

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON  
WORKSHOP - JULY 25, 2019**

7/25/2019 - Minutes

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER

**With a quorum present, the workshop was called to order at 8:05 a.m.**

2. ROLL CALL

**Present: Mayor James Yarbrough, Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Craig Brown, Council Member Amy Bly, Council Member David Collins, Council Member Jason Hardcastle, Council Member John Listowski, and Council Member Dr. Jackie Cole.**

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 3.A. Clarification Of Consent And Regular City Council Agenda Items - This Is An Opportunity For City Council To Ask Questions Of Staff On Consent And Regular Agenda Items. (30 Minutes)

**Items 10D, 11B, 11C, 11N, 11T, 11R, 11S,10E, 11T, 11U, 11W, 11X, 11DD were clarified by staff.**

- 3.B. Discussion Of The FY 2020 Budget And FY 2020-024 Capital Improvement Plan (B. Maxwell/M. Loftin - 1 Hour)

**Assistant City Manager Mike Loftin provided the FY 2020-2024 Capital Improvement Plan and FY 2020 Budget Update. The proposed budget will be presented on August 5 and discussed in the August 8 Council Workshop. August 8 action items will include proposing a tax rate and scheduling public hearings on the tax rate and budget. The Citywide Budget Overview was provided: (1) there is no water increase in FY 2020; (2) this is the last year for a property tax rollback rate that allows for 8 percent increase over the prior year; (3) Civil Service personnel Collective Bargaining Agreements are due for renewal; (4) there is a health benefits contribution adjustment for all City departments, as well as the Port and the Park Board; (5) the CIP is ongoing - a bond sale is scheduled for Street and Drainage Programs in the fall of 2019; and (6) there are 870 budgeted positions which is down from 882 in FY 2019. The General Fund Budget Overview was provided: (1) general recurring revenue growth is \$1.79 million; (2) major increases in recurring costs is \$2.35 million; (3) the difference in recurring revenues and major costs is \$560,000 offset by a majority of \$1 million in department budget cuts made in FY 2019 and used as a base for FY 2020; proposed tax rate of \$0.581 (current is \$0.561) for public safety pay increases; proposed pay plans; balance of department cuts is approximately \$500,000.**

- 3.C. Discussion Of A Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The City Of Galveston And The International Association Of Fire Fighters Local 571 For The Period Of October 1, 2019 Through September 30, 2023. (B. Maxwell - 15 Minutes)

**Deputy City Manager Dan Buckley reported on a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 571. He advised the agreement is for four years with a re-opening in two years for pay. This item will be placed on the next agenda for the Council's consideration.**

- 3.D. Discuss Status And Recommendation Of Tom Brocato Of Lloyd Gosselink Related To The Following Items: (Legal - 15 Minutes)

**Tom Brocato provided Council with a status and recommendation on matters related to (1) CenterPoint Electric resolution related to the rate request; (2) Texas Gas Service Cost of Service Adjustment; and (3) Texas Gas Service Hurricane Harvey Cost of Service request.**

- 3.E. Permit Fees (T. Sukup - 20 Minutes)

**Todd Sukup provided an update on Permit Fee changes. The current change proposal is intended to bring the city into compliance with state law. Data collected in the following months will allow staff to perform cost-recovery analysis as part of a larger review of the**

**entire permit fees. This item will be placed on an agenda in a few months for the Council's consideration.**

- 3.F. Discuss The Purchase Of The L.M.C.G. Company, LLC Hangar At The Scholes International Airport At A Cost Not-To-Exceed \$250,000 (M. Shahan).

**Airport Director Mike Shahan provided information on the City's possible purchase of the L.M.C.G. Company, LLC Hangar at the Airport. Discussion was held regarding the cost for the purchase, remodeling, and repairs for the hangar, and possible revenue for leasing hangar space. This item is on today's regular meeting agenda for the Council's consideration.**

- 3.G. Discussion Of November 2019 Special Election Items (Yarbroough - 30 Minutes)

**Mayor Yarbroough provided information on a possible measure on a November 2019 Election ballot to extend the Industrial Development Corporation until April 1, 2049. Discussion was held regarding the costs for a November Election. Staff will look into costs and bring back to Council.**

**Discussion was held regarding the following proposed Charter Amendments:**

**Proposition One: Should the city charter be amended to provide that the annual payment by the Galveston wharves to the city of Galveston shall be an amount equal to two percent of the Galveston wharves operating revenue or four hundred thousand dollars whichever is more?**

**Proposition Two: Should the city charter be amended to provide that city council shall by ordinance establish the monetary limit of the city manager's procurement authority to enter into contracts without prior council approval in an amount not to exceed that required by state law for competitive bidding or procurement?**

**Proposition Three: Should the city charter be amended to provide that the city of Galveston will obtain written competitive bids on purchases in compliance with state law and provide that city council shall be ordinance prescribe when competitive bids or proposals shall be obtained when not required by state law as well as the manner in which such bids shall be taken?**

**Position Four: Should the city charter be amended to provide that the city council will meet for one regular session per month and have such other special meetings upon the request of the mayor or two members of council?**

**Proposition Five: Should the city charter be amended to provide that the Galveston wharves must comply with the competitive bidding laws or the state of texas?**

**Proposition Six: Should the City Charter be amended to define "Capital Improvements" to include green infrastructure, including but not limited to detention ponds, drainage swells and trees, as a component of the improvement to enhance the benefits of the project? (submitted by Dr. Cole)**

**Dr. Cole would like to see a charter amendment to require Port leases to be approved by City Council.**

- 3.H. Transit Items

**Assistant City Manager Rick Beverlin and FlixBus representative Joe Yen provided information on FlixBus routes and fares.**

**Rick Beverlin provided an update and recommendations on Island Transit. This item will be placed on next month's agenda for the Council's consideration.**

3.I. Discuss A Proposal For An Amnesty Program For The City Of Galveston Municipal Court Of Record.  
(G. Lopez - 15 Minutes)  
**Deferred.**

3.J. Receive And Discuss A Demonstration Of The Barnacle Parking Enforcement System (B. Stroud - 15 Minutes)  
**Deferred.**

3.K. Discussion Of A Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Obscuring Architectural Features Of Buildings In The Strand/Mechanic Area (Collins 15 Minutes)  
**CM Collins reported that Landmark Commission has been working on a compatible solution to disallow merchandise and signs to obscure architectural features of buildings in the Strand/Mechanic District. City Attorney Don Glywasky advised in years past the focus was on prohibiting certain types of merchandise. The proposed ordinance is neutral regarding the types of merchandise and is designed to prohibit the outside of the building from being obscured from architectural or historic tourism. Discussion was held regarding whether this ordinance would limit marketing or advertising for the businesses. This item will be placed on the August 22nd agenda for the Council's consideration.**

3.L. Park Board Report (Collins/Yarbrough - 10 Minutes)  
**CM Collins would like to provide a report on a monthly basis. He advised the sand renourishment of Babe's Beach will begin next week.**

#### 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

**The City Council convened into Executive Session at 12:32 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 1:40 p.m. No action was taken during Executive Session.**

4.A. Pursuant To Texas Gov't Code 551.071- Consultation With Attorney, An Executive Session Will Be Conducted To Discuss And Receive Legal Advice Concerning Pending Litigation And/Or A Settlement Offer, Or On A Matter In Which The Duty Of The Attorney To The Governmental Body Under The Texas Disciplinary Rules Of Professional Conduct Of The State Bar Of Texas Clearly Conflicts With This Chapter, Related To The Following:

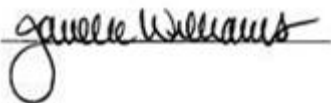
4.A.1. No. 18-CV-160; Joshua Herridge V. City Of Galveston Et Al; In The United States District Court For The Southern District Of Texas, Galveston Division

4.A.2. Matters Related To Collective Bargaining With The Galveston Municipal Police Association

4.B. Pursuant To Texas Gov't Code 551.072 An Executive Session Will Be Conducted To Deliberate The Possible Exchange Lease Or Value Of Real Estate In Connection With Transaction With The City.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

**The workshop was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.**



Janelle Williams, City Secretary  
Date Approved: August 22, 2019