CITY OF PORT LAVACA

MEETING: FEBRUARY 10, 2025 AGENDA ITEM ____

DATE: 02.05.2025

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Request of Kevin and Sasha Nevarez for a boat slip in Smith Harbor

At the December 17, 2024 meeting of the Port Commission, the Commissioner considered a request of Kevin and Sasha Nevarez for a boat slip in Smith Harbor to park a shrimp boat they own directly behind their future restaurant and home. After discussion, Chairman Davila made a recommendation to deny the request which was seconded by Commissioner McGuire and voted Aye by the full Commission (all were in attendance).

The Commissioners generally agreed that they were not in favor of establishing any new boat slips in Smith Harbor at this time because of upcoming construction projects in the area including the CDBG-MIT funded Living Shoreline breakwater project and the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust funded project to construct a bulkhead and fishing dock in Smith Harbor. Note: As part of his lease agreement, Poor Boy Bait is permitted to park 2 shrimp boat alongside the 4,150 sf tract his leases for his bait shop (\$1,484.86/mo).

On the afternoon of December 17, I received an email from Mr. & Mrs. Nevarez requesting that the decision be appealed to City Council.

Below is a copy of the memo provided to the Port Commission for that agenda item and attached is a google map image of Smith Harbor, two sheets from the draft CDBG-MIT construction plans, and the concept plan for the MBMT project for reference. :

Kevin and Sasha Nevarez have requested a boat slip in Smith Harbor along the seawall directly behind their future restaurant and home. If permitted and a yearly contract is approved, the annual rent would be \$3,300, based upon a monthly rent calculated as follows: \$175.00 for the first 25 ft and \$5.00 for each foot greater than 25 ft in length. The boat is 45 ft long, so \$275/mo.

As you know there are future plans to construct a 10 ft wide walkway on the waterside of the seawall. It is hoped that funding could be found for this project within the next 5 years. If approved, staff recommends a lease term for this boat slip of no longer than one year at a time, with language that allows the City to terminate the lease with 60 days advance notice should construction of this walkway be scheduled to commence. In addition, staff recommends that the slip be established perpendicular to the dock (not parallel) to provide safer transfer between the boat to land. There are no tie off points along this seawall. If a slip is approved, the tenant will need to provide tie-off points as approved by the Harbor Master, with the agreement and understanding that the tenant will be responsible for removal at the time the walkway construction is scheduled.

There are plans to construct a bulkhead and fishing deck in the area just west of Poor Boys bait, but this construction shouldn't be affected by a shrimp boat docked approximately 200 ft away.

Attachments: Google Map of Smith Harbor; 2 sheets from 70% design plans of CDBG-MIT project; conceptual plan for MBMT project







