

# City of Shoreacres



## MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas, met in Regular Session on  
**Monday, June 11, 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
Alderswoman	Dana Woodruff
Alderswoman	Connie Ramirez
Alderman	Matt Webber
Alderman	Steven Jones
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 7:01 p.m.

### 2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & COMMENTS

#### 3.1 Citizen's Comments:

Danny Dodson – 518 Baywood:

- Mr. Dodson requested an update on the removal of FEMA trailers.

William Barnett – 3318 Miramar:

- There is a strip of City owned property along the water's edge on Miramar before it slopes off, where the grass is about six feet tall. Mr. Barnett asked why this area is not mowed.

Darlene Bays – 616 Baywood:

- Ms. Bays would like for the City to purchase a mosquito sprayer truck.
- Ms. Bays asked when the City first knew about the POH Bayport dredging plan?

Patrick Stanton – 128 Shadylawn:

- Mr. Stanton would like for Public Works department to get back on track with ditch mowing on a weekly basis now that summer is here.

Charlotte Wells – 3342 Miramar:

- Ms. Wells stated that the high grass on Miramar along the water edge gives the birds a place to call home and she does not see any problem with it. As for using chemical spray to get rid of mosquitoes, this is not a good method; There are other alternatives that are safer for the environment. If any of Shoreacres citizens would like more information about it, please give her a call. Also, it seems like the minutes are not always posted on the website.

#### 4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Regular Council Meeting: May 21, 2012 – Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

4.2 Workshop Council Meeting: June 4, 2012 – Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

#### 5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Council Reports

5.1.1 Mayor Arons – Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

5.1.2 Mayor pro tem Adams – Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

5.1.3 Alderman Webber – Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

5.2 Staff Reports

5.2.1.1 General activity report.

City Administrator reported on the followings:

Mr. Stall addressed some of the items raised in citizen's comments. Mr. Stall concurs with Mr. Stanton that our Public Works department needs to be more active in their mowing schedule. The recent resignation of Cordrey Sellers (PW equipment operator) and the accidental water main breaks caused by Centerpoint's crew, detracted from staff's time to mow.

In response to Ms. Wells comments regarding high grass on Miramar, the City does use the boom mower to mow that area and we try to get as close to the edge as we can without damaging our equipment. There are residents that have requested that the section be cut to the ground and there are those that do not want any mowing at all in that area. The City is taking a middle stand on this and we will continue to mow that area so that it will look presentable.

The minutes are posted on the website as soon as they are approved by council and signed.

In response to Mr. Dodson's question, the permits to allow FEMA trailers to remain in the City have been extended by Council on a case by case basis. The removal deadlines range from August to December.

#### 5.2.1.2 Status Report: Dangerous Building enforcement.

The storage building behind the residence on Shoreacres Blvd. has been demolished and the owner is in the process of removing the debris.

The house demolition at 203 Seagrove should be complete this week.

#### 5.2.1.3 Progress Report: Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Round 1 projects.

The Police Station – The building should have electricity tomorrow and the contractor will install the carpet.

Replacement of sewer Lift Station #1 - Controls have been installed and final wiring installation is in progress.

Improvements to sewer Lift Station #2 - Controls have been installed.

Rehabilitation of sewer Lift Station #3 - Forms are complete; the installation of new pumps is close to being complete.

Replacement of Water Plant #1 – There is a long list of lead items that need to be completed.

Street paving and storm drainage are progressing as expected.

#### 5.2.1.4 Status Report: TxCDBG Round 2.2 water main.

Mr. Stall met with the Manager of GLO at City Hall and held a conference call with other GLO members, engineers and our grant administrator. The budget was reviewed and has been set for contract. The process takes approximately 22 days.

#### 5.2.1.5 Progress Report: Public Works Building reconstruction.

The public works building slab was poured today.

#### 5.2.1.6 Status Report: Water Plant #2 altitude valve / pressure improvements.

Drawings and quotes are out for review. In approximately 4 weeks we should be ready to approve a contract.

## 6.0 BUSINESS

6.1 Consideration and approval of invoices - There was a motion to pay our bills [Richard Adams / Second: Dana Woodruff]. Motion carried unanimously.

6.2 Discussion of, and possible action regarding, the proposed Port of Houston Bayport dredging operations – Mayor Arons invited Mr. Mark Vincent and Ms. Michelle Hundley with the PHA to present background information regarding the Deepening & Widening Project and to answer questions.

Mr. Vincent summarized the general timeline of the Deepening & Widening Project. He also presented information on the project as described in the Environmental Impact Study.

*December 2011* - PHA submitted a permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in December 2011 for the Bayport Channel Improvement Project.

*May 3, 2012* - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued the Public Notice with all comments due on July 5, 2012.

*May 31, 2012* - PHA hosted an open house, providing an opportunity for communities to learn, voice their opinions, and ask questions about the channel project.

PHA has offered to assist the Army Corps of Engineers with preparing responses to public comments. Once public comment period is closed, the Army Corps of Engineers will render its decision in approximately 120 days.

City Council discussed the project and asked questions of Mr. Vincent. The following items were discussed as part of Council's discussion.

Mayor Arons invited the Corps of Engineers to tonight's Council meeting to respond to questions but they declined. The Army Corp of Engineers decided "to let the Public Notice process run its course." The Corp will consider all comments and will make their final decision.

There was concern that the PHA and the Army Corp of Engineers did not reach out to local leaders (prior to issuance of the public notice) for input regarding potential impacts that the project may have on the community.

The proposed location of the dredge material and the marsh was suggested by the Beneficial User's Group (BUG), which consists only of governmental agencies, not local jurisdictions.

Council does not agree with the marsh and the proposed location of dredge material placement.

Council believes that the statement that there are no cultural historical impacts in our community associated with the project to be incorrect.

Ships should operate only during daylight hours. Our community does not need to listen to ship noise all night long.

Every year the Port will be adding more dredging materials to its current placement areas. When does the Port plan to do something else before these marshes become mountains?

Council inquired as to who prepared the "Environmental Impact" study and is the background information available to the public?

How did the authors come to the conclusion that there is "no significant adverse impact expected?"

As an applicant, which of the 3 options presented regarding the placement of the dredge materials is PHA advocating for the Corps to approve?

Council would like for the dredge materials to be placed as far away from the City of Shoreacres as possible.

The Port has a great opportunity right now to show support to the recreational users and all interested parties. The Port can choose to be a hero or not, and Council would like to see the Port strive toward a heroic effort to meet at an acceptable middle ground that would not have such an impact on our community.

The Council also accepted comments and questions raised from citizens. The following list summarized some of the comments presented:

The recreational users are not opposed to the dredging activity. The economic benefit of the recreational users can co-exist with the economic benefit of the Port, as long as the Port does not destroy the area of the bay that is currently being used by the recreational users.

Does the Corps have enough information from the PHA to issue a permit that would allow the construction of an un-tested submerged marsh? There are many geo-technical questions that still need to be addressed.

The Corps should prepare a complete "Independent Study" with emphasis on the environment, economic, and cultural effects.

There is a conflict in the depth of the proposed project. The permit application states that the channel will be dredged to 49 ft MLT and the Port advertised it differently. Also, the size of the marsh has not been determined as listed in the permit application, so we really don't know how big the marsh area will be; It could take up the whole rectangular area. The Port needs to state in the application the size of the marsh area.

How can the Corps accept an application without an actual design? Has there been a study done regarding an open bay disposal site?

When will the Panama Canal be widened? Are the cranes located at Bayport big enough to accommodate larger future ships? Is Bayport planning to get larger cranes in the future?

There will be navigational hazards to recreational boaters if PHA is allowed to go ahead with its plans. Also, the dredge materials placement sites will increase in size as time progresses.

There was a motion (Dana Woodruff/Second: Steven Jones) requesting that the Mayor draft a letter to the Corps of Engineers incorporating citizens and Council's comments. The motion passed unanimously.

- 6.3 Consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2012-122 relating to animals. - There was a motion to postpone Ordinance 2012-122 relating to animals to the next meeting [6/25]. (Steven Jones/Second: Connie Ramirez). The motion was approved 4:1 with Councilwoman Woodruff opposed.
- 6.4 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2012-89 appointing a Presiding Judge and Alternate Judges of the municipal court of the City of Shoreacres for a term of two years.

It was recommended that Council appoint Judge J. L. Jay as Presiding Judge. Alternate Judges are Denise Mitrano and John Morgan. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-89 (Richard Adams/Second: Matt Webber). The motion passed unanimously.

6.5 Discussion of, and possible action regarding, the city's Clean-Up Green-Up program and curbside collection.

No formal action was required.

**7.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 9th DAY OF JULY, 2012.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dolly S. Arons", written over a horizontal line.

Dolly Arons, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David K. Stall", written over a horizontal line.  

David K. Stall, CFM, City Administrator / City Secretary