

CITY OF BAY CITY

MINUTES • APRIL 09, 2024

COUNCIL
CHAMBERS | 1901
5th Street

City Council Regular Meeting

6:00 PM

1901 5TH STREET
BAY CITY TX, 77414



Mayor

Robert K. Nelson

Mayor Pro Tem

Blayne Finlay

Councilman

Jim Folse

Councilman

Bradley Westmoreland

Councilwoman

Becca Sitz

Councilman

Benjamin Flores

Through a united and collaborative effort, we seek to grow the City of Bay City with a diverse culture that is proud to call Bay City home. We envision a thriving family-centered community where citizens are involved in the future development of our city. We desire our citizens to work, play, worship and shop in the community in which we live. Visitors are welcomed and encouraged to enjoy the friendly environment and amenities the citizens and business owners have created together.

CALL TO ORDER AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert K. Nelson at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Robert K. Nelson
Mayor Pro Tem Blayne Finlay
Councilman Benjamin Flores
Councilman Jim Folse
Councilman Brad Westmoreland
Councilwoman Becca Sitz

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

Texas State Flag Pledge: *"Honor The Texas Flag; I Pledge Allegiance To Thee, Texas, One State Under God, One And Indivisible."*

Councilman Bradley Westmoreland

MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Bay City is committed to fostering future economic growth by collaborating with our citizens, employers, current and future businesses, as well as the Community and Economic Development Centers. We strive to deliver superior municipal services and to invest in quality-of-life initiatives such as housing, businesses, jobs and activities for all citizens. We make a concerted effort to respond to resident's concerns in a timely and professional manner in order to achieve customer satisfaction.

Councilman Bradley Westmoreland

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Finlay to approve the agenda with the removal of item #19 Manure Report, Seconded by Councilman Flores. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. **Proclamation ~ Month of April 2024 as "Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness Month.** Brittany Matthews, Crisis Center Deputy Director

Mayor Nelson read the proclamation and presented it to the Crisis Center staff.

2. Award ~ Recognizing Corporal Jose Soto, Bay City Police Department, for utilizing his first aid training and for saving a life.

Christella Rodriguez, Chief of Police, provided the events of the day when a 17-day old infant stopped breathing while the family headed to the hospital and City Officers intervened and immediately began CPR. The infant was then transported by Patrol car while Corporal Jose Soto continued CPR in the vehicle where the infant began to breathe. Corporal Soto was presented with an award for saving a life.

3. Recognition ~ Re-accreditation of the Bay City Police Department being a Recognized Law Enforcement Agency.

Jennifer Howe, Freeport Chief of Police and Texas Police Chiefs Association, presented the re-accreditation of the Bay City Police Department as being a Recognized Law Enforcement Agency. Christella Rodriguez, Chief of Police, recognized Lt. Irene Kjergaard for her efforts in managing the accreditation program.

4. Recognition ~ City of Bay City employee promotions

Staff from Public Works, Police Department, and Finance department were recognized for their promotion.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM CITY MANAGER

Girl Scout Troop 15609 was in attendance and were introduced.

Scotty Jones, Interim City Manager, recognized the Recycling Center for receiving the "Keep Texas Beautiful" certification and introduced the staff.

ITEMS / COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilwoman Sitz stated she's excited about the 6th street striping. Councilman Folse stated that citizens have asked for a traffic count of cars crossing the Hamman road bridge. Councilman Folse also stated that the traffic lights were out of sync on Hwy 35 and 60. Councilman Flores recognized Police Chief Christella Rodriguez as the recipient of the Mike Gentry Award in March. Mayor Pro Tem Finlay stated that the Riverside Bridge is great. Mayor Nelson gave dates of events for April.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR APPROVAL

- 5. Accounts Payable, Direct Payable and Utility Refunds for October, November, and December 2024.**
- 6. Regular Council Meeting minutes of January 23, 2024**
- 7. Regular Council Meeting minutes of February 13, 2024**
- 8. Regular Council Meeting minutes of February 27, 2024**

9. **Special Called Meeting minutes of March 7, 2024**
10. **Council Workshop Meeting minutes of March 26, 2024**
11. **Ratifying the resolution approving the City's application for the Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Downtown Revitalization Program for the 2024-2025 funding cycle. Resolution R-2024-015**

Motion made by Councilman Flores with corrections to Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024 items #7 Mayor Nelson and Councilman Flores voted "nay" and #8 Mayor Nelson voted "nay", Seconded by Councilwoman Sitz. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folsie, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

12. **Information Technology Department report and presentation.** Mark Flash, IT Manager

Mark Flash, IT Manager, presented help desk ticket stats, security stats, and overview of projects. Christina Lopez, IT Specialist, demonstrated the web re-design and a citizen service app.

REGULAR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND/OR APPROVAL

13. **Resolution ~ Discuss, consider, and/or approve a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bay City, Texas authorizing the Bay City Community Development Corporation to enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Bay City for a project to provide Public Safety Facilities.** Jessica Russell, Executive Director BCCDC

Motion made by Councilman Westmoreland to approve a resolution of the City Council of the City of Bay City, Texas authorizing the Bay City Community Development Corporation to enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Bay City for a project to provide Public Safety Facilities, Seconded by Councilman Folsie. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folsie, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

14. **Interlocal Agreement ~ Discuss, consider, and/or approve the first amended agreement between Matagorda County and the City of Bay City for pagers dispersed to all fire fighting departments in Matagorda County.** Dan Shook, Fire Marshall

Motion made by Councilman Flores to approve the first amended agreement between Matagorda County and the City of Bay City for pagers, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Finlay. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folsie, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

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- 15. Resolution ~ Discuss, consider, and/or approve a resolution regarding the City of Bay City's participation in the State of Texas HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Homeowner Reconstruction Program administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.** Gabriel Lopez, Engineering Tech

Motion made by Councilwoman Sitz to approve a resolution regarding the City of Bay City's participation in the State of Texas HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Homeowner Reconstruction Program, Seconded by Councilman Flores. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilwoman Sitz. Voting Nay: Councilman Westmoreland. Motion carried.

- 16. Grant ~ Discuss, consider, and/or approve the City of Bay City authorization to issue RFPs (Request for Proposals) for administrative and construction management services related to the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Homeowner Reconstruction Program by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.** Gabriel Lopez, Engineering Tech

Motion made by Councilman Flores to approve the City of Bay City authorization to issue RFPs (Request for Proposals) for administrative and construction management services related to the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Seconded by Councilwoman Sitz. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilwoman Sitz. Voting Nay: Councilman Westmoreland. Motion carried.

- 17. Aquatics ~ Discuss, consider, and/or approve keeping Valiant Pool open during the rehabilitation of Hilliard Pool.** Scotty Jones, Interim City Manager

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Finlay to keep Valiant Pool open during the rehabilitation of Hilliard Pool, Seconded by Councilman Folse. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

- 18. Aquatics ~ Discuss and create a task force to explore Pool Management options for both short term and long term.** Mayor Robert K. Nelson

Mayor Nelson stated that YMCA has approached the City about the 16th Street Pool (Valiant) and the City would like to create a task force to investigate the possibilities. Councilman Folse and Councilman Flores agreed to be on the task force.

19. Presentation~ Right to Farm, the City of Bay City, and pigs, CRG Health Consultant Report Breakdown, TCEQ Animal Feedlot Operation Report, Texas Soil and Water Conservation Report, Texas A&M Labs Manure Report.

Mayor Nelson stated that the Texas A&M Labs Manure Report was removed from the presentation. Councilman Flores presented and reviewed the other reports and questioned if the reports had been reversed would the City have published them. Councilman Flores presented his perspective and opinions regarding his property and the keeping of pigs and stated that in his opinion, encouraging anyone to sue without providing his reports was reckless.

CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned and went into executive session at 7:33 p.m.

20. Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (Deliberation regarding Real Property).

21. Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.071(1) of the Texas Government Code (Consultation with Counsel on Legal Matters)

RECONVENE AND ACTION

Council reconvened into regular session at 9:12 p.m.

Motion made by Councilwoman Westmoreland on Item #20a to authorize Scotty Jones to counter offer as discussed, Seconded by Councilwoman Sitz. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Finlay on Item #20b to authorize Scotty Jones to counter offer as discussed, Seconded by Councilman Folse. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried.

ITEMS / COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND CITY MANAGER

Councilwoman Sitz stated she appreciates Public Works.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilwoman Sitz to adjourn, Seconded by Councilman Westmoreland. Voting Yea: Mayor Nelson, Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, Councilman Flores, Councilman Folse, Councilman Westmoreland, Councilwoman Sitz. Motion carried and Council adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 14th day of May 2024.

ROBERT K. NELSON, MAYOR

CITY OF BAY CITY, TEXAS

JEANNA THOMPSON

CITY SECRETARY