## City of Shoreacres



## **MEETING MINUTES**

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas met in Regular Session on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mayor

**Dolly Arons** 

Mayor pro tem

Richard Adams

Alderman

Gerry Victor

Alderwoman

Dana Woodruff

Alderwoman

Connie Ramirez

Alderwoman

Nancy Schnell

City Administrator / City Secretary

David K. 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

Mr. Neil Moyer, 1118 North Country Club — Mr. Moyer reported on the SEACAP meeting. He suggested that after construction of Highway 146 is completed, that TxDOT should open Wharton Weems and Shoreacres simultaneously. Mr. Moyer presented his interpretation of the State Code on golf carts. In his opinion, the Code does not contain provisions that allow State Law to be preempted, even if the City adopts its own ordinance.

Ms. Anita Willis, 1009 West Forest – Ms. Willis also attended the SEACAP meeting. She reported that the new laser technology has been installed on all POHA cranes and she has noticed a reduction in noise. She indicated that the Port Road exit and entrance ramps are going to be closed as TxDOT installs the beams for the overpass. She expressed her thanks to those who organized the Chili Cook-off. She commended the organizers and liked the setup along the street. She requested that the litter on West Forest Avenue be cleaned up and that the grass be mowed.

### 4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting: Adoption of October 24, 2011 minutes was postponed.

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#### 5.0 REPORTS

#### 5.1 Council Reports

Mayor Arons spoke with TxDot regarding the sound wall. The sound wall was originally included in the Direct Connect Project but now TxDot is thinking about taking the wall out of that project to speed up the process so they can go out for bid in March. Mayor Arons will continue to monitor the progress with TxDot.

Mayor pro tem Adams attended the La Porte CAC meeting. There were many representatives from various chemical plants. They presented a safety report which showed that the number of injuries and illnesses has reduced tremendously compared to previous years. Most likely, this was due to improved safety monitoring.

#### 5.2 Staff Reports

#### City Administrator reported progress on the following:

Public works: Bids to rehabilitate the public works building will open on March 1.

Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Round 1 projects: Replacement of sewer Lift Station #1 - the wet well is now in place. It is 28' deep and 10' wide.

Street paving and storm drainage - Council has awarded the street and drainage project. A map showing the streets that will be worked on is posted on our website. All of the paperwork requirements are in place and we are waiting for the notice to proceed.

## TxCDBG Round 2.2 street paving and storm drainage:

The grant application process for Round 2.2 is progressing more quickly than Round 1. Commissioner Jack Morman, Harris County Precinct 2, has agreed to allocate more than \$2 million out of the County's recovery fund for our street paving and storm drainage. They also will be paying for surveying and engineering costs.

## Report on the enforcement of casual sales under existing law.

City Council has expressed concerns regarding an increase in the frequency of casual sales by some of the residents. They would like to have an ordinance limiting this practice. After researching the rules on casual sales, Mr. Stall came to the conclusion that casual sales does fall under the same category as garage sales. The City has an ordinance that limits garage sales to three days, twice a year. The City can start a "soft enforcement" by sending letters to the perpetual casual sales residents advising them of the ordinance regarding casual/garage sales.

<u>Police Department Reported</u> – In January, of note, there were: 10 animal calls; 17 arrests; 3 EMS/Fire Calls and 4 Thefts/Burglary.

<u>Public Works / Utilities Department</u> – The numbers of water breaks are down for January. Councilman Victor would like for the Public Works department to be more vigilant about picking

up trash at the parks and along ditches. Also, Councilwoman Schnell indicated that Public Works should assume responsibility for picking up animals at large on the weekend and after hours.

#### 6.0 BUSINESS

6.1 <u>Consideration and approval of invoices.</u>

There was a motion (Richard Adams/Second: Gerry Victor) to approve payment of the City's invoices.

- 6.2 <u>Discussion of Port of Houston Bayport facility noise on February 2 and 3.</u>
  POHA representatives were present to brief the Council and residents on the Bayport noise mitigation improvements. The POHA has installed a laser system on all of the cranes to manage the way the operators handle the containers. When it is foggy, the new laser system may need to be shut down. This could account for additional noise during this time period.
- 6.3 <u>Consideration and action to approve the purchase of a transport ventilator for the use of the Clear Lake Emergency Medical Corps in the delivery of emergency medical services.</u>

The medical Chief of CLEMC submitted a request for the City to assist them with the purchase of a transport ventilator. This transport ventilator will be a standard piece of equipment which is kept in the supervisor's car and will be available for our residents to use in the ambulance en-route to the hospital. The cost of the transport ventilator is \$1,240. There was a motion to approve the purchase of a transport ventilator for the use of Clear Lake Emergency Medical Corps. (Dana Woodruff/Second: Gerry Victor). Motion passed unanimously.

6.4 Consideration and action to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-118 authorizing the Mayor to sign an interlocal agreement with the City of La Porte for the construction of a water system interconnect between the City of Shoreacres and the City of La Porte for the purchase of water in the event of an emergency.

This interlocal agreement with the City of La Porte is for the construction of a water system interconnect and for the purchase of water in the event of an emergency. La Porte will charge us for water at the wholesale rate plus 10%, per thousand gallons. There was a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-118. (Dana Woodruff/Second: Gerry Victor). Motion passed unanimously.

6.5 Discussion and updates related to:

<u>Garage regulations (alternatives for elevated houses) and Rezoning (Bayshore Elementary School property).</u>

There was a motion (Gerry Victor/Second: Nancy Schnell) to ask the Mayor and Administrator to present a draft ordinance to Council at or prior to April 9th outlining garage alternatives for elevated buildings and rezoning of the property at the location of the demolished school on Fairfield Street pursuant to the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings of July 28, 2010 and October 27, 2010.

The Mayor explained that Council can request that the Planning and Zoning Committee consider this topic, however, Council is not legally allowed to instruct the Planning and Zoning Committee

to take action. As of this date, the Planning and Zoning Committee never submitted a proposal to Council for its consideration. Councilwoman Woodruff pointed out that that Council is not legally allowed to take the action as it is stated in the motion. The motion failed to pass. two aye votes (Victor and Schnell), three no votes (Adams, Woodruff and Arons), one abstention (Ramirez).

## Street signs for East Forest and West Forest.

David Stall indicated that three weeks ago, signs were ordered for several streets, including East Forest and West Forest.

## Demolition of dangerous buildings.

David Stall presented an update on actions to resolve dangerous building issues. Letters have been sent to residences requesting action to correct the problem. Three houses have applied for demolition permits and 8 are scheduled for court on February 23. Progress on these buildings is posted on our website.

## Golf cart regulations and legal opinions related thereto

Mayor Arons indicated that she requested the City Attorney be present at the City Council on February 27 to answer questions regarding golf cart regulations.

<u>Issuing council meeting minutes to councilmembers and the posting of minutes on the City's website.</u>

Councilman Victor indicated that he realizes that the City Administrator wears many hats in performing his duties but would like for us to get back on schedule and post draft council minutes on the City's website.

#### Ordinances and Resolutions on the city's website.

Councilman Victor would like for us to get back on schedule in posting council Ordinances and Resolutions in draft form on the City's website.

6.6 Consideration and action to approve Resolution No. 2012-78 authorizing the execution of a rerate agreement renewing and extending an Interlocal Agreement with TML Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool for the purpose of providing certain employee benefits.

The City has received the rerate notice from TML for employee benefit insurance, which is up for renewal in April. The City pays 100% of Medical and Dental costs for our full-time employees. Changes or cost increases are as follows: <u>Medical Plan</u>: 0% increase. <u>Dental Plan</u> - in total there is a very small increase of less than \$350 per year. <u>Vision Plan</u> - increased from \$41.70 to \$44.62, which equates to an increase of \$35 per year for each employee. The City does not provide this benefit and currently, there are 2 employees enrolled in this plan. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-78. (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion was approved unanimously.

# 6.7 <u>Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2012-79 approving an Investment Policy pursuant to the Public Funds Investment Act; and, other related provisions.</u>

Each year the City is required to review our investment policy. Mr. Stall explained that the City has a very conservative investment policy. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-79. (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion was approved unanimously.

#### 7.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH, 2012.

Dolly Arons, Mayor

David K. Stall, CFM

City Administrato// City Secretary