



Mayor Depreo	
Councilmember L'Ecuyer	At-Large
Vacant	Ward 1
Councilmember Moran	Ward 2
Councilmember Morgan	Ward 3
Councilmember Clark	Ward 4

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, December 01, 2020**  
**6:00 PM CST**  
Council Chambers, City Hall

**Call to Order.**

Mayor Depreo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

Mayor Depreo

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call- PRESENT

Ward 2 Alan Moran

Ward 3 Jamie Morgan

Ward 4 Charles Clark

Councilmember-At-Large Lindsay L'Ecuyer

Mayor Nancy Depreo

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to amend the agenda to include the following:

7. a. **2020-337:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-083 thereby authorizing a grant application to the National Resources Conservation Services for Emergency Watershed Protection Program funding for drainage restoration at Diamondhead Drive East and Haina Street, committing matching funds and for other related purposes.
7. b. **2020-338:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-084 thereby requesting the Hancock County Board of Supervisors adopt and implement a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan.
7. c. **2020-339:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-085 thereby authorizing the expenditure of city of funds for debris removal and disposal from the city rights-of-ways adjoining commercial, church and Diamondhead Property Owner's Association properties and on private streets utilized by the public and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Presentation Agenda.**

## Council Comments.

1. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held December 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chamber located at 5000 Diamondhead Circle.
2. City Hall will be closed December 24 and 25, 2020 for Christmas and December 31, 2020 and January 1, 2021 for the New Year.

## City Manager's Report.

1. Christmas Event at City Hall – Due to the increasing cases of COVID, the Christmas event at city hall has been cancelled for this year.
2. Tidelands Grant – The city received our formal notification of the new Tidelands grant award from DMR for \$400K. Our agenda item is to accept the grant that does not require any local matching funds. The grant is to fund the mixed-use Waterfront District project to improve the existing boat launch and add a pier, parking, portable bathroom, and kayak launch at the end of Noma Drive on the Jourdan River. This grant will allow the city to begin to develop this waterfront area and to encourage the private sector to develop next to it. The master plan envisions the addition of a boat storage facility, restaurant, retail shop, and residential units. Jason Chinichi is our engineer on this project. We have already completed the wetlands delineation for this area, and we hope to begin the permitting process shortly.
3. New Dollar General Store – Construction will begin shortly for a new Dollar General Store in Diamondhead. It will be located on Kalani just north of Hancock Bank.
4. New Medical Office Building – Clearing has started on the corner of Veterans Blvd and E. Aloha for a new medical office building. The developers are Rick and Jonathan Marshall. They are building a new 20K square foot medical office building for their client that will sign a 35-year lease. This will bring new medical services that are currently not available in Diamondhead. This includes cancer care, CT scan with diagnostic imaging, X-ray imaging, a specialty pharmacy, and over 20 exam rooms. Forty six doctors will report to this facility each week plus additional nurses and staff. It will create 100 new construction jobs, and it will generate about \$68K new property taxes. The estimated cost of the project is \$5 million.
5. Request to Ask the County to get a TIF Redevelopment Plan – In order for a TIF bond to work properly, the developer will need the participation of the city and the county. I am asking the council to pass a resolution asking the Hancock Board of Supervisors to get a TIF Redevelopment Plan just like the City of Diamondhead has done. This will allow the county to utilize a TIF bond in the future as an economic development tool. This is the same thing the city did to match the county's tax abatement plan in 2018. To make the economic development package attractive to the developer, the city and county must both participate when using the TIF or a tax abatement program. At present, there are 3 developers looking at major projects in Diamondhead. One is the medical office building that will need to run sewerage and water on Veterans Blvd. and E. Aloha Drive. At present, these public utilities are not located along these roads and a lift station will be needed. This is a huge financial cost for a developer, and the TIF could possibly be used to assist with this cost for the public infrastructure. I would like to have the county in a position to consider a proposal that may come from these developers. This does not obligate the county or the city to accept any proposals in the future. This simply makes it legal from the county

to offer if they choose. I recently met with the county administrator who requested this resolution from the city and will have it on their next agenda to consider.

6. Debris Removal from Churches, Commercial Properties, and POA Parcels – I am recommending to the council that the city pick up the debris along the city streets on property that is owned by businesses, churches and the POA. This is a safety issue, and we need to clean up the city. The cost for picking this up may not be reimbursed by FEMA and may be paid 100% by the city. We would need to notify Tetra Tech of the council's decision so they can track this separately in their software. The monitor will track the cost of debris removal from these areas separate from the rest of the city, so we can report property to FEMA. I am not sure of the amount of debris or an estimated cost, but I think it is safe to assume it could be \$100,000 or more. The city will seek reimbursement to the extent possible.
7. Request to Apply for a NCRS Grant – I am requesting authorization to apply for a NCRS grant for drainage improvements for the ditches leading into the detention pond next to I-10 and south of Diamondhead Drive East. This will require 20% local matching funds.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None.

### **Policy Agenda.**

#### **Minutes:**

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to the approve the 1.) Minutes of November 17, 2020, 2.) November 20, 2020 and 3.) November 23, 2020.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

#### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Ordinances:**

4. Proclaim December 19, 2020 Wreaths Across America Day in the City of Diamondhead

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to proclaim December 19, 2020 Wreaths Across America Day in the City of Diamondhead

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

#### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. Motion to proclaim the City Diamondhead a "Live Oak Tree City".

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to proclaim the City Diamondhead a "Live Oak Tree City".

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

#### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Resolutions:**

6. **2020-334:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-083 thereby abandoning t7' drainage/utility easement on each side of the common property line between Lots 44 and 45, Diamondhead Phase 1, Unit 2, Block 5; physical street address is 7330 Ahia Court; parcel number is 068R-3-41-145.000. (Maxwell).

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution 2020-083 thereby abandoning t7' drainage/utility easement on each side of the common property line between Lots 44 and 45, Diamondhead Phase 1, Unit 2, Block 5; physical street address is 7330 Ahia Court; parcel number is 068R-3-41-145.000. (Maxwell).

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. **2020-331:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-081 thereby requesting the use of the grand stand from the City of Waveland for the Krewe of Diamondhead parade to be held February 13, 2021.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer to adopt Resolution 2020-081 thereby requesting the use of the grand stand from the City of Waveland for the Krewe of Diamondhead parade to be held February 13, 2021.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. a. **2020-337:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-083 thereby authorizing a grant application to the National Resources Conservation Services for Emergency Watershed Protection Program funding for drainage restoration at Diamondhead Drive East and Haina Street, committing matching funds and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution. 2020-083 thereby authorizing a grant application to the National Resources Conservation Services for Emergency Watershed Protection Program funding for drainage restoration at Diamondhead Drive East and Haina Street, committing matching funds and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. b. **2020-338:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-084 thereby requesting the Hancock County Board of Supervisors adopt and implement a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution 2020-084 thereby requesting the Hancock County Board of Supervisors adopt and implement a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. c. **2020-339:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-085 thereby authorizing the expenditure of city of funds for debris removal and disposal from the city rights-of-ways adjoining commercial, church and Diamondhead Property Owner's Association properties and on private streets utilized by the public and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution 2020-085 thereby authorizing the expenditure of city of funds for debris removal and disposal from the city rights-of-ways adjoining commercial, church and Diamondhead Property Owner's Association properties and on private streets utilized by the public and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion made by Ward 3 Morgan, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark motion to approve the following agenda items by consent:

8. **2020-330:** Motion to approve Budget Amendment 2021-006 to adjust funding the incentive pay policy.
9. **2020-332:** Motion to approve payment of annual appropriation to Gulf Regional Planning Commission.
10. **2020-335:** Motion to approve compensation for poll workers, election commissioners and clerks for the December 8, 2020 Ward 1 Special Election.
11. **2020-336:** Motion to accept the FY21 Tidelands Grant Award for Noma Drive Public Access Improvements in the amount of \$400,000, approval of the grant agreement and authorize Mayor Depreo to execute same.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Action Agenda.**

12. **2020-333:** Motion to approve the re-subdivision of 5 lots into 2 separate parcels (Diamondhead Phase #2, Unit #10, Block 5, Lots 3, 4, 21, 22, and 23.) The owner of the property is Paul Montjoy. The property address of the original lots is 63767 Diamondhead Drive North. The tax parcel number is 132A-1-03-071.000.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to approve the re-subdivision of 5 lots into 2 separate parcels (Diamondhead Phase #2, Unit #10, Block 5, Lots 3, 4, 21, 22, and 23.) The owner of the property is Paul Montjoy. The property address of the original lots is 63767 Diamondhead Drive North. The tax parcel number is 132A-1-03-071.000.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Routine Agenda.****Claims Payable**

13. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT157811 - DKT157839) in the amount of \$82,680.99.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 2 Moran to approve Docket of Claims (DKT157811 - DKT157839) in the amount of \$82,680.99.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

14. Motion to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM062, PRCLAIM063, PRCLAIM064 and PRCLAIM065.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM062, PRCLAIM063, PRCLAIM064 and PRCLAIM065.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****Department Reports**

- a. October 2020 Financials

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to accept the October 2020 Financials.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items. None.****Executive Session –**

Motion made by At-Large L'Ecuyer, Seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to enter closed session to determine the need for an executive session.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion was made by Mayor Depreo, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to enter executive session pursuant to MS Code 25-41-7 (b) litigation matters involving DHP1, LLC v. Foreman and Longanecker v. City of Diamondhead.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

City Manager Reso announced to the public that the Council had entered executive session pursuant MS Code 25-41-7 (b) litigation matters involving DHP1, LLC v. Foreman and Longanecker v. City of Diamondhead.

Motion was made by Mayor Depreo, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to authorize the City Attorney to file a motion to intervene on behalf of the City of Diamondhead in the matter of DHP1, LLC v. Foreman and further authorizing funds to be interplead in the amount of \$9,961 for the purchase of a portion of the property at issue in the lawsuit for right of way construction.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mayor Depreo, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan, to exit executive session.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mayor Depreo moved, seconded Ward 3 Morgan to exit closed session.

Voting Yea: Ward 1 Depreo, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Schafer, IV

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

City Attorney Cusick announced that while in executive session that official action as recorded was taken.

**Adjourn/Recess.**

At 6:48 p.m. and with no further business to come before the Council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, seconded by Ward 3 Morgan to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Morgan, Ward 4 Clark, Councilmember-At-Large L'Ecuyer, Mayor Depreo

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Nancy Depreo  
Mayor Pro Tem

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Jeannie Klein  
City Clerk