

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 March 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 Farnier

Staff Present: City Secretary Evonne Donnelly

ABSENT Legal Counsel: Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Tuesday, March 28th, 2023, Mayor Pantin called the Regular Called Meeting to order at 6:05 PM

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

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

No Comments

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

a). Chambers County Commissioners Court approved the P3 Jail Agreement. This agreement would not require a tax increase for the taxpayers. Commissioner Dagley noted that this P3 agreement has been vetted by several sources including a third party vendor, with no ties to the County, to ensure the P3 route would not require a tax increase. For the payment plan, the assumption calculated the County must grow at a minimum rate of 2.0% per year. The County has grown at a rate of 10.0% over the last five plus years.

b). \$47.5 Million Dollar Certificate of Obligation (COO) update: Chambers Parkway West expansion – this is a \$28 million dollar project; Kilgore Parkway expansion; Money for Needle Point RD. and in Anahuac, Belton Lane requires an expansion
Commissioner Dagley confidently exclaimed that all the aforementioned debt is at a 0% tax increase for the Chambers County taxpayers.

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

Chief McDonald has a new BCVFD ride; a new pick-up truck had been purchased.
Concrete has been poured at the new hydrant by the fire station.

6. Approve Minutes for Regular Called Meeting of February 28th, 2023

Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Called Meeting of February 28, 2023

Motion: Newman

Second: Farnier

Approved: 5-0

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 Statement(s) for previous month
- (b) Review and approve Investment Update
- (c) Review and approve Expenditures for the current month
- (d) Review and approve Weekly Review of Accounts

Motion to approve the financial consent agenda

Motion: Colquitt

Second: Blair

Approved: 5-0

8. Discussion and possible action to approve a pension contract for the BCVFD

The BCVFD needs to list the City of Beach City as the sponsoring city for the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System (TESRS). The BCVFD cannot write checks themselves for the retirement services. This is a three-way contract between the sponsoring city, VFD and TESRS.

Firefighters, meeting the criteria, will receive \$50 per month (per firefighter) for their retirement benefits. The City must make two bi-annual payments on behalf of the BCVFD, via electronic funds transfer (EFT). The current yearly payment amount is approximately \$9,000 which will be divided into two \$4,500 EFT payments. The payment amount will vary depending on the number of qualified firefighters and new, incoming members.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt added, the payment funds from the City will be coming out of the overall contracted amount the City pays to the BCVFD each fiscal year.

Chief McDonald stated, Trinity Bay EMS has leftover money/funds and the board still needs to meet to distribute these funds. It appears that BCVFD and Cove VFD (CVFD) will be on the receiving end of these funds. If so, the BCVFD is considering using this money to purchase previous years of service through TESRS.

Alderman Paul Newman will serve on the BCVFD TESRS Board along with three of the volunteer firefighters.

Motion to approve the pension contract for the Beach City Volunteer Fire Department

Motion: Farner

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

9. Discussion and possible action regarding the Public Utility Commission (PUC) of Texas 2023 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment to Municipal Telecommunications Right-Of-Way (ROW) Access Line Rates

Motion to approve the Public Utility Commission 2023 Consumer Price Index Adjustment

Motion: Colquitt

Second: Newman

Approved: 5-0

10. Discussion and possible action on CenterPoint Energy's 2023 Annual (Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program) GRIP Adjustment (increase) for the Texas Coast Division

Motion to approve

Motion: Colquitt

Second: Newman

Approved: 5-0

11. Discussion and possible action regarding the disbursement of funds for the Opioid Settlement(s)

Mayor Pantin reviewed with Council the first payment from the opioid settlement. The payment was in the amount of \$3,925.

This week Secretary Donnelly learned that the settlement payments will arrive over a period of eighteen years. Secretary Donnelly and former Mayor Dagley were unaware of this timeline. This information was not shared by the OAG's office last year when Council accepted these funds. Mayor Pantin asked Council if they want to continue to receive these funds.

Motion to continue to receive the disbursement of funds from the opioid settlements

Motion: Smith

Second: Blair

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: There have been several discussions in the past regarding where the funds can go.

Mayor Pantin mentioned the schools/DARE programs, former Mayor Dagley knows of a place in Baytown that helps people with opioid addictions, approved rehab centers, etc. were also discussed. Alderman Smith asked if there is training for this in the Fire Department/EMS, etc., where these funds may also be used. Per Chief McDonald, with a VFD opioid training is not a requirement. This is not to say that our VFD would not participate in such training.

12. Discussion and possible action on funding a makeover for the Fallen Heroes Memorial (FHM)

The FHM needs a makeover. Mayor Pantin is requesting up to \$4,000 for the FHM makeover. We need to hire someone to grind off the old paint on the concrete and clear coat the concrete/floor area of the FHM and the concrete benches. Precision Lawns will completely rework the landscape by adding fresh mulch, new plants, three crepe myrtle trees and pea gravel to the area.

Motion to act upon the recommended funding for the makeover of the Fallen Heroes Memorial not to exceed \$4,000

Motion: Smith

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

13. 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.

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

No action

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

The FM 2354 property has been cleared from the OSSF violation.

16. Report and update from the Mayor

a). Mayor Pantin attended the Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) training.

b). The digital sign has been ordered. The wind load speeds are up to 142 mph and the engineer stamp has been sent to us. Pat McDonald and Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt have approved of the colors and the angles of the sign.

c). Mayor Pantin is taking a Robert's Rules of Order course for parliamentary procedures.

17. Council Comments

Alderman Newman: FM 1405 traffic at the old steel mill plant is a dangerous area. There is not a stop sign on the steel mill side for the traffic leaving there and entering onto FM 1405.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt: Mentioned the traffic on I-10 and issues with people trying to get your attention while you are driving, these people maybe up to no good. Jay Eschbach and the Mayor Pro Tem are holding a fundraiser for the Jay & Kay Eschbach Foundation on April 23rd, 2023.

18. Adjourn at 7:27 PM

Minutes Approved: APRIL 25, 2023



Ken Pantin, Mayor

Attest:



Evonne Donnelly, City Secretary

