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**CITY OF PORT LAVACA**

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**MEETING: MARCH 09, 2026**

**DATE:** 3/2/2026

**TO:** MANDY GRANT

**FROM:** TANIA FRENCH

**SUBJECT:** COUNCIL AGENDA – PRESS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

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Attached is a request submitted by Schelly Bartels, Publisher of *The Port Lavaca Wave* and Board Member of the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association, regarding use of city facilities for the upcoming Texas Gulf Coast Press Association and South Texas Press Association Joint Convention scheduled for April 16–18, 2026.

This marks the first time in history that these two longstanding non-profit organizations — TGCPA (88 years) and STPA (100 years) — will host their joint convention in Port Lavaca. The event will bring newspaper publishers, editors, and media leaders from across Texas into our community for multiple days.

From an events and tourism perspective, this convention presents:

- Direct economic impact through hotel stays, dining, and local shopping
- Valuable statewide exposure for Port Lavaca
- An opportunity to showcase Lighthouse Beach, Nautical Landings, and our waterfront amenities
- Long-term relationship building with media leaders who influence community coverage across Texas
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The requested use of the Nautical Landings Meeting Room and Deck (April 16) and Lighthouse Beach Pavilion (April 17) aligns well with our goal of promoting Port Lavaca as a welcoming destination for meetings and conventions.

I believe hosting this group at these venues will leave a positive and lasting impression and further position Port Lavaca as a premier coastal gathering location.