



CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH

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CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 6, 2014
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Spicer called the meeting to order.

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

Alderman South led the Pledges of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas Flags.

ROLL CALL OF ALDERMEN

The following Councilmember's were present:

*Mayor Steve Spicer
Alderman Brad South
Alderman Mary Morse
Alderman Gene Montgomery*

The following Councilmember's were absent:

*MPT Eddie Burke
Alderman Sherwood Green*

The following staff was present:

*City Administrator Brick
City Secretary Rushing
Police Chief Chapa*

PRESENTATION:

1. PRESENTATION BY JBIC ON TREE PROJECT FOR CITY OF JAMAICA BEACH.

Margaret Lloyd with JBIC introduced Priscilla Files of the Galveston Island Tree Conservancy to do the presentation. Ms. Files explained the NeighborWoods Project. She said all the trees are donated and planted on the city easement by Texas A & M volunteers. The homeowners of a neighborhood or street all have to agree to water the trees until they are established. She said she met with JBIC, Jan Brick and city staff to discuss what area in Jamaica Beach would best benefit from this project and they agreed along Bob Smith. If project is approved by Council, each homeowner on Bob Smith would be notified and the placement of the tree would be marked with a sign. The proposed date to plant the trees is March 29, 2014.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSS ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE TO COLLECT DELINQUENT WATER BILLS.

City Administrator Brick informed Council the city had around \$30,000 delinquent water bills; he said by adopting an ordinance the city could use a collection agency to collect the debt. American

Municipal Services (AMS) is the same company the city uses to collect for Municipal Court. The charge would be 30% of the collected debt. The city would have the option to add the 30% charge to the debtor's account. The city is not charged by AMS if no money is collected.

2. DISCUSS CALLING THE CITY OFFICER'S GENERAL ELECTION FOR MAY 10, 2014.

Mayor Spicer read the Order of Election, which provided the election date of May 10, 2014 to election 3 Alderman for two (2) year terms; early voting is between April 28, 2014 – May 6, 2014; extended early voting hours will be May 5-6, 2014.

City Secretary Rushing announced the dates to file an application for a place on the ballot is between, January 29, 2014 – February 28, 2014.

CITIZEN INPUT

(REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL MUST BE MADE TO CITY STAFF BY 5:45 P.M. ON JANUARY 6, 2014.)

Buck Willis, 16623 Lewis Scott, said he is running for Congress and asked Council if they could host a debate or Town Hall Meeting to meet the other candidates running for Congress.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

City Administrator Brick said the dune project survey started today.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Spicer asked everyone to keep Alderman Green in their prayers, he is in the hospital; he also acknowledged Al Galli for his services in the community and said he will be greatly missed.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

Alderman Montgomery provided a brief update on the Pool Committee; he said they are trying to figure out what exactly was provided in each bid.

Alderman Morse & South – No Reports

POLICE REPORT

Chief Chapa reported two non-violent deaths in the city; a citizen complaint against a vacation rental house; he said he was able to purchase tasers, bullet proof vests and micro-recorders for each of the officers through multiple donations to the PD.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.