

City of Beach City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

The Beach City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday,
September 22, 2015 at the Beach City Community Building
12723 FM 2354 Beach City, TX. 77523

Members Present: Mayor Billy Combs (presiding), Mayor Pro Tem Jackey Lasater, Alderman Paul Newman, Alderman Doug Walker and Alderman Dana Colquitt

Members arriving late: Alderman Ray Smith arrived at 6:17 pm

Staff Present: City Secretary Evonne Donnelly and City Attorney Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order

On Tuesday, September 22, 2015 Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Combs offered prayer.

Alderman Lasater led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

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

Fire Chief Pat McDonald with the Beach City Volunteer Department (BCVFD) noted that the BCVFD has gotten back on track. The Chief also noted that Firefighters are discouraged from using lights and sirens on their vehicles while en route to the fire station.

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

Commissioners Court adopted a budget and tax rate today.

The bid for the expansion project on FM 3180 (from FM 565 South) to FM 2354 was awarded on August 27, 2015. A potential time frame for the road work to begin would be in Late October-November 2015. Possible completion could be in early Summer 2016.

5. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting of August 25th, 2015

Motion to approve the minutes

Motion: Newman

Second: Lasater

Approved: 4-0

Discussion: Alderman Newman suggested a correction to Item 4, striking the word sub from the sentence "sub traffic and trucks". Secretary Donnelly will remove the word sub from this sentence.

6. **Financial Consent Agenda** (All financial consent agenda items are considered routine by Council and will be enacted by one motion. A Council member 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 and revised expenditures for previous month

Motion to approve the Financials.

Motion: Walker

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 4-0

7. **Discuss and approve appropriation of Child Safety Fee money received from Chambers County per Local Government Code, Chapter 106 Municipal Child Safety Trust Fund**

In August Chambers County sent a check to Beach City for the City's part of the Child Safety Trust Fund Fee that the County has collected since 2011. Council discussed various options on how to expend the money and voted to divide the funds equally amongst two groups.

Motion to distribute the Child Safety Trust Fund money received from Chambers County in the amount of \$7,900 to Bridgehaven Children's Advocacy Center and to the Chambers County Child Welfare Board, divided equally.

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 5-0

Discussion: Mayor Combs asked Attorney Jackson if the City needs to amend the current Service Agreement with Bridgehaven Children's Advocacy Center; Attorney Jackson answered yes. The City needs to create a new Service Agreement with Chambers County Child Welfare Board.

8. **Discuss and approve low limit debit or credit card for City purchases**

At the August Council meeting Council approved a \$1,000.00 limit credit card for City purchases. After receiving the credit card information from Capital Bank, Mayor Combs will need to fill out the application and the card will be in his name. Mayor Combs asked Council to consider his preference of a debit card for City purchases.

Motion to approve a \$1,000.00 limit debit card for City purchases

Motion: Walker

Second: Newman

Approved: 4-0

9. **Consider and approve Interlocal Agreement with Chambers County Sheriff's Office**

The Interlocal Agreement is not currently available for Council to review. This agreement will assist the City's Municipal Court with the possibility of arrests resulting from warrants served for code violations.

Motion to allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement with either the Sheriff's department or the Constable to serve warrants

Motion: Newman

Second: Lasater

Approved: 5-0

10. Consider and approve Resolution concerning traffic and safety issues on FM 2354 and Fisher's Road

Mayor Combs read aloud proposed Resolution 2015-14. Alderman Newman suggested adding "City of" to Beach City in Section 2.

Motion to approve

Motion: Walker

Second: Smith

Approved: 5-0

11. Consider and approve Resolution 2015-13 Establishing An Official Newspaper for the City of Beach City for FY 2015-2016

Mayor Combs noted that the Local Government Code Section 52.004 requires each Municipality to select an official newspaper. Resolution 2015-13 establishes The Baytown Sun as the City's official newspaper.

Motion to approve

Motion: Smith

Second: Newman

Approved: 5-0

12. Discussion and possible action on relocating the City's Bulletin Board at Tri-City Beach Grocery due to poor visibility and new construction at the grocery store

Tabled until next meeting

13. Discussion and possible action regarding utilities owned by Nerro Supply servicing Ocean Mobile Home Park, Bayridge Subdivision and The Oaks at Houston Point

Mayor and Council heard from Greg Pappas with Nerro Supply, Karl Skarboszewski with Gulf Utility Service and Bret Fenner with B&D Environmental, Inc. regarding the utility issues they are having with the water well and wastewater plant that services Ocean Mobile Home Park, Bayridge and Oaks at Houston Point Subdivisions.

Mayor Combs noted that Alderman Colquitt, Alderman Walker and Commissioner Senac met with Mayor Combs, Mr. Pappas and Mr. Skarboszewski, along with some members of the Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority (GCWDA), recently to discuss these issues and look for a possible resolution.

Gulf Utility Service is the operating company for Nerro Supply; Karl Skarboszewski is the general manager. Gulf Utility Service is a licensed operator of water and wastewater plants. They operate their own assets and operate assets for small municipalities, municipal utility districts and other public water supplies. Licensed operators are on staff. The operators check the plants and are in the field daily ensuring that the water and wastewater plants are working. Other staff include: internal billing; customer service personnel that handle customer issues, read meters, etc. Customers of Gulf Utility Service include the town of

Woodloch in Montgomery County and the City of Montgomery.

The wastewater treatment plant located in Beach City was built somewhere in the late 50's or early 60's. There is major corrosion on the interior separation walls, which causes concern for future plant failure.

The approximate repair cost is estimated at \$600,000-\$800,000. This estimate is only for the plant and has nothing to do with potential costs for improvements to the gathering system or infiltration issues according to Mr. Pappas. Bayridge Subdivision currently experiences infiltration issues. If the current estimates are expensed back to the residents at the \$600k-\$800k rate, using the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) measurements to calculate this rate, for the estimated two hundred users (approximate user count according to Mr. Pappas is: 80-Bayridge Subdivision; 23-Oaks at Houston Point; 100-Ocean Mobile Home Park) this could potentially double the current monthly sewage bill to approximately \$120.00 per month, per household. This is counting one commercial tap that would allow approximately one hundred users on the tap.

The possibility of the City of Beach City taking ownership of this facility was stated by Alderman Walker to be too early to make a decision on this issue. The City does not have the resources or the organization to be the owner or part owner of this or any other facility. If he had to vote today, Alderman Walker would vote no. Aldermen Smith and Newman concurred with Alderman Walker. As did Alderman Colquitt who suggested that the City speak to the citizens and find out what choices they would like to have, if it comes to that. Alderman Lasater agrees that there is no way Council could make a decision tonight, but he feels that all options should remain open. Alderman Lasater also feels that it is too soon to go to the citizens. Alderman Newman suggests that Council gather a couple of ideas to present to the citizens.

Mayor Combs asked Council if they would like to keep working with the committee they have, would Aldermen Colquitt and Walker like to continue to serve on this committee or who would someone else like to jump in. Alderman Walker wants to remain on the committee, Alderman Newman stated that he would be glad to participate on this committee. Alderman Colquitt deferred to Alderman Newman.

RECESS: 7:36 pm

RECONVENE: 7:42 pm

14. Discuss and consider Council workday for maintenance of the Fallen Heroes Memorial (FHM)

Mayor Combs asked Council to consider a work day for everyone to gather at the memorial to pull weeds, re-stain the wood fence and re-mulch the landscaping once a quarter or so. Attorney Jackson suggested checking with organizations such as the Boy Scouts, etc. to see if they may want to do this in order to obtain hours.

Alderman Newman asked if the City Secretary will check to see what organizations in Barbers Hill may be willing to maintain this memorial for the City.

Fire Chief McDonald volunteered the services of the BCVFD to maintain the FHM. Mayor Combs thanked the Chief and BCVFD Treasurer Clayton Graves for wanting to help but they already help the City out by volunteering their time with the fire department.

15. Discussion and possible action on moving Council meeting dates in November and December due to the holidays

Motion to move meeting date for November and December to November 17 and December 15, the third Tuesday of these months.

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 5-0

16. Discussion and possible action on a City Ordinance regarding billboard signs

After a lengthy discussion about other City's sign/billboard regulations Mayor Pro Tem Lasater and Alderman Walker will work together as a committee that will bring suggestions back to Council.

17. Update and discussion from Beach City Planning Committee

No update available. Mayor Combs will set a date to meet in October.

18. Discussion and possible action on a Welcome Brochure for Beach City

Tabled

19. Discuss and approve Permitting Policies & Procedures

This item will be brought back in October

20. Update on legal action for non compliance to City ordinances

Two of the three Ocean Drive property owners have denied the certified letter(s) sent to their address of record. Serving a warrant will be the next step of this process.

21. Report and update from Mayor Combs

Mayor Combs will be riding in the Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF) Bike Around the Bay.

22. Council Comments

None

23. Adjourn


Motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm

Motion: Newman

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

Approved: **October 27, 2015**



Billy Combs, **Mayor**

Attest: 

Evonne Donnelly, **City Secretary**