

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
WORKSHOP - JANUARY 26, 2023

1/26/2023 - Minutes

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Craig Brown, Council Member Mayor Pro Tem David Collins, Council Member Sharon Lewis, Council Member William Schuster, Council Member Mike Bouvier, Council Member John Listowski, and Council Member Marie Robb.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 3.A. Clarification Of Consent And Regular City Council Agenda Items - This Is An Opportunity For City Council To Ask Questions Of Staff On Consent And Regular Agenda Items (40 Min)

Items 10I, 10J, 11C, 11E, 11F, 11I, 11J, 11L, and 11P were clarified by Staff.

- 3.B. Discussion Of Council Goals For 2023 (Brown - 20 Min)

Mayor Brown placed this item on the agenda to bring forward for the public's knowledge Council's goals for the year. City Manager Brian Maxwell reported that it helps staff understand from a policy standpoint what Council's individual visions are for their districts so staff can get them into future budgets. Mayor Brown's goals: Pelican Island Bridge, Pelican Island development, and the mental health program. Council Member Schuster's goals: improvements to east and west street like Avenues O, P, and U; passage of the IDC extension; continuing to find alternative revenue sources to alleviate taxes to residents; and improving the relationship between the City, Park Board, and Wharves Board. Mayor Pro Tem Collins' goals: budget control, maximizing the City's assets, alternative revenue sources, beach protection and renourishment, bringing the public's input to the table, Pelican Island Bridge, and securing the 11 acres on Pelican Island owned by the Port of Houston. Council Member Listowski's goals: Pelican Island - master plan, TIRZ development, expanding sewer service to the Island; East End Flats development; getting to a no new revenue rate and cutting the budget; extending Postoffice and Church; facilitating development and customs at the Airport; and better collaboration between the City, Park Board, and Wharves Board. Council Member Lewis's goals: development in District 1 to be more than a thoroughfare; development and lighting; block by block rehabilitation; using CDBG funds for economic development; TIRZ development; a multi-purpose field for the community on railroad property; the inclusion of District 1 to be a part of tourism; and enhancing the district by getting people involved on City boards. Council Member Bouvier's goals: street improvements; starting the pump station at Bayou Shores; smooth construction on 61st Street; no new revenue rate either this year or next; focus on getting support for Juneteenth; upgrades to Seawolf Park to make it a better attraction; education of fentanyl; and knowledge of narcan and training. Council Member Robb's goals: everything for District 6; hardening infrastructure in District 6; beach nourishment on the West End; correct issues with the beach access plan and rectify with the GLO; looking at fortified dunes and geotube systems; City sewer on the West End; CenterPoint upgrades to fiberglass poles; getting natural gas to the West End; road study Island wide (not split by District); centralized community meetings; enhance communications with other boards; and being more proactive in coastal arenas. City Manager Brian Maxwell will compile a list per Council Member and send to Council.

3.C. Discussion Of Sand Placement Policy (Robb/Brown - 15 Min)

Council Member Robb placed this item on the agenda to discuss with City Council a sand placement policy. She reported that the Park Board currently manages logistics of sand placement, but the City Council should set the priorities for beach nourishment as part of the City's infrastructure. The policy would focus on placing sand in the areas of greatest need. She added there is a limited amount of beach quality sand, and the City and Park Board compete for the same grant funds in some cases. CM Robb will work with the City Manager and City Attorney to come up with a draft written policy.

3.D. Election Order - Charter Amendment (Legal - 20 Min)

MPT Collins placed this item on the agenda to discuss with City Council a proposed amendment to the City Charter that would remove a conflict that exists with State law. The Council discussed whether May or November would be better for holding a Charter Election. This would give the City time to review and include any other amendments that are needed to the City Charter which can only be amended every two years. In the interim, this issue could be included in the Interlocal Agreement between the City and the Park Board.

3.E. Council Updates (Staff - 30 Min)

- 1. City/Park Board Interlocal Agreement - City Manager Brian Maxwell provided an update on progress of the Interlocal Agreement. The parties are scheduled to meet next week and are addressing the hardest items first.**
- 2. Alternate Revenue - Parking - Mayor Brown reported that a draft ordinance is in the packet for Council's review. Discussion was held regarding details in the draft ordinance. This item will be on the February workshop and regular meeting for Council's consideration.**
- 3. Mental Health/GPD Program - Police Chief Balli provided Council with an update on the program. He hopes to be fully operational on March 1st. Council will have a report on homelessness at the February meeting.**
- 4. Update on the Master Drainage meeting on the West end of the Island (Robb/Brown) - Assistant City Manager Brandon Cook will schedule a community meeting on the West End.**
- 5. Status update on the Skymaster Road Boat Launch (Robb/Brown) - CM Robb would like to bring this item back to Council to cancel the project because of constituent's opposition to the boat launch being a fully operational launch that would allow motorized boats to launch.**

3.F. Report Of City Council's Park Board Representative (Bouvier/Brown - 10 Minutes)

CM Bouvier reported on the following: Will Wright resigned from the board and two employees left the Park Board within the last month; the Park Board likes the idea of a master plan on the Seawall; the beach sand project is moving along; the wayfinding signage project is moving ahead; and the recycled art exhibit is finishing up.

3.G. Report Of City Council's Wharves Board Representative (Brown - 10 Minutes)

Mayor Brown reported that the Wharves Board is focusing on the following: improvements to cargo area capacity; repairs to piers and slip fills; repairs in the mosquito fleet area; an MOU with MSC to explore the possibility of putting a fourth cruise terminal; and improvements to

the internal road at the Port. He reported on a meeting held with the Port of Houston related to development on Pelican Island, and the creation of a task force to come up with a master plan for Pelican Island.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Janelle Williams, City Secretary

Date Approved:

DRAFT