissioner Combs and Chambers County Engineer Cory Taylor met with TxDOT to express their concerns over this matter. In the original TX 99 design a road, referred to as EW4, was to be constructed that would run from FM 1405 to FM 2354. EW4 was cut from the plans due to the estimated cost involved. Commissioner Combs hopes to have EW4 added back to the plan and begin with the section running from FM 2354 to TX 99. This would eliminate many of the aforementioned dump trucks on FM 2354.

Representative Mayes Middleton recently held a townhall meeting regarding Chambers County annexing the Bolivar Peninsula. According to Mr. Middleton, during his 2018 campaign, residents

of Bolivar told him they wish they were apart of Chambers County. Commissioner Combs stated this would have to be approved by the voters of Chambers County as well as Galveston County. A Boeing 767 Cargo Plane crashed in Trinity Bay Saturday, February 23rd, 2019. Sadly, there were no survivors. The debris from this crash, its contents, and/or packages that were aboard this aircraft, are part of a federal investigation. Anyone who finds and keeps debris from this plane crash is subject to a felony.

TGS cleared the southside fence line by the BCVFD to assist with the drainage. They will also clear a section at 2354 to help the VFD with a better line of sight.

TGS will extend their Cedar Port development to Fisher Road.

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

The addition to the VFD is coming along. The interior is close to completion. Chad Bird of Barrow Ranch donated the epoxy floor for the entire addition.

Twelve firefighters are attending training at the Mont Belvieu class.

TGS will run a water line to the west end of Fisher Road, which is close to the curve at the newly named Cedar Port Parkway / TX 99 area.

Chief McDonald added, if Council wants to do something to help the City they should work with TGS to extend the water line east on Fisher Road to FM 2354. This would be a game changer to greatly improve the ISO (Insurance Service Office) rating for Beach City. This would also improve the capability of the area fire departments.

Chief McDonald intends to speak to TGS and request a pond be placed a few miles south of the City office. Having water resources closer to the south end of town would also help decrease the high ISO rating.

6. Approve Minutes for Regular Called Meeting of January 22nd, 2019

Motion to approve the Regular Minutes

Motion: Newman

Second: Smith

Approved: 4-1

Alderman Walker was not at the table for this vote.

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) Review and approve Account Weekly Review

Motion to accept the financial consent agenda

Motion: Newman

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: Mayor Lasater noted the new item on the consent agenda, Item (d).

This report is updated weekly after Secretary Donnelly reviews each of the City's accounts to ensure there are no signs of illegal activity, online or otherwise.

The necessity for this report falls under the Internal Control guidelines of the Public Funds Investment Policy (PFIP). The policy stipulates security for online deposits, withdrawals and transfers.

8. Discussion and possible action on Capital Bank CD #608 maturing on March 1, 2019

Mayor Lasater reviewed CD rates with Council and recommends a 12 month or 18 month CD. Capital Bank has a 24 month CD rate for 2.8%; an 18 month CD is 2.75% and the 12 month CD rate is 2.5%.

Per the PFIP, the City has to maintain enough liquid funds for three month's worth of expenditures. Currently the City has an excess of approximately \$29,000 in the general fund (checking) account that can be added to the maturing CD. This would create a new CD in the amount of \$160,000. Alderman Smith added that in the past an early withdrawal penalty for a CD was a minimal amount. Secretary Donnelly stated that Capital Bank charges three month's worth of interest as their penalty fee for early withdrawal of a CD.

Mayor Lasater recommends that Council use the money from the maturing CD #608 in the amount of \$132,944.39 and add enough money from the general fund to create a CD in the amount of \$160,000, Council agreed. Secretary Donnelly will contact Capital Bank to have the paperwork drawn up.

Mayor Lasater and Alderman Walker are the signors on the investment accounts.

9. Hear report and update from committee with discussion and possible action on establishing weight limits on McCollum Park Road

The committee should meet soon to discuss the possibility of implementing weight limits on McCollum Park Road.

10. Discussion and possible action on establishing guidelines and/or job description for the position of Code Enforcement Officer and/or Inspector

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was posted in The Baytown Sun last October. There was one inquiry for this position, which did not pan out.

The job detail would require the inspector to take a trip through the City once weekly to ensure that no signs have been erected and/or are in compliance with the City's sign ordinance.

Alderman Newman added that this position could become much more involved with the duties including, but not limited to: preparing reports, reporting to Council, acting as a witness and testifying in court when necessary, etc.

Mayor Lasater will speak to the Sheriff to see if one of the deputies could apply for this position. and he will add the RFQ to his newsletter email.

11. Hear report and update on placement of the dredge material from the San Jacinto River Waste Pits within our city limits

The Corps of Engineers withdrew the permit application at the request of HoltMar on Feb. 8th, 2019. There were over eight hundred petition signatures collected.

Alderman Smith asked if Council has discussed donating to the San Jacinto River Coalition. Mayor Lasater stated he will add this to the March agenda for Council discussion.

Mayor Lasater thanked everyone who assisted the City to keep this material out of Beach City. The Mayor began by thanking the Channelview citizen, Greg Moss, who brought this application to the attention of Jackie Young with The San Jacinto River Coalition. Ms. Young contacted Commissioner Rusty Senac, who in turn contacted Mayor Lasater.

Commissioner Senac also contacted Congressman Brian Babin. Congressman Babin requested the original letter of permission be retracted and changed to a personal permit request with the Corps of Engineers. Which then created a thirty-day public comment period.

Representative Middleton was very involved by sending letters to HoltMar. Holly Colquitt wrote an excellent memorandum on this issue. Alderman Colquitt spearheaded the petition drive which resulted in over eight hundred signatures. Committee members Aldermen Walker and Newman

worked together on the idea for the ordinance. Attorney Jackson quickly drafted the well worded ordinance. City Council as a whole worked well together during this ordeal. Commissioner Billy Combs stayed on top of this once he took over as Commissioner from Mr. Senac January 2nd, 2019. Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia and the Commissioners Court were very helpful and passed a resolution opposing the depositing of this material in Beach City. There were other members of our community that worked hard on collecting signatures for the petition drive.

12. Discuss and consider strategies to deal with roadside litter on FM 2354

Mayor Laster consistently sees trash on the highway and feels like we have become desensitized to this since it is a regular occurrence. There are workers picking up trash on FM 1405 beside the landfill, but not on FM 2354 where the garbage trucks and private trucks also travel. Mayor Lasater would like to form a committee of two other Alderman who would like to attack this issue. Aldermen Colquitt and Smith volunteered to serve on this committee.

13. Update and discussion on non-compliance to City ordinances regarding On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSF's)

None

14. Report and update from the Mayor

- a). We will standardize the Council name plates. Acrylic desk wedges appear to be more in line with what we are looking for. Currently we cannot reorder the existing wood desk wedges the City has been purchasing for many years.
- b). The train trestle on Hwy 146 in Baytown will be removed this weekend.
- c). The Texas Demographic Center sent a growth report to the City. Beach City is currently estimated to have over 2,700 residents. This is a population increase of 23% since the 2010 Census. To put it into perspective, Mont Belvieu had a 48.3% increase from the 2010 Census and Chambers County has increased 18.9% since the 2010 Census.

15. Council Comments

Alderman Dagley took on the Comcast challenge and he has made some significant progress. After speaking with Jerrod Fletcher with Aspen Utility Company, Alderman Dagley learned that the Beach City has a red light for this expansion project/buildout.

Alderman Dagley has been in contact with Scott Blank at Comcast. It was determined that Comcast put a hold on the buildout because they were \$1.3 million dollars over budget for this project. Today, Mr. Blank informed Alderman Dagley that Aspen will resurvey the City. This survey will determine if subsurface fiber lines on the north side of the city (which would pick up at Barrow Ranch and run south to Bay Place) would be used and then possibly use aerial lines all the way to the south end of Beach City. Anything in the minutes or any contact information, notes, etc. would be helpful to show the intent Comcast had last year. They are trying to figure out what went wrong and why this project was approved and then abruptly halted.

Alderman Walker asked about the follow up ordinance regarding dredging material and landfill. Alderman Colquitt has completed the restoration of the wooden chair and returned it to the office.

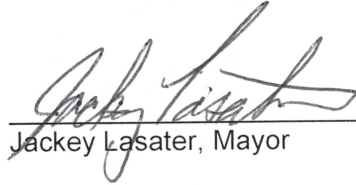
16. Adjourn at 7:53 P.M.

Motion to adjourn
Motion: Newman

Second: Smith

Approved: 5-0

Minutes Approved: March 26, 2019



Jackey Lasater, Mayor

Attest:


Evonne Donnelly, City Secretary

