



CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH

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CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2022
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Mayor Morris Called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The following Councilmember's were present:

*Mayor Clay Morris
MPT Russell Rupertus
Alderman Sherwood "Woody" Green
Alderman Gil Madray
Alderman Lorraine "Taz" Jones
Alderman David Welch*

The following staff was present:

*Director of Operations Robert Quintero
City Secretary Debbie Nesbitt
Director Brad Heiman - ABSENT*

PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS:

With a quorum of the Council Members present, Mayor Morris called the meeting to order followed by the pledge of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags lead by Alderman Welch.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: none

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING: none

CITIZENS REQUEST TO SPEAK BEFORE COUNCIL: **Members of the public are invited to give comments at this time, lasting no longer than 3 minutes.**

Citizens may address council on a **specific agenda item only**, to ask questions. The Mayor may ask you to remain at the podium if Council has statement or questions. These comments should be directed at the entire Council, not individual members of the Council, Staff, or audience. Any speaker making personal attacks, defamation or using vulgar or profane language shall forfeit his/her remaining time and shall be seated.

Terri Leo Wilson, Candidate for State Representative introduced herself to council, and spoke about upcoming speaking events, give her a call if you have any concerns. 713-249-5046.

Sharon Bower – 16720 Sandpiper – Addressed Mayor and Council about Local Government Code Chapter 171, concerning and regulating Conflict of Interest and how it effects elected officials, and she objected to MPT Rupertus, who owns Westend Maintenance, be able to vote on the budget.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, POLICE, AND FIRE:

Director Quintero stated "if you drive through the city, things are getting done, street signs are going up, go look at the park is getting cleaned up, parking lots are getting repainted, we are getting a lot of the projects done. Potholes are being repaired, just be patient with us, things will get addressed and done."

City Secretary Nesbitt reported that she contacted, Katherine Overbeck Maxwell, and set the annual audit for December 5, 2022. Had a conference call with City Attorney's and Civic Plus to finalize the recodification project of our Cities Ordinances. Reported to install a microphone on the desk, will involve getting a new amplifier box. Gave an update on HOT tax collected \$781,751.06, Property Taxes \$885,800.58 and court fines collected of \$ 32,828.62.

Police Department – Lieutenant Posey – no report

COMMENTS / REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Alderswoman Jones reported that she attended the West Galveston Island Property Owners Association meeting, video taped it and put it on her YouTube page and the Jamaica Beach Reporter page. Galveston Park Board trustees talked about volunteer appreciation, update on beach nourishment project. The next meeting will be October 22, 2022, and Congressman Randy Weber will be in attendance. Thanked Terri Leo Wilson for coming to our meeting and wanting to represent us.

Alderman Madray - No report

Alderman Welch - Reported needing volunteers for the upcoming Halloween event at the park on October 29, 2022, please contact him, or Sandy Demby.

Alderman Green - No report

MPT Rupertus – Thanked the staff, "Robert has hit the ground running and doing an excellent job and we are very pleased to have him onboard", also thanked Debbie for all she does, "she is our Director of Finance, but she does a little bit of everything, so thank her."

CONSENT AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *The following items are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion on these items unless a Councilmember request, in which event, the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

1. *Approval of minutes from the Regular City Council meeting 8-22-2022*
2. *Approval of minutes from the Budget Workshop meeting 8-22-2022*
3. *Approval of minutes from the Public Hearing 9-6-2022*

Motion to approve the minutes as read by Alderman Green, seconded by MPT Rupertus. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2022-09 ADOPTING FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 GENERAL FUND AND MUNICIPAL FUND BUDGETS. *Morris*

Motion to table made by Alderman Welch, seconded by Alderman Green. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08 ESTABLISHING THE 2022 PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH. *Morris*

Motion to table made by Alderman Welch, seconded by Alderman Green. Motion passed.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH AND JOHN D.

MERCER & ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION SERVICES TO GO OUT FOR BIDS TO REHAB THE BAYSIDE LIFT STATION NOT TO EXCEED \$115,000.00. Quintero

Motion to table made by Alderman Welch, seconded by MPT Rupertus. Motion passed.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (RFP) AND REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (RFQ) FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) OF 2021. Quintero

Motion made to approve by Alderman Green, seconded by Alderman Welch. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Morris reported on the mailboxes with USPS," had several meetings working out some details and hopefully sharing the details next week or so, it has been two years dealing with Amazon and USPS to get this completed."

EXECUTIVE SESSION It is anticipated that all, or a portion of the discussion of the following items, if any, will be conducted in closed executive session under authority of the Texas Open Meetings Act. However, no action will be taken on these items until the City Council reconvenes in open session.

Entered into executive session at 6:25pm.

CLOSED MEETING

- a. ***Executive session*** held pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071(2) to receive legal counsel from attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the open meeting requirement.

RECONVENE Into regular open session and consider action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session.

Back in open session at 7:00 pm. No action was taken from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderman Welch made the motion to adjourn, second by MPT Rupertus. Motion passed to adjourn at 7:04 pm.