

COUNTY OF CHAMBERS
STATE OF TEXAS

City of Beach City

City Council Regular Called Meeting Minutes

The City Council of the City of Beach City, Texas met in a **Regular Called Meeting** on **February 28th, 2023** at the Beach City Community Building, 12723 FM 2354 Beach City, TX. 77523

Members Present: Mayor Ken Pantin, Mayor Pro Tem Dana Colquitt, Alderman Ray Smith, Alderman Danielle Blair, Alderman Paul Newman and Alderman Stephanie Farmer

Staff Present: City Secretary Evonne Donnelly and Administrative Assistant Brenda Vojacek

Legal Counsel: Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Tuesday, February 28th, 2023, Mayor Pantin called the Regular Called Meeting to order at 6:04 PM

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Alderman Blair offered prayer and Alderman Newman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

3. Public Comments (Limited to three minutes per person)

No Comments

4. Recognize the 2022 Beach City Volunteer(s) of the Year, Daniel Estrada and Megan Waite

Mayor Pantin read aloud the accolades for the Volunteer of the Year nominees, Daniel Estrada and Megan Waite.

On behalf of City Council, an award was presented to Daniel Estrada and Megan Waite by Mayor Pantin.

Recess: 6:08 PM

Reconvene: 6:18 PM

5. Hear report and update from Pct. 4 Chambers County Commissioner, Ryan Dagley

Commissioner Dagley noted that on April 1, 2023 the Chambers County Appraisal District (CCAD) will send out assessed values. Reportedly, the TX State Comptroller's Office sent a notice to the County's Chief Appraiser, Mitch McCullough, that the Chambers County tax ratios are too low. This will affect the lower tiered housing in Chambers County. If the tax ratio issue is not corrected by June 2023, this will adversely affect the amount of state funding to East Chambers ISD. The reduction would cost the ECISD approximately \$1.2 million dollars.

While Chambers County Commissioner's Court approved the Flock Camera system for the Barrow Ranch HOA, City Council must approve this for the city's Right-of Way (ROW).

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

Motion: Newman

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: Alderman Newman asked if the total amount mentioned by Mayor Pantin includes the opioid settlements that were presented to Council last year. Mayor Pantin answered, yes.

Alderman Smith asked how Council will be advised to handle these funds. Mayor Pantin would like to have a discussion when that time comes. Council will need to make certain that anyone/group considered for these funds are legitimate.

Alderman Blair asked if there is a timeframe on reallocating these funds. Secretary Donnelly does not remember reading anything about a timeframe but will send out an email to the OAG's office for a response to this question.

12. Discussion and possible action to approve bids for the new digital sign

Motion to accept the bid from Bay Area Signs for the new sign in front of the community building per the committee's review

Motion: Colquitt

Second: Farner

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: Mayor Pantin noted that there were two bidders and both of the companies were at the pre-bid meeting. Brazos Signs seemed to have better support for the sign content, they have a local art department. Bay Area Signs uses a graphics company that has been in business since 1968, out of Florida. Mayor Pantin also requested a customer list which included some large corporate companies.

Chambers County and Mayor Pantin (on behalf of City Council) agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the new sign. Commissioners Court will not contribute any funds to the cost of the sign. However, they requested the City post any emergency information on the sign, when requested by the County.

Mayor Pantin noted that the digital sign has to be paid for upfront.

13. Discussion and possible action to allow Barrow Ranch HOA to place two separate "Flock System Cameras" on McCollum Park RD. at FM 2354 and Point Barrow RD. at McCollum Park RD.

Barrow Ranch HOA representative, Marcia Hodge, spoke to Council about the reasoning for wanting cameras on McCollum Park RD and Point Barrow RD. The Chambers County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), specifically the Sheriff, spoke to various communities about adding Flock cameras to their neighborhoods as a security tool.

Two cameras, for one year, will cost the Barrow Ranch HOA \$4,800. They need City Council to approve the use of the city's Right-of-Way (ROW) for these cameras. According to Ms. Hodge, Thunder Bay subdivision already has a Flock camera in place.

Commissioner Dagley stated, there are some area subdivisions that have these cameras in place today.

Ms. Hodge added that there is a Chambers County Deputy assigned as an 'Admin' to oversee the Flock cameras in Chambers County. Also, the Barrow Ranch HOA will not have administrative rights to these cameras.

Josue Mata, also with the Barrow Ranch HOA, noted that the cameras would help with stolen vehicles and other crimes, but the assigned CCSO Deputy, the CCSO or the Flock Camera administrator is not supposed to access these cameras for any other purpose.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt questioned who has the Administrative Rights to these cameras? This answer was not readily available.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt asked Commissioner Dagley what law(s) are in place to prevent the CCSO from reading the license plates of speeding cars? Commish Dagley added that there is no radar system on the cameras. It will take pictures of license plates and the make / models of vehicles. Secretary Donnelly asked if this is an American owned company. This answer was not available from Ms. Hodge.

Chief McDonald looked online for the Flock camera information, it states the cameras are manufactured in the USA. Commissioner Dagley also looked online and read aloud: Flock lists the collected data is not shared and remains in house; all data is stored in the cloud for thirty days.

Motion to allow Barrow Ranch HOA to place two separate Flock System Cameras at McCollum Park RD. at FM 2354 and also at Point Barrow RD. at McCollum Park RD.

Motion: Farner

Second: Smith

Approved: 4-1, Blair opposed

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION: City Council will hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code. *Items for executive session may include, but are not limited to, applicable sections under Texas Government Code*

(a) Consultation with attorney – Section 551.071

(b) Employee matters – Section 551.074

Executive Session was not held.

15. Reconvene into Regular Called Meeting and consider action, if any, for items discussed in Executive Session

No action

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

No report

17. Report and update from the Mayor

a). Commissioner Dagley donated a free clock to the building for Council to keep time on. Also, Secretary Donnelly requested Commissioner Dagley have someone look at the long pipe in front of the mailboxes since one end is rusted off and appears to be a safety concern. Chambers County sent a maintenance crew out to cut off one end of the pipe, only to see that it is rusted and it is not repairable. The Commish is asking that the pipe bollards at McLeod Park be removed and placed at this building.

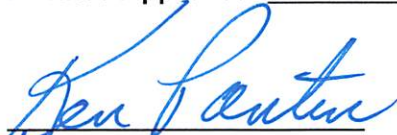
18. Council Comments

Alderman Newman: Shout out to Chambers County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), the other evening on FM 2354 a CCSO Deputy caught someone who had just ran stop sign entering onto the highway.

Alderman Smith: Stop signs are not a suggestion.

19. Adjourn at 7:37 PM

Minutes Approved: MARCH 28, 2023



Ken Pantin, Mayor

Attest:



Evonne Donnelly, City Secretary

