



CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH

16628 San Luis Pass Road
5264 Jamaica Beach
Jamaica Beach, Texas 77554
PH (409) 737-1142 FAX (409) 737-5211
www.jamaicabeachtx.gov



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**February 8, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Mayor Sharon Bower called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

The following Council Members were present:

*Mayor Sharon Bower
Mayor Pro Tem Gil Madray
Alderman Sherwood Green
Alderswoman Lorraine Jones
Alderman David Welch*

The following Council Members were absent:

Alderman Russell Rupertus

The following staff were present:

*City Administrator – Kendal Francis
Police Chief – Raymond Garivey
Director of Development – Robert Quintero
Finance Clerk - Ester Abrego
Water Clerk – Tina Sifuentes*

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

INVOCATION: Donna Williams, JBPD Chaplain

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- Police Officer Ezequiel Haro was sworn in by Police Chief Raymond Garivey as a new Jamaica Beach Reserve Officer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Bower

- Mardi Gras Golf Cart Parade. Saturday February 10 @ 3pm.
- There is an opening on the Board of Adjustments. Applications are due February 15, 2024.
- The filing deadline for 3 at large Alderman candidates is February 16, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Jack Birdsong – asked the council to consider reimbursing him for sewer tap fees.
- Jerry Jackson – asked if City has an inspector for building permits and if they are providing a report.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, POLICE, AND FIRE:

- **City Administrator, Francis** – Oral – No Questions
 - Provided information on current happenings in the city.
- **Chief of Police, Garivey** – No Questions
 - Provided information on police activities and city events.
- **Director of Operations, Quintero** – No Questions
 - Provided updates on meetings regarding beach projects.
- **Fire Chief, Baden** – Oral – No Questions
 - Provided information on fire department services and activities for 2023.
 - JBIC fire safety awareness class – April 13, 2024

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Sharon Bower presented the minutes for Regular Council Meeting on January 25, 2024, and Special Council Meeting on January 27, 2024.

*Motion made by Alderman Welch to **approve**, seconded by Alderwoman Jones*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Jones, Madray, Welch)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

ALDERMAN REPORTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Madray: No report

Alderman Green: No report

Alderwoman Jones:

The 2020 US Census reports the population of Jamaica Beach as 1,078.

634 households and living arrangements.

1,410 housing units.

57.4 % have a Bachelor Degree or higher.

Median age is 56.7.

26.8 % are over the age of 65.

5 % are over the age of 75.

37 people or 8.8% live below the poverty line.

96.2% are U.S. citizens.

9.5 % were born in a foreign country.

4.9 % served in the military. The majority of those served in Vietnam.

66.9% drive alone to work.

29.2 % work from home.

3.9 % carpool.

57.1% are employed.

I went back and found an old Public Information Request that shows 299 new house construction permits from 1997 to 2021. We gained 299 more homes but maintained about the same amount in population over the years.

Alderman Welch: Thanked attendees for town hall meeting and requested financial information and status on audit.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve city Procurement Policy:**
 The acquisition of goods and services should be made in a manner and method which provides for the prudent expenditure of City funds; provides for maximum protection of the taxpayer; prevents waste, conflict of interest, and impropriety; provides for equal access and opportunity in an open and competitive environment to all suppliers, with regard to factors related to quality, cost and availability of the goods and services; and which comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided details about the policy.

*Motion made by Alderwoman Jones to **approve**, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Madray*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

2. Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve Code of Ethics & Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials:

The citizens of Jamaica Beach are entitled to have a fair, ethical and accountable local government that has earned the public's full confidence for integrity. This Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials for members of the City Council and the City's boards and commissions will help assure public confidence in the integrity of local government and its effective and fair operation.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided details about the document.

*Motion made by Alderwoman Jones to **approve**, seconded by Alderman Welch*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

3. Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve contract for swimming pool deck resurfacing:

The 5,600sqft concrete pool deck has deteriorated and needs resurfaced and painted. We received four (4) bids for the project.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Robert Quintero provided information on specifications.

*Motion made by Alderman Welch to **approve**, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Madray*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

4. Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve contract for upgrades to City Hall's elevator:

The elevator at city hall is antiquated and has required multiple repairs over the past year. Although it did pass the annual inspection, the repair company has told us that they are only able to make temporary repairs and that modernizing it needs to be a priority.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided information on specifications.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Madray to **approve**, seconded by Alderman Welch*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

5. Dissuasion, consideration, and take action to approve contract to upgrade lift station #6.

During recent inspections of the city's lift stations, it was identified that lift station #6 is nearing critical failure and needs immediate repairs.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided information on quote received from Branch Construction.

*Motion made by Alderman Welch to **approve**, seconded by Alderwoman Jones*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

6. Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve Resolution 2024-02 authorizing the transfer of American Rescue Plan Act funds to High Yield Money Market

The City received \$200,520.78 in ARPA funds which are currently in a money market earning 1.5% interest. The monies qualify for the City's High Yield Money Market Fund that earns 4.85%.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided information on rates.

*Motion made by Alderwoman Jones to **approve**, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Madray*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

7. Discussion, consideration, and take action to approve Resolution 2024-03 Establishing Authorization for Signature of City of Jamaica Beach, Texas Checks.

The city needs to establish a clear process for who will be authorized signatories for City checks to ensure proper and secure execution of financial transactions.

Mayor Bower read the above caption and Kendal Francis provided information on banking requirements and authorized signatories.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Madray to **approve**, seconded by Alderman Welch*

VOTE

4 AYES (Green, Welch, Jones, Madray)

1 ABSENT (Rupertus)

0 NAYS

0 ABSTAIN

MOTION PASSED

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Mayor Bower provided information on Code Enforcement Officer Reggie Randle's employment status, audit status, Memorial Day Event, town hall meeting feedback including STR platforms concerning taxes, noise ordinance, additional police patrol during busy seasons, and parking issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Madray to **adjourn**, seconded by Alderman Welch
Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.