

COUNTY OF CHAMBERS
STATE OF TEXAS

City of Beach City

City Council Special Called Meeting & Budget Workshop Minutes

The City Council of the City of Beach City, Texas met in a **Special Called Session & Budget Workshop on May 31st, 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 Stephanie Farnier, Alderman Paul Newman and Alderman Danielle Blair

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

Legal Counsel ABSENT: Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order and announcement of quorum

On Wednesday, May 31st, 2023, Mayor Pantin called the Special Called Meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Recess Special Called Meeting & Budget Workshop: 6:07 P.M.

Reconvene Special Called Meeting & Budget Workshop: 6:26 P.M.

3. Citizens Comments

None

4. Hear report and funding request from BCVFD (Beach City Volunteer Fire Department)

An experimental airplane crashed at RWJ Airpark; the pilot was not hurt.

The Texas Railroad Commission (TRRC) was called out for an unplugged, abandoned oil well that blew out. This event was near Madison Ave., in the Greenbriar Subdivision area. A few homes were evacuated as a precaution.

BCVFD assisted the Mont Belvieu Fire Department (MBFD) with an electric chair fire at a home.

The BCVFD would like to purchase previous years of service for their new Pension Fund. Ten years of service will equal approximately \$100,000. The Chief will ask Council to assist with this at next year's budget workshop.

The BCVFD is looking for a better way to share information with the citizens of Beach City via the City website or Facebook page.

July 15, 2023 is the Barrow Ranch / BCVFD Poker Run Fundraiser & Auto Show.

The digital sign should be installed soon. The final payment will be made after the sign is up and running correctly, according to Mayor Pantin. The BCVFD will give a check to the City Secretary for their agreed portion of the sign.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The City Council will now hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code:

(a) Section 551.074 Texas Government Code concerning employee matters

Recess for Executive Session: 7:35 P.M.

Reconvene the Special Called Meeting & Budget Workshop: 8:07 P.M.

6. Reconvene into Special Called Session and consider action, if any, for items discussed in Executive Session

No discussion

7. Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Mayor Pantin reviewed with Council a retirement package through TMRS (Texas Municipal Retirement System) as a benefit for the City Secretary.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt questioned if Council has to approve this. Mayor Pantin added that there is an ordinance that Council will have to approve that goes along with this. The Mayor wanted to know if Council is interested in doing this. Mayor Pantin feels that it will not be that many years until Secretary Donnelly retires, and this is a step to offering benefits to get people in here. You must be 60 years old to retire with this program.

Alderman Newman questioned the earnings that the City Secretary will contribute and the overall ten year contribution the City will need to make for the unfunded service credit for the City Secretary. Mayor Pantin called the TMRS representative, Director of City Services, Anthony Mills so he could answer questions that Council has or may have.

After reviewing the costs, whether the unfunded service credit amount is paid at one time by the City or over the years, Council continued to ask various questions including questions regarding some sections of the TMRS ordinance. Secretary Donnelly noted that her salary numbers were incorrect and need to be reversed, which would cause the City's contribution to be higher than shown at this time.

After an approximate thirty minute conversation about the ordinance verbiage, retirement benefits, and the City match, the phone conversation between Mr. Mills and Council came to an end.

Mayor Pro Tem Colquitt asked Mayor Pantin how is this an item that Council should be discussing since it is not on the agenda and Council has not been asked in the past if this is something they want to do. Mayor Pantin noted that it is a part of the agenda as a discussion, under this line item to set aside money for the next FY budget.

Mayor Pantin asked Council if there is interest in setting aside some money for this in the upcoming budget. Alderman Newman stated that he might have an interest, but he does not have the universe of the dollars at this point. Alderman Smith concurred with Alderman Newman. Alderman Farner stated the only actuarial study we have is flawed. Mayor Pantin added that the contribution amount is greater than presented, due to the error.

Alderman Newman suggested a committee be formed for this matter; this will give everyone time to digest this. Alderman Farner stated that she is not against taking a look at a retirement benefit for the employee moving forward, she just does not have enough information to make an informed decision right now.

Mayor Pantin asked who is willing to serve on this committee, Alderman Newman stated he cannot commit at this time. Mayor Pantin asked Alderman Blair if she is willing to serve on this committee. Alderman Blair will serve on the committee but added, she does not have any experience with retirement. Alderman Smith does not want to commit at this time either, due to a whole lotta moving targets. Alderman Farner said, she will step up and do this.

The retirement benefits committee members are, Aldermen Blair and Farner. Mayor Pantin would like this committee to report back to Council at the July meeting.

Council reviewed other proposed budgeted line items and three motions were made.

Motion to raise the City Secretary's pay for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year 4.5% over the current rate, I believe that will be for an annual salary of \$45,945.56

Motion: Newman

Second: Farner

Approved: 5-0

Motion to approve the Administrative Assistant position to two days a week at \$20 per hour

Motion: Smith

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

Motion to approve the 2023-2024 budget

Motion: Colquitt

Second: Farner

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: Alderman Smith questioned the Special Contractual Services line category on the budget spreadsheet. Secretary Donnelly read the verbiage listed with this category in the budget footnotes workbook provided to each council member. Alderman Smith then asked if the answer given pertains to the Miscellaneous Expenses category. Secretary Donnelly explained that the Miscellaneous Expense category is an offset for the difference between the income and expense.

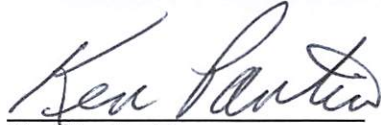
Mayor Pantin discussed the large increase to the TMLIRP insurance.

8. Council Comments

Alderman Farner appreciates excel spreadsheet; it was very helpful.

9. Adjourn at 8:35 P.M.

Minutes Approved: June 27, 2023



Ken Pantin, Mayor

Attest:


Evonne Donnelly, City Secretary