

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
WORKSHOP - AUGUST 25, 2022

8/25/2022 - Minutes

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER

With a quorum present, the workshop was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Craig Brown, Mayor Pro Tem David Collins, Council Member Sharon Lewis, Council Member William Schuster, Council Member Mike Bouvier, Council Member John Listowski, and Council Member Marie Robb.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 3.A. Clarification Of Consent And Regular City Council Agenda Items - This Is An Opportunity For City Council To Ask Questions Of Staff On Consent And Regular Agenda Items (20 Minutes)

Items 8D, 10A, 10B, 10C, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11H, 11I, 11J, 11K, 11L, 11M, 11N, 11O, and 11Q were clarified by Staff.

- 3.B. Discussion Of The FY 2023 Budget And Capital Improvement Plan (M. Loftin - 20 Min)

Assistant City Manager Mike Loftin discussed with the Council the FY 2023 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. The proposed budget includes an increase in the homestead property tax exemption. The increase of the General Fund balance over the past six years have included priorities given to infrastructure, public safety, and health benefits. Major cost categories include health benefits/compensation reserves, civil service pay increases, civilian pay increases, Police pension contribution rate increases, and an allowance for price increases. Discussion was held regarding giving the City Manager direction on presenting the final FY 2023 proposed General Fund budget with a reduced overall property tax rate by replacing the revenue through non-property tax sources. Primary focus for generation of the recurring revenue, fees, and or charges from non-property tax sources, primarily, but not exclusively, to include revenue derived from the City property and assets under management of the Beach Park Board and the Galveston Wharves Board.

- 3.C. Discussion Of Amendments To Chapter 29 - Planning - Beach Access Dune Protection And Beach Front Construction (B. Hill/T. Tietjens - 1 Hour)

Coastal Resources Manager Brandon Hill presented amendments to Chapter 29 which aims to fix issues found in the current code language and proposes a small selection of access plan updates which are considered low fruit. The presentation included previous plan recommendations, key Ad Hoc recommendations for beach access, plan amendment steps, plan amendment items, definitions, properties landward of FM 3005, essential functions, erosion response structures, walkover features, permit application standards and fee schedule, special use area, Sunny Beach, 3rd row house dune issue, problematic terminology, beach profile, terminology illustration, post-storm LOV, and determining the line of vegetation without the GLO suspension.

- 3.D. Receive And Discuss An Update On The Cultural Arts Master Plan (B. Sanderson - 15 Minutes)

Lakota Group representatives Josh Bloom and Nicholas Kalogeresis presented Council with an update on the Cultural Connections Plan. The Plan will connect Galveston's many existing arts and culture assets, add to those assets over time, and create an environment where the arts can flourish to the benefit of the artists themselves, Island residents, and visitors. The next steps include finalizing planning themes, identifying initiatives, delivering a draft plan, and presenting the plans and community open house.

3.E. Discussion Of A Policy For Council Recognition On Public Buildings (Brown - 10 Min)

Mayor Brown reported that the city has been following a process commemorating the Councils on public buildings but have no written policy. City Manager Brian Maxwell presented a draft written policy which includes commemorating the Council seated at the time of dedication as well as the Council seating at time of the construction contract award. This item will be brought back to Council as an action item.

3.F. Council Discussions And Updates

1. Discussion of the Status of the 30th Street Pump Station (Lewis/Brown - 10 min) - City Manager Brian Maxwell addressed concerns of constituents brought forward by CM Lewis. He clarified that there are two buildings - the community center building and the outbuilding utilized as office space by the Marshal's office. The community center can be reserved for community events and can be rented for private events. The money spent to remodel the community center was allocated by the GLO.
2. Discussion of the Street Rating System (Lewis/Brown - 10 min) - CM Lewis requested that Council be a part of the next street assessment.

3.G. Report Of City Council's Park Board Representative (Collins/Brown - 10 Minutes)

MPT Collins reported on the following: (1) an initial engineering survey was done to address questions about viability of the Stewart Beach Pavilion, and we are now waiting on costs for fixing and then rehabilitating, and (2) the Judge refused to issue an injunction on concessionaires operating on the beach because of concerns about the surface lease between the Park Board and the GLO and the issue of private vs. public beach, and are waiting to hear back from the GLO.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Janelle Williams, City Secretary

Date Approved: