

# City of Shoreacres



## MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas, met in Regular Session on  
**Monday, June 25, 2012 at 7:01 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	Steven Jones
Alderman	Matt Webber

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 PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & COMMENTS

#### 3.1 Nancy Schnell – 618 Baywood:

Ms. Schnell asked why the public was not notified until June, of the state's findings regarding the results of the sampling of city's water during the month of March. She asked if there was any fine issued by the State for this violation. If a fine was issued, what account was the fine payment coded to? Were any employee disciplinary actions taken? Ms. Schnell indicated that she is very saddened to hear about the retirement of Police Chief Randall French.

#### 3.2 Bob Wright – 3405 Bayou Forest:

Mr. Wright requested an update on the Resolution from the Port of Houston. He notified citizens of the open meeting at the Port tomorrow [6/26/12] at 9:00 a.m.

Patrick Stanton – 128 Shady lawn:

Mr. Stanton requested an update on the ordinance regarding garages for elevated houses. He also would like the city to put a higher priority on mowing ditches. Mr. Stanton echoed the same sentiment as Ms. Schnell on the retirement of Chief Randall French. He was disappointed that the city was not able to provide a recognition ceremony for his service.

Scott Tuma – 1220 South Country Club:

Mr. Tuma informed citizens of the website “ourgalvestonbay.com” where citizens can get all the facts about the Port’s proposal of the marsh placement.

Darlene Bays – 616 Baywood:

Ms. Bays is very saddened to hear about the retirement of Chief Randall French and believes he has “been done wrong.” She also would like for the city to put a higher priority on mowing the ditches.

Anita Willis – 1009 Forest:

Ms. Willis expressed her concerns on the increasing amount of dangerous chemicals that are present in the water of Galveston Bay.

Christina Johnson – 1220 South Country Club:

Ms. Johnson would like to re-iterate her opposition to the Port’s proposed site for the marsh placement. Ms. Johnson likes the new electronic sign at the front entrance. She suggested that the City post announcements on it. She also asked why we do not fly the flags on the new maritime flag pole.

William Barnett – 3318 Miramar:

Mr. Barnett addressed his concern regarding the high grass along the shoreline on Miramar and would like more information on the position in Public Works Department.

#### **4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **4.1 Regular Council Meeting: May 21, 2012.**

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2012 Council Meeting (Richard Adams/Second: Dana Woodruff). Motion carried unanimously.

##### **4.2 Workshop Council Meeting: June 4, 2012.**

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2012 Council Meeting (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion carried unanimously.

##### **4.3 Workshop Council Meeting: June 14, 2012.**

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2012 Council Meeting (Dana Woodruff/Second: Steven Jones). Motion carried unanimously.

##### **4.4 Special Council Meeting: June 20, 2012.**

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2012 Council Meeting (Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez). Motion carried unanimously.

#### **5.0 REPORTS**

##### **5.1 Council Reports**

##### **5.1.1 Mayor Arons – Mayor Arons reported on the following items:**

The letter to the Corps (expressing the City’s opinions of the dredging and marsh site placement project) will be mailed out before the deadline. Mosquito spraying has been scheduled with Harris County. Once again, the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks celebration will be sponsored by the Houston Yacht

Club and will start after dusk. Parking along Miramar will be allowed only for this event. Please do not leave your vehicles unattended all day. New e-mail addresses for council members will be listed on the City's website, once they are available.

5.1.2 Mayor pro tem Adams – May Pro Tem Adams attended the SEACAP meeting last week. TOTAL Chemicals had recently announced a \$60 million project which will create 4 permanent jobs at the Bayport facility and approximately 200 temporary construction jobs.

5.1.3 Alderman Webber – Alderman Webber reported on attending a meeting held by Harris County Commissioner Jack Morman to show support on the proposed improvements of State Highway 146 through the City of Seabrook. The expansion was included in the 2033 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Due to testimony from various mayors and representatives, the project has been moved up, possibly into the 2013 TIP.

## 5.2 Staff Reports

### 5.2.1 City Administrator

#### Mr. Stall reported the following to general activity:

Mr. Stall responded to Ms. Schnell's question regarding water testing results. The City did not sample well water, since no well water was used by the city. All drinking water distributed to the residents was tested and meets State requirements. No citation was received from TCEQ.

#### Resignation of Police Chief Randall French:

Mr. Stall received notification of Chief French's retirement on Monday June 18, 2012. Chief French's last day will be Friday June 29. Mr. Stall introduced Officer David Newman as acting police chief. The City will be accepting applications for the open position of police chief.

Mowing Issues: The city is back on track with our ditch mowing schedule. We started on the West side of the city. If weather permits, by the end of the week 100% of all city mowing will be complete.

Mowing along the Miramar shoreline: The mowing on the Miramar shoreline will take a back seat to the mowing of the ditches, due to the potential flooding of our ditches in case of a heavy rain storm. The city will mow the shoreline only up to the riprap due to potential chances of damaging our mowing equipment. Some residents want all the grass mowed near the riprap. Others don't want it mowed at all. The city will take the middle road and keep the grass height along the shoreline to a minimum and will not cut it all the way to the ground to allow for erosion control.

Gateway Sign: The Gateway Sign is 85% operational and, in keeping with our professional appearance, the city will not use the sign as an everyday electronic messaging center. It will be predominately photographs that will have some significance to Shoreacres or the San Jacinto historic district.

We have installed a very nice gaff-rigged maritime pole with a yardarm, which fits in perfectly with our only business – the Houston Yacht Club. However, the maritime flag pole has a completely different flag flying etiquette, which has caused some distress among our residents during a very short period that the U.S. flag was flown on this pole. Not all of the electrical components of the sign are completed and proper flag-flying etiquette is that the U.S. flag must be illuminated at all times. Due to the lack of lighting at the pole, we will not be flying the U.S. flag until the project is fully completed.

Reconstruction of the public works building is progressing on schedule.

Police station electricity was turned on Saturday and air conditioning will be installed. Replacement of sewer lift station #1 is 97% complete. Repairs and improvements to lift stations #2 and #3 are in progress. The streets and drainage contractor is working on the east side of Taylor Bayou.

### 5.3 Monthly Financial Report.

General fund account is +\$266,640

Utility fund account is +\$19,732

Service deposit account is +\$125,023

TxCDBG fund account is +\$14,817 (this is a pass thru account)

TexPool Reserve balance is +\$1,085,491

Certificate of Deposits balance is +\$247,408

### 5.4 Audit Committee Report

Mayor Pro Tem Adams reported of 2 findings during FY 2010-2011 audit review.

1. *Recording of accruals at year end* – These are remnants of previous year changes in accounting methods from cash accounting to accrual accounting.
2. *Limited staff and segregation of duties* – The city has a limited number of staff which affects the separation of duties. The water billing issues in FY 2011 were reviewed by the auditor. This issue was of concern to the auditor themselves because they did not discover it during a prior audit. After further investigation, our auditor concluded that there were many contributing factors that made the incident undetectable. Furthermore, the city has made changes to personnel and control structure to prevent similar issues from occurring.

## 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 Consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2012-122 relating to releasing, dumping, abandoning, injury to, or killing of dogs, cats, or any domestic animal or wild bird.

Council discussed Ordinance 2012-122, which pertains to releasing and dumping of animals and the act of intentionally killing or injuring animals within the City of Shoreacres. Action on this item was postponed from the last agenda. There was a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-122 as revised by Steven Jones [Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez]. Motion passed with Jones, Woodruff, Ramirez, and Adams: For; Webber: Against.

- 6.3 Discussion of minimum age for operators of golf carts on public property including streets and parks.

There was a discussion to define the term “Operator” in the City’s golf carts ordinance. Discussion included the age of the operator to be no younger than 14 years of age, with a designated adult present in the cart at the age of at least 21 years.

- 6.4 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2012-91 authorizing the City Administrator to expend funds to cost share with other Texas Coast Utility Coalition (TCUC) cities for the preparation of briefs, and reply briefs, in support of TCUC’s petition for COSA3 tariff case review at the Texas Supreme Court.

Resolution 2012-91 authorizes the City Administrator to spend up to \$500 for shared legal expenses in challenging CenterPoint Energy COSA-3 tariff proposal at the Texas Supreme Court. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-91 [Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez]. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6.5 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2012-92 authorizing the City Administrator to obtain transact-able offers for electric service; and, execute a contract for electric service.

Mr. Stall presented the electricity service contract proposal with Hudson Energy. One option is to lock in the cost for a period of five years for a price of approximately 27% less. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-92 [Dana Woodruff/Second: Steven Jones]. Motion carried unanimously.

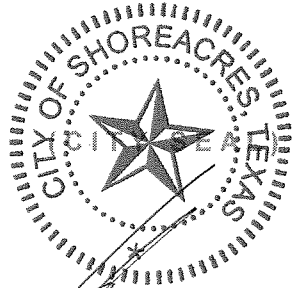
- 6.6 Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2012-93 authorizing the City Administrator to expend funds budgeted for water system improvements and proceed with the installation of an altitude valve and associated improvements to Water Plant #2.

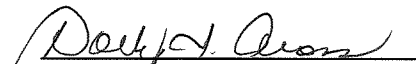
City Engineer, Jerry Gainer, presented a price for installation of an altitude valve to provide the city with the ability to obtain higher pressure from the water distribution system. This resolution will authorize the city Administrator to spend no more than \$25,000 for this project. There was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-93 [Dana Woodruff/Second: Connie Ramirez]. Motion carried unanimously.

**7.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 13TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2012.



  
Dolly Arghs, Mayor

ATTEST

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David K. Stall, CFM  
City Administrator / City Secretary