City of Shoreacres



MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas met in Regular Session on Monday, November 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 601 Shoreacres Blvd., Shoreacres, Texas, with the following present constituting a quorum:

Mayor

Dolly Arons

Mayor pro tem

Richard Adams

Alderman

Gerry Victor

Alderwoman Alderwoman Dana Woodruff

Aldervenen

Nancy Schnell

Alderwoman

Connie Ramirez

City Administrator / City Secretary

David Stall

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dolly Arons at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & COMMENTS

3.1 Citizens Comments

Anita Willis, 1009 Forest: Ms. Willis reported that she attended Harris County Commissioners Board Meeting. Original pictures and information have been found in County archived boxes going back to 1837.

Ms. Willis asked if a sheriff, constable or the state highway patrol can help us enforce the speed limit on highway 146.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Council Workshop Meeting – July 19, 2010

Motion to approve the July 19, 2010 minutes (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion carried unanimously.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Council Reports

5.1.1 <u>Connie Ramirez</u> – Councilwoman Ramirez reported on the Heavy Haul Corridor meeting. The Heavy Hall Corridor subcommittee discussed their potential support for legislative action to increase the weight allowed on truck routes within the state. More research is needed to study the

impact on roads, safety and the impact on quality of life. Another meeting will be scheduled to review additional information.

5.2 Staff Reports

5.2.1 <u>City Administrator</u> - The City is moving forward with the SECO grant to replace the City Hall upstairs air conditioning system, windows and duct work. The City is requesting quotes on the cost of replacing windows and possibly replacing the air conditioning duct grills and the ceiling tiles.

There is continued progress on enforcing property violations. We are in the planning stage of bringing dangerous building enforcement hearings before Council. This is the first step on having those buildings demolished. In the future, David stall will outline the lien process for demolitions and other violations for Council's information.

Centerpoint Energy has offered to cut down dead trees that are in utility easements and will work with the City on removing those trees. Councilwoman Schnell asked how Centerpoint would determine which trees to remove and how trees would be tagged for removal. The City will be the party responsible for identifying trees in Centerpoint's easement.

5.2.3 Police Report – A written report was submitted.

6.0 BUSINESS

6.1 Consideration and Approval of Invoices

Motion to pay our bills (Richard Adams/Second: Gerry Victor). Motion carried unanimously.

6.2 Discussion of Texas Community Block Grant (TxCDBG) project applications, projects and status.

The City has participated in all of the required training and hurdles to get in the queue for CDBG round 2, cycle 2. For Round 1, surveys have been completed and core samples were drilled for lift station #1, water plant #1, and 602 SA Blvd. The samples are necessary for engineering foundation work and it is necessary to determine project specifications prior to soliciting bids. The City hopes to go out to bid in late December or early January and award bids in March. CDBG storm drainage work will focus on drainage between Westview and Broadway.

6.3 Discussion by Harris County Recovers

Harris County Recovers staff (Daphne Lamelle, Mike Spletto, Kim Riggle) updated Council and residents regarding the status of the program. HCR staff responded to questions asked by residents and council. Following the general discussion, HCR staff was able to assist residents with questions specific to their application.

Eighty five applications for assistance have been submitted to HCR by Shoreacres residents. Forty six are active; Thirty nine are either inactive, waiting for a response from the applicant, or the application was withdrawn or determined to be ineligible. Of the 46 applications deemed active, 27 are on the verge of being awarded to residents for construction. The remaining applications need verification and/or additional documentation.

The major HCR issues discussed at the Council meeting are listed below:

Guidelines: While awaiting State TDHCA to issue guidelines for residential projects, in 2009 Harris County issued their own guidelines to implement the HCR program. As a result, there appear to be inconsistencies between the Harris County Guidelines and the current state TDHCA guidelines. This is having a significant detrimental effect on residents of our city who were told, in 2009, that they qualified for reimbursement of personal funds used to repair their homes, but who are now being told that they do not qualify for reimbursement.

Re-submittal of information: Due to changes in TDHCA requirements since 2009, residents have had to resubmit information. That this process is causing delays in the reconstruction of homes.

Housing Plans: HCR guidelines indicate that housing plans for new construction must be developed by HCR subcontractors. Some residents have paid to have their own plans developed and are being told that they cannot be used, even though they comply with specific building requirements.

Lead Testing Results: Results from lead tests are being told that it will take 4 months to get results from the time the tests were conducted.

Some Councilman expressed the opinion that funds are being mismanaged, since millions of dollars have been spent to implement the program and no resident in our city has received funds to rebuild and no monetary reimbursements have been received for personal expenses used to rebuild.

7.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2010.

ATTEST

David K. Stall, City Administrator / City Secretary