



CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH

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CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021
6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL OF ALDERMEN

The following Councilmember's were present:

*Mayor Clay Morris
MPT Russell Rupertus
Alderman Sherwood Green - Absent
Alderman Madray
Alderwoman Taz Jones
Alderwoman Marci Kurtz-Hoffman*

The following staff was present:

*Director Brad Helman
Director Ana Mondragon
City Secretary Debbie Nesbitt*

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS

With a quorum of the Council Members present, Mayor Morris called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by MPT Rupertus leading the pledge of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags.

PUBLIC HEARING: Establishing the City of Jamaica Beach FY 2021/2022 Property Tax Rate of \$0.170497 per \$100.00 value.

No public comments were made on the tax rate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER PERSON)

Andrea Spearing, 16617 Jamaica Beach, Called in for the public comments and had two comments; wanted to know why the City is moving away from a City Administrator to three directors under the mayor, just not sure that's the direction the City needs to go. Asked if she could replenish the dunes in front of her home after the storm, and looked forward to someone getting back to her with answers to her comments.

Debra Tabbert, 16916 Beachcomber, Stated " I'm here again about the flooding in our neighborhood from rain water before the storm, 6 to 8 inches, not surge issue, we are all in our 70's and shouldn't have to carry and lift hoses and pump water out of our neighborhood streets. I would like to know what the City's plans are on fixing this problem, and will someone get back to me with answers to my questions."

CONSENT AGENDA:

**CONSIDER FOR ACTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND WORKSHOPS**

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

Motion was made to approve by MPT Rupertus, seconded by Alderman Madray. Motion carried to approve the minutes, with one exception on the August 30, 2021 minutes, a misspelled word (accept instead of except)

VOTE:

3 AYES (Madray, Hoffman, Jones)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

1 ABSTAIN (Rupertus)

MOTION PASSED

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 1. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06 IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SB 1359 AND SECTION 614.015, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE; ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH LEAVE POLICY FOR POLICE OFFICERS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.** Morris

Motion was made to approve by MPT Rupertus. Seconded by Alderwoman Jones.

VOTE:

4 AYES (Rupertus, Hoffman, Jones, Madray)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED

- 2. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2021-08 ADOPTING THE OPERATING BUDGETS FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND MUNICIPAL FUND FOR THE CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022.** Morris

Motion was made to approve by Alderman Madray. Seconded by MPT Rupertus

VOTE:

4 AYES (Madray, Jones, Hoffman, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED.

- 3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09 ESTABLISHING THE 2021/2022 PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH; VOTER-APPROVED RATE OF \$0.170497 PER \$100.00 VALUE.** Morris

Motion was made by Alderwoman Jones. Seconded by MPT Rupertus.

VOTE:

4 AYES (Madray, Hoffman, Jones, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED.

- 4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2021-10 ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE AND THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY CODE; EXCLUDING APENDIX A.** Mondragon

Motion was made to approve by Alderman Madray. Seconded by Alderwoman Jones.

VOTE:

3 AYES (Jones, Hoffman, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSTAIN (Madray)

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED.

5. **DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2021-11 AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 99-7 ESTABLISHING THE POSITIONS OF CO-CITY ADMINISTRATORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Morris

Motion was made to discuss by Alderwoman Jones, Seconded by Alderman Madray. After much discussion a motion to approve with amending the Ordinance to include and attach the Organizational Chart listed in the Ordinance.

VOTE:

4 AYES (Madray, Jones, Hoffman, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED

6. **DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES; REGION 14 TO THE TML HEALTH BENEFITS POOL, TERM OF OFFICE FROM 10-1-2021 TO 09-30-2024.** Morris

Motion was made to discuss by Alderman Madray, Seconded by Alderwoman Hoffman. After discussion a motion was made to nominate Jason E. Reynolds, City Manager of Nassau Bay.

VOTE:

4 AYES (Madray, Jones, Hoffman, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED

7. **DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO GO OUT FOR BIDDING WITH JOHN D. MERCER & ASSOCIATES.**

Mondragon

Motion was made to discuss by MPT Rupertus. Seconded by Alderman Madray.

After discussion a motion was made to approve.

VOTE:

4 AYES (Madray, Jones, Hoffman, Rupertus)

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT (Green)

MOTION PASSED

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Morris discussed our Emergency Management process, working out some details that need improvements, communicating better with the public and working with our support staff, wants to have meetings and drills to make it a better process in the event of another emergency, wants to finish our SOP and Emergency Management procedures.

ALDERMEN REPORTS:

Alderwoman Jones – Moody Gardens donated several dozen flags for our Stars Program. Rode with Officer John Aucoin on patrol of the City and beach which takes about 45 minutes to patrol the entire City, except Beachcomber. Thanked Debbie for adding the names on agenda items. Good success with our kindness project. Asked Mayor Morris about updates on the Beachcomber flooding issues and what plans are being considered to correct the drainage issues.

Alderman G. Madray – Stated "Beachcomber, I was over there in the storm, it's a Mother Nature problem, along with a drainage problem and we are looking into correcting the issues. Hope to have new street signs in

the City by end of November. Our entire community has a drainage problem and we need to work together and come up with a good solution."

Alderwoman M. Kurtz-Hoffman – Very impressed how our community pulled together and worked together, we all had the same situations with power outages, but the communication was really good with the Facebook page..

MPT Rupertus – Stated "Fire Department side has been very busy lately, had a big fire in the back, luckily no one was hurt. We are on a barrier island and may have catastrophic damages from storms, you need to be prepared we will have flooding issues, power outages and if you don't feel safe, don't stay. I don't want to put our first responders at risk. Regarding the storm, Mayor Morris picked me up before 7:00 am to surveying and accessing the damages throughout our City to make the appropriate calls." Thanked the entire neighborhood, Mayor and staff for everything they did during the storm.

Alderman Green – Absent – No Report

POLICE REPORT:

Director and Police Chief Heiman wanted to thank the Mayor and MPT for their dedication of getting out in the City at 7:00 am and accessing the situation and damages after the storm. "We learned some valuable lessons to improve our Emergency Management Procedures. We have a sea level issue that when we get a major rain or surge event we do have flooding in several areas that are concerning. We are working with GLO to get permission to work on the drainage issues on Beachcomber. Will be working with our Emergency Management team to better understand the duties of everybody during an event like this."

FIRE REPORT - No Report

ADJOURN:

MPT Rupertus made the motion, seconded by Alderman Madray, motion passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:13 pm.