

City of Beach City Council Regular Meeting & Public Hearing for FY 2015-2016 Budget Minutes

The Beach City Council met for a Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
for FY 2015-2016 Budget on Tuesday,
June 23, 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 Doug Walker, Alderman Ray Smith and Alderman Paul Newman

Members Absent: Alderman Dana Colquitt

Staff Present: City Secretary Evonne Donnelly, Assistant Secretary Marge Bercaw and City Attorney Daniel Jackson

1. Call to order

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order Tuesday, June 23rd, 2015 at 6:07 pm.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Combs offered prayer.

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

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

Commissioner Senac updated Council on the mitigation project occurring on Fisher's Road. Trans-Global Solutions, Inc. (TGS) purchased Cedar Crossing and it is now called Cedar Port. TGS destroyed somewhere between six and seven acres of wetlands close to Cedar Bayou and now have to replace it. There is approximately a thirteen acre tract of land on the Southside of Fishers Road that they are using to create the new wetlands. They have to move the dirt to the Northside of Fishers Road and the dirt will have to remain there for some time, per the Corps of Engineers. In the future, TGS will be able to move the dirt wherever they wish.

Chambers Town Center is expanding, with new retail growth.

Supposedly Kilgore Parkway has lights that actually illuminate.

There is a new construction project for a 500,000 square foot distribution warehouse that will be located on FM 1405.

The new 400' communications tower is still a go.

Mayor Combs addressed the drainage issues that Beach City has within Bayridge and RWJ Subdivisions with Commissioner Senac. The Commissioner revisited the past attempts for a drainage district on the west side of Chambers County. The County is not responsible for the drainage issues. East Chambers County has the Trinity Bay Conservation District that charges a fee and maintains their drainage.

4. Public Hearing for Citizens Comments concerning FY 2015-2016 Budget

No comments. Public Hearing closed.

5. Review and approve the City Budget for FY 2015-2016

Mayor Combs reviewed with Council the estimated amount of \$18,900.00 remaining from the 2014-2015 budget.

Aldermen Newman and Smith would like to add \$10,000.00 to the BCVFD contract.

Alderman Walker stated that Beach City at some point will have to move away from ground water and septic tanks. While he understands that \$10,000.00 here or there will not make a significant difference in those potential costs; he believes that the City should be putting as much money in the bank as possible. Mayor Combs agreed with Alderman Walker.

Motion to approve budget with extra expenses: to donate another \$7,000.00 to BCVFD, purchase two laptops for the City, and one new communications radio. The City will try to put away \$10,000 for the future.

Motion: Walker

Second: Newman

Approved: 4-0

Discussion: Alderman Smith asked, what does put it away for the future mean? Alderman Walker replied that it would just remain as a surplus.

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

7. Executive Session Authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government code;

Recess at: 7:48 pm

Reconvene: 8:14 pm

- (a) Section 551.074, Texas Government Code concerning Personnel issues regarding the City Secretary and/or Assistant Secretary

8. Consider and possible action concerning the Assistant Secretary

Motion to give the Assistant Secretary a 3.5% raise and to consider modifying her schedule on special projects, such as Policies & Procedures, where we will establish a timeline and requirements while staying under budget.

Motion: Smith

Second: Lasater

Approved: 4-0

9. 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

Mayor Combs reviewed with Council the purchase of Adobe Acrobat so the Secretary can convert Word documents to PDF's, etc. without having to email them to the Mayor for assistance with the conversion.

Norton Antivirus has been updated, per its annual requirement to purchase the update. The City had to purchase a new Epson printer to replace the broken Lexmark printer.

QuickBooks Payroll was updated per its annual requirement to purchase the update.

There is a \$300.00 check made payable to Chambers County that is listed on the June Expenditures which will be on hold until the County sends over the invoice for the two On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) Inspections. This will close out FY 2014-2015 OSSF payments.

Motion to approve

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 4-0

10. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting of May 26th, 2015 and approval of Minutes for Special Called Meeting, FY 2015-2016 Budget Workshop of June 2nd, 2015

Motion to approve

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 4-0

11. Consider and approve Service Provider Agreement with the Beach City Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD) for FY 2015-2016

Mayor Combs and Council reviewed the Service Agreement.

Fire Chief Pat McDonald addressed Council to say that they are appreciative of any funds that they receive with the Service Provider Agreement. He also stated that the BCVFD is fiscally sound now. They have spent over \$40,000 on rescue tools and new equipment and are currently saving up for a new engine. The BCVFD has also applied for a grant to purchase \$20,000 in new bunker gear. One set of bunker gear costs approximately \$8,000.00. Chief McDonald stated that the BCVFD will purchase the bunker gear whether or not they receive the grant.

Alderman Smith asked what percent of their annual income comes from the City Service Agreement. Chief McDonald replied that they receive \$30,000 from the County and \$40,000 from the City. When the BCVFD does mail-outs, they receive approximately \$20,000 in donations.

There is a need for more volunteers.

Motion to approve

Motion: Smith

Second: Lasater

Approved: 4-0

12. Discussion and possible action on the CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC Application for approval of a DCRF (Distribution Cost Recovery Factor)

In April Council joined a coalition and passed a Resolution to suspend the DCRF. The coalition in conjunction with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) have worked out a deal with CenterPoint Energy that would reduce their judgment amount by some three million dollars annually. No action is needed.

13. Consider and approve Resolution to amend the City's Permitting fee schedule

Motion to approve Resolution 2015-12

Motion: Lasater

Second: Newman

Approved: 4-0

14. Consider revisions to Beach City Subdivision Ordinance and/or Regulations that would more closely align with the Regulations of Chambers County resulting in more stringent Rules for On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF)

This applies to newly platted subdivisions.

Motion to amend our existing OSSF ordinance to mirror the County ordinance that was approved June 9, 2015 to include under the County Ordinance Section 10, paragraphs A, B, and C

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 4-0

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

The summons will be going out next week for the Ocean Drive property.

16. Update discussion and possible action on the Fallen Heroes Memorial (FHM) Fund

Mayor Combs mentioned that the financials show the FHM as a liability account listed as "Other Asset". QuickBooks shows a liability that has an account payable for the same amount as the other asset account, which gives the books a net zero. This will stay on the books until Council decides otherwise.

The memorial will have to be maintained.

17. Report and update from Mayor Combs

Mayor Combs met with Comcast Friday morning. They are still considering connecting Beach City via tying into a cable they would run down FM 1405.

There were no communications from Chambers County Emergency Management during Tropical Storm Bill.

The home on Cedar Gully that burnt down belonged to Susan and Curtis Rivers.

Mayor Combs asked if Council would like to host a hurricane workshop. Council is unsure at this time.

18. Council Comments

Alderman Lasater noted that one of the street lights has been out at FM 1405 and FM 2354 area.

Alderman Newman said that maybe a third of the people here are stopping at the stop signs, so be careful.

19. Adjourn

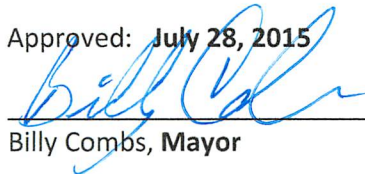
Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm

Motion: Newman

Second: Lasater

Approved: 4-0

Approved: **July 28, 2015**



Billy Combs, **Mayor**

Attest:



Evonne Donnelly, **City Secretary**