

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
SPECIAL MEETING - JULY 8, 2021

7/8/2021 - Minutes

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Dr. Craig Brown, Mayor Pro Tem David Collins, Council Member Bill Quiroga, Council Member John Listowski, and Council Member Marie Robb.

Absent: Council Member William Schuster.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Written Comments read by City Secretary Janelle Williams: Dave Yendrell - golf cart policy change; Jim Donndelinger - are go carts permitted on city streets driven by children ages 8 to 12 years of age?; Margo Walters - traffic and tennis; Lucy Micklitz - mowing of Stewart and Pabst Road; and Tom Schwenk - parking meters on 20th Street.

In-person public comments: Ron Venable - annual fees for short term rentals; Susan Syler - annual fees for short term rentals; Susan Hohnbaum - golf cart ordinance and short term rentals; and Dan Hohnbaum - golf cart ordinance.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.A. Discussion Of Economic Development And RDA Structure/Process - M Hay/D Buckley (1 Hour)

Economic Development Coordinator Michele Hay presented Council with information related to the Economic Development Plan including goals and objectives, ED plan overview, Council goals and priorities identified during the 2021 Council interviews, 2018 Economic Development Plan recommendations and accomplishments, tools and resources, redevelopment ecosystem, redevelopment formation timeline, history and structure of redevelopment entities, current situation, Economic Development organizational flow recommendations, and next steps. Following direction from Council today, Staff will report back at a future workshop: detailed recommendations for Redevelopment Ecosystem (RDA/GHFC/GPFA); and a draft Economic Development Process for ED Plan updated directives.

4.B. Discussion Of A Short Term Rental Registration Program - D Buckley (30 Min)

Deputy City Manager Dan Buckley presented Council with information based on a request from the short term rental representatives to use city resources to enforce city ordinances. Staff was charged with coming up with the costs associated with enforcement of the ordinances using the City Marshal's office. Up front costs for year one to hire 18 deputies and purchase nine units would be \$2,302,124.00, and Deputy costs after year one would be \$1,545,805.44. The estimate per Marshal would be \$112,541.50 including salary, vehicle, and equipment costs. City Marshal Butch Stroud provided information on a proposed schedule for the Marshals in order to maximize coverage during peak times. Council provided feedback to staff and will discuss this item further in a future workshop.

4.C. Discussion Of The Status Of The Pelican Island Bridge - Brown/Staff (20 Min)

Mayor Brown updated Council on status of the Pelican Island Bridge. The bridge has a five to seven year life expectancy on it. TxDOT has taken the lead and has spent about \$14 million on preliminary on the bridge. The particular site plan for the bridge swings out west of the Texas A&M Campus. TxDOT has projected that the bridge will cost \$115 million which includes cost escalation over the years. TxDOT has worked to bring the participants for funding of the bridge together and has been informally agreed upon: TxDOT \$45 million, H-GAC \$23 million, County \$7 million, City \$5 million through IDC, A&M \$7 million, Port of Houston \$2 million, Navigation District \$10 million, and Port of Galveston \$1 to \$2 million. According to TxDOT, the next step would be entering into an Advanced Funding Agreement with an entity that would be the owner of the bridge and would cover any cost overruns. Currently, the County and Ken Clark have been leading the charge and have agreed to signing an initial Advanced Funding Agreement document which would need to be approved by Commissioner's Court. In this document, the County would be the temporary signee, would responsible for bringing the entities together through a Memorandum of Understanding, and would have to get a final owner of the bridge. Recent developments from Texas A&M and the Coast Guard indicate that the bridge would only need to be 45 feet tall which would reduce the cost of the bridge and could possibly cover any cost overruns with the current funding commitments. Mayor Brown has requested from TxDOT what the cost savings would be from lowering the bridge. A marine study needs to be done in order to determine if the 45 ft. bridge would be adequate. TxDOT will ultimately need to file an application with the Coast Guard to do the maritime study. The timeline for construction of the project is three years.

4.D. Discussion Of The Airport Master Plan – Robb/Brown/Staff (15 Min)

Airport Director Mike Shahan reported that the Airport Master Plan is being updated. Items in the draft plan recommendation includes reducing the size of taxiways and runways to meet FAA standards which would be an issue during emergency events and would limit the ability to add commercial flights in the future. Staff recommends that Council send a letter to TxDOT asking that they maintain the current width of taxiways and runways. The Airport Director will bring back a letter for Council's support. Discussion was held regarding a feasibility study, adding commercial flights, and the possibility of opening a customs office.

4.E. Council Items (Robb/Quiroga) - 15min

a. TxDOT update on FM 3005 - TxDOT did not attend the meeting. CM Robb reported that the raising and resurfacing of 3005 has not been good. She reported on the ongoing issues with the project and would like some answers. Deputy City Manager Dan Buckley suggested setting up a Zoom meeting with TxDOT representatives.

b. Board applicant ranking - CM Robb suggested scoring each applicant with a score of one to five similarly to how Council does evaluations instead of ranking the names in order.

c. Golf Carts – clarification of definitions - CM Robb suggested that a definition for master planned community is needed in the golf cart ordinance. Also, the City's definition of golf cart and neighborhood electric vehicle should be amended to match state law.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.A. Discuss And Consider Changes To The Audit Plan. (Quiroga/Brown)

To compare and contrast Change Orders and Staff Reports for the 45th Street Project and submit recommendations to City Council for the design and analysis of the Contract Management System (CMS).

Motion was made by CM Quiroga, second by Mayor Brown, to approve the change to the Audit Plan. Unanimously approved.

- 5.B. Discuss And Consider Approval Of The 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program Application For The Resource And Crisis Center Of Galveston County, Inc.

Motion was made by CM Robb, second by MPT Collins, to approve the application as submitted. Unanimously approved.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Janelle Williams, City Secretary

Date Approved:

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