City of Shoreacres



MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas met in Regular Session on Monday, March 28, 2011 at 7:02 p.m.

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

Alderman Gerry Victor, Alderman Nancy Schnell, Mayor pro tem Richard Adams, Mayor Dolly Arons, Alderman Dana Woodruff, Alderman Connie Ramirez

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dolly Arons at 7:02 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & COMMENTS

3.1 Heavy Haul Corridor, Legislative Update – Russell Plank

Russell Plank updated the City on the proposed heavy haul legislation working its way through the state legislature. HB 2240 does not contain any of the safety measures recommended by the Economic Alliance Transportation Committee, Heavy Haul Subcommittee (HHC). Mr. Plank discussed the safety measures in the HHC. The trucking association has agreed to comply with the measures proposed by the HHC, if they are written into law. The primary question is what actions can communities take to see that these provisions are included in the proposed legislation.

3.2 Citizens Comments

Darlene Bays – 616 Baywood. Ms. Bays expressed her frustration with the City's response to remedy drainage issues. She suggested that we consider annexation with the City of La Porte.

3.3 <u>Baywood/Shadylawn, water distribution system evaluation report and recommendation – Jerry Gainer, PE, City Engineer.</u>

We budget for routine and small water pipe maintenance. This is a large project that will require a budget amendment. Engineer Gerry Gainer presented information on the potential aspects of directional boring for installation of a water line from Baywood/Shadylawn to Park and Byway. The cost will be close to \$25,000. Council discussed whether we should look at also repairing pipes from Westview to Byway between Fairfield and Meadowlawn at the same time. There was a motion to recommend the City examine combining several projects simultaneously (Dana Woodruff/Second Gerry Victor). Motion carried unanimously.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes for special council meeting: March 7, 2011.

There was a motion to approve minutes for March 7, 2011 (Richard Adams/Second Gerry Victor). Motion carried unanimously.

4.2 Minutes for regular council meeting: March 14, 2011.

There was a motion to approve minutes for March 14, 2011 (Richard Adams/Second Gerry Victor). Motion carried unanimously.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Council Reports

5.1.1 Mayor Arons reported that a tour of the Lyondell/Basell plant is scheduled for March 30. Ms. Arons attended the State of Cities meeting. At the meeting, Morgan's Point reported that they have completed their 2.8 mile bike trail around the City. The City of La Porte reported that their budget is \$10 million less than last year.

5.2 Staff Reports

5.2.1 <u>City Administrator</u> - Mr. Stall indicated that he advertised for a public works director and has received applications. The Mayor, Police Chief, Sergeant and City Administrator attended a Webinar on the new Blackboard Connect communications software last week. The City tested the system today, when we notified residents of low water pressure due to a water leak. The City's website will be modified to allow people to go online and update their information.

Preparations have been made for the Clean-up Green-up weekend on April 2 and 3rd. Changes were made to the system to minimize trips to the landfill.

Councilman Victor requested that the City pick up palm fronds on Shoreacres Blvd.

Mr. Stall discussed progress on setting up the system to accept credit card and online payments of traffic fines.

The City continues to upgrade the City's computer system to run specific software compatible with the Texas Department of Rural Affairs' software.

The flatbed dump truck has been repaired.

Mr. Stall presented a detailed estimate to replace playground equipment. The estimate for parts is \$5500 and the estimate for labor is \$10,000.

The City flagpole is in the process of being repaired.

In response to Council's request, Mr. Stall discussed the portion of the City's municipal code that will enable the City to address blue roof tarps remaining on the roofs of homes in the City.

Mr. Stall contacted Harris County Flood Control regarding high water levels in Boggy Bayou. Harris County Flood Control stated that they de-silted that area in 2003. They indicated that Boggy Bayou is in its natural state and that the high water levels that we observe are impacted by high tides. However, Mr. Stall documented stream levels and is unconvinced that we have proper flow in the

Bayou.

The Pasadena Citizen newspaper now serves the community of Morgan's Point, La Porte and Shoreacres.

6.0 BUSINESS

6.1 <u>Consideration and Approval of Invoices.</u>

There was a motion to pay our bills (Nancy Schnell/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion carried unanimously.

6.2 <u>Discussion of Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) project applications, projects and status.</u>

Projects are moving forward for Shoreacres. URS has been hired by the state to prepare the environmental documents necessary for projects for each area in the State. The City is unable to go out to bid before we have our environmental clearances.

6.3 <u>Discussion of project or projects to be recommended for the Port of Houston Authority</u> community volunteer program.

Previously, Council recommended that we consult with the Parks and Recreation Committee on a project for the POHA community volunteer day. Council discussed and agreed upon a recommendation by the Parks and Recreation Committee to create a vegetation barrier between the residence of South Country Club and Heron Park.

6.4 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2011-52 approving, authorizing and ratifying the Mayor's approval and execution of an intergovernmental agreement with Harris County for the lease of voting system equipment for the May 14, 2011 general election.

There was a motion to ratify Resolution No. 2011-52 (Dana Woodruff/Second: Gerry Victor). Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of the Department of Labor National Emergency Grant under the Federal Workforces Act of 1998 funded through the Texas Workforce Commission and the Houston-Galveston Area Council to provide workforce services to assist the city in clean-up and restoration efforts and to provide temporary public sector jobs to unemployed individuals who live in the area impacted by Hurricane Ike; and, the city's application for such grant and intent to participate and undertake eligible projects.

The City was approached by HGAC to see if the City was interested in participating in a grant for 6 workers to help with Hurricane lke recovery. After submitting the application, we were awarded a grant for \$152,239, which includes labor, supplies and rental equipment. The scope of work is narrow and includes clearing ditches, removing dead trees from public property, patching asphalt streets, gutting the public works building and demolishing the old City Hall.

6.6 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2011-53 approving, authorizing and ratifying the Mayor's approval and execution of an intergovernmental agreement with Houston-Galveston Area Council to provide workforce services funded under the Federal Workforces Act of 1998.

There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2011-53 (Dana Woodruff/Second: Gerry Victor). Motion passed unanimously.

6.7 <u>Discussion, consideration and possible action on recommendations for relocation of Shoreacres entrance sign.</u>

At a previous meeting, several suggestions were discussed as potential areas for the existing Shoreacres sign. Council suggested that the Mayor contact the Parks and Recreation Committee to get their suggestions. Based on their suggestions, there was a motion to place the existing sign on Shoreacres Blvd. west of old 146 (Richard Adams/Second: Dana Woodruff). The motion carried with Gerry Victor abstaining.

6.8 <u>Discussion, consideration and possible action to enter into a comprehensive</u> maintenance agreement for Heron Park.

Councilman Adams suggested the idea of creating a "Friends of Heron Park" whereby the newly formed association would be given funds for the maintenance of Heron Park and the purchase of new equipment. This would streamline the maintenance requested. The City will allocate \$2400 from the parks budget for this purpose. No action was necessary.

6.9 <u>Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2011-54 appointing a presiding judge and alternate judge of the municipal court of the City of Shoreacres for a term of two years.</u>

The municipal court judge has a two year term. This resolution would certify Judge Jay as the City's presiding judge and Judge Mitrano as the associate judge for the City. There was a motion to ratify Resolution No. 2011-54 (Dana Woodruff/Second: Nancy Schnell). Motion carried unanimously.

7.0 ADJOURN

Adjournment: 9:19 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 2011.

ATTEST:

David K. Stall, City Secretary