

City of Beach City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

The Beach City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, **November 26, 2013** at the Beach City Community Building. Those present were:

MAYOR: Billy Combs

MAYOR PRO TEM: Jackey Lasater

ALDERMEN: Doug Walker, Dana Colquitt, Ray Smith (left early), Paul Newman

CITY ATTORNEY: Daniel Jackson

CITY SECRETARY: Evonne Donnelly

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Marge Bercaw

I. Call to order:

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order Tuesday, November 26, 2013 at 6.02 pm. Alderman Colquitt offered the prayer. Alderman Newman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

II. Administer Oath of Office to recently re-elected Aldermen.

City Attorney, Daniel Jackson, administered the Statement of Officer and Oath of Office to incumbent Aldermen: Ray Smith, Jackey Lasater and Paul Newman.

III. Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion to appoint Jackey Lasater as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion: Newman

Second: Walker

Approved: 5-0

IV. Citizens Comments.

None

V. Hear report and update from Chambers County Commissioner, Rusty Senac.

Commissioner Senac gave an update on the recent work that has been done to the Beach City Community Building: painting and new carpet, a security window and large mirror for the City office; ceiling

tiles were replaced with 2 x 2 tiles inside the building, painting of the exterior of the community building, as well as the exterior of the Volunteer Fire Department Building.

Future plans are to replace the sign in front of the building with a wood 4 x 8, two-sided sign. Mayor Combs and Commissioner Senac are discussing the possibility of incorporating a message sign to be attached at the bottom. The Commissioner is awaiting a price quote at this time. Commissioner Senac has put in a request to the County Maintenance Department for a light to illuminate the flag pole for the new City Fallen Solider Memorial.

VI. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 22, 2013.

Motion to approve minutes

Motion: Newman

Second: Lasater

Approved: 5-0

VII. Financial Consent Agenda:

- a) **Review and approve the Financial Statements for previous month.**
- b) **Review and approve Investment Update**
- c) **Review and approve Expenditures for the current month**
- d) **Review and approve corrections to prior Expenditures**

Mayor Combs reviewed the Investment Update with Council and noted that the State Farm CD will mature on January 6, 2014. Council discussed and reviewed the interests rates from State Farm Bank and Capital Bank. After a lengthy discussion Council decided to consider renewing the CD at State Farm Bank, but would have to add an additional small amount to make it \$100,000 to renew. Council asked to find out what the penalty is for early withdrawal and to continue this discussion at next the Council meeting.

Mayor Combs stated that the QuickBooks and payroll issues have been corrected.

Motion to approve the financials to include \$750.00 for the Sit Down with Santa :

Motion: Smith

Second: Colquitt

Approved: 5-0

VIII. Update, discussion and possible action on a water utility rate increase for customers within the corporate limits of Beach City filed by Aqua Texas.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Aqua Texas proposed rate increase and decision to have a Public Hearing with Aqua Texas representatives.

Motion for Beach City to hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Motion: Lasater **Second:** Newman **Approved:** 4-0

Note: Alderman Walker not present for vote.

Note: After vote Alderman Smith excused himself from the rest of meeting due to work commitments this evening.

- IX. Executive Session Authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code;**
a) Section 551.071, Consult with Attorney concerning contemplation of legal action with Aqua Texas.

No Executive Session was held.

- X. Discussion and possible action on changing the current City Holiday Schedule to coincide with Chambers County's Holiday Schedule.**

City Secretary, Evonne Donnelly, proposed the Beach City holiday calendar should be updated since other local municipalities follow the Chambers County holiday schedule.

After a lengthy discussion, Council decided to add four days to the existing City Holiday Calendar. The City holiday calendar will be reviewed every December from now on.

Motion to adopt a calendar of 10 paid holidays consisting of 8 fixed holidays plus 2 floating holidays.

Motion: Newman **Second:** Walker **Approved:** 4-0

- XI. Discussion and possible action on bid for built-in bookshelves.**

Beach City has received a \$700 bid for the building and painting of bookshelves in the office. Cost is \$800 if a bottom shelve and doors are added. Alderman Colquitt will research and check prices. This item will be revisited at the December meeting.

- XII. Discussion and possible action on Surplus Office Equipment.**

Beach City is trying to dispose of 3 file cabinets: 2 five- drawers and 1 four- drawer cabinet, and two stereo speakers, plus miscellaneous wires and equipment. Mayor Combs will send out a notice to his email contacts for bidding offers. Alderman Lasater will post this on City website.

Motion to declare as surplus: 3 file cabinets, 2 speakers, miscellaneous wires and equipment.

Motion: Newman **Second:** Colquitt **Approved:**4-0

XIII. Discussion and possible action on Crime Prevention Programs in Beach City.

Since Jay Hammes was not present at this time for discussion this will be revisited at the December Council meeting.

XIV. Consider requests for participation in the 3rd Annual Sit down with Santa.

Mayor Combs believes the City needs to participate in Sit Down With Santa. This event will be Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 6:30 PM in the Beach City Community Building.

Jay Hammes is coordinating the event. Last year an estimated 275 people attended this event and is believed this year's attendance will be greater. The estimated cost for the event is \$750.00 and will require City funding.

XV. Discussion on the process to obtain Nominations for 2013 Volunteer of the Year.

We have received 3 nominations to date. Nominations are open until December 10, 2013. Council will make selection at December 17, 2013 meeting.

XVI. Update, discussion and possible action on the City Survey.

Alderman Colquitt gave status of questionnaire. It was suggested a "yes" or "no" be placed to each question/comment and individual would circle answer. Also suggested to reverse questions 1 and 2. Suggested to delete Question 19.

XVII. Update, discussion and possible action on Memorial for Fallen Hero's.

Aldermen Lasater and Walker along with Mayor Combs have recently visited with cemetery officials, who will provide the granite at their cost. All agreed on black granite for future consistency, laser etched at a cost of \$1500 per monument. A new plaque to replace the current one would have to be made. Total cost approximately \$3500 includes labor cost to set the granite. Mention was made of a fundraiser to provide funds for project. Discussion on laser etching to include picture of individual or a portrait painting to be determined by family and will include the American flag. Current granite stone in place was donated by Navarre Funeral Home.

XVIII. Hear report and updates from the Mayor.

Mayor Combs reported he is dealing with a sewer leak issue where Ocean Mobile Home Park lift station pumps through a 6-inch forced main to take sewage to the treatment plant. Mayor Combs told Council members that Alderman Dana Colquitt recently spent a week or more in the Austin area with the Red Cross assisting flood victims. The Mayor and City Council appreciate the time she devoted to this great need.

XIX. Council Member Comments:

Mayor Combs asked Alderman Lasater to place on City website information on the Santa on the Bay December 13 and 14th. Alderman Newman reported he recently attended the HGAC meeting and brought several handouts of their activities. City Secretary, Evonne Donnelly, gave update on the building and septic permits.

XX. Adjournment:

Motion made to adjourn at 9.22pm

Motion: Newman

Second: Colquitt

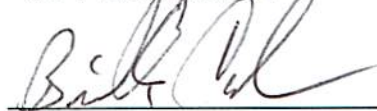
Approved: 4-0

ATTEST TO:



City Secretary
Evonne Donnelly

APPROVED BY:



Mayor
Billy Combs