

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
WORKSHOP - MARCH 24, 2022

3/24/2022 - 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 Dr. Craig Brown, Mayor Pro Tem David Collins, Council Member Sharon Lewis, Council Member William Schuster, 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 (20 Minutes)

Items 8A, 8C, 10B, 10D, 11G, 11I, and 11O were clarified by Staff.

- 3.B. Receive And Discuss The FY 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (M. Loftin - 20 Min)

Assistant City Manager Mike Loftin and Whitley Penn representative Laura Lynch presented the FY 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. She complimented Assistant Finance Director Tammy Jacobs and her team for their work on the report.

- 3.C. Discuss Funding Downtown Beautification Using Parking Revenue From The Downtown Area (M. Loftin - 15 Min)

Assistant City Manager Mike Loftin provided an analysis for funding a beautification crew for the Downtown area. Discussion was held regarding charging parking rates on Sunday, duties of the new crew, litter education efforts and enforcement, safety of City crews working in the heat, proposed parking rates, and boundaries of the parking area. The City Council will consider approving an ordinance increasing parking rates for the Downtown area at today's regular meeting.

- 3.D. Discussion Of The City Marshal Program (Brown/Robb/Schuster - 30 Min)

City Manager Brian Maxwell reported that the City Marshal's office is primarily complaint driven and is the enforcement for the City's code enforcement. Discussion was held regarding recent videos and complaints against the Marshal's Office, enforcement methods, the top 25 complaints received by the Marshal's Office, assigning review of complaints against the Marshal's Office to the Civilian Review Board, the number of employees and budget for the Marshal's Office, the need for law enforcement officers within the Marshal's Office and why they carry firearms, and types of complaints handled by the Marshal's Office. Council directed staff to look into adding the Marshal's Office to the Civilian Review Board ordinance, and to send a copy of the Marshal's budget and brochure to Council. Mayor Brown advised that Council takes citizen complaints very seriously and encouraged anyone wishing to file a complaint to do so. City Manager Brian Maxwell suggested creating City Code 101 videos related to the top 25 complaints.

The Council took a five minute break at 11:25 a.m.

- 3.E. Discussion Of An Ordinance For The Naming Of Streets And Other Forms Of City Memorializations (Brown - 15 Min)

In 2016, the City Council approved Resolution No. 16-008 establishing a policy for the naming of streets. The proposed Ordinance contains the same policy and would allow for codification into the City Code. Staff will bring back the Ordinance for Council's consideration at the next meeting.

- 3.F. Discussion Of The Firefighter's Pension Plan (Robb/Schuster - 10 Min)

CM Robb placed this item on the agenda to address issues with the Firefighter's Pension Plan. Deputy City Manager Dan Buckley provided an overview of the Plan. Staff will bring back a report to Council at the May meeting.

- 3.G. Discussion Of Impact Fees For Short Term Rentals (Robb/Brown - 15 Minutes)

CM Robb placed this item on the agenda to keep Council's focus moving forward with short term rentals, to start the discussion to implement an impact fee, and to keep the focus on the ongoing issues with short term rentals. She reported that close to 4,000 short term rentals have registered since Council implemented the \$50 fee. MPT Collins reported that the platforms have been very cooperative, just under 4,000 short term rentals have registered, but Council needs to wait on the data before making any decisions. Mayor Brown reported that the Park Board will report back to Council on best practices probably in the summer.

- 3.H. Discussion Of Using Opioid Settlement Funds In Support Of Safe Communities: The Drug Crisis In Our Backyard (Robb/Brown - 10 Minutes)

CM Robb placed this item on the agenda to discuss the possibility of using opioid settlement funds in support of the program Safe Communities - the Drug Crisis in our Backyard. City Attorney Don Glywasky advised that Council will need to write a policy on how the funds will be used.

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

MPT Collins reported that next month he will bring back a report on the Stewart Beach Ad Hoc Committee. He provided a report on the Stewart Beach Drainage Project which should be complete by Memorial Day. Roll out on mobile amenities should also be setup by Memorial Day. He added that nearly 4,000 short term rentals have registered, hotel occupancy tax is up, and the Park Board will continue with the permit to remove seaweed for the entire Island.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Janelle Williams, City Secretary

Date Approved: