



STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FORT BEND
CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Workshop Session on January 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Becky Haas proceeded to call the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. via video conference pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.125, as amended, and as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions thereof effective March 16, 2020, by the Governor of Texas in accordance with the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, all as related to the Governor's proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying that the COVID-19 pandemic poses an imminent threat of disaster and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas. All members of the public may participate in the meeting via video conference call.

A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Becky Haas, Mayor
Terry Gaul, Commissioner P1
Barry Beard, Commissioner P2
Carl Drozd, Commissioner P3
Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4
Terri Vela, City Manager
Gary Smith, City Attorney
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager
Laura Scarlato, City Secretary

Mayor Haas introduced agenda item A2, Review and discuss agenda items on the **January 19, 2021 Regular City Commission Meeting.**

Agenda item A1. Call to order, Quorum Determined and Meeting Declared Open.

Agenda item A2. Moment of Silence honoring Anthony Pryor, Emergency Management Coordinator.

Agenda item A3. Public hearing to receive comments for or against a request by Vincent Ramos (owner of the subject site) for a Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of a convenience store with sale of limited fresh produce and grocery at the subject site located at 1117 Powell Street and to the extent the Conditional Use Permit deviates from the Future Land Use Plan of the Comprehensive Master Plan, to provide for an amendment thereto. – (Applicant has requested to temporarily hold the application).

Agenda item A4. Public Comments. There were no citizens signed up to speak therefore, the agenda item was closed. **No comments.**

Agenda item A5. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Gaul - None

Commissioner Beard pulled A5. (6), (8), (10) and (12)

Commissioner Drozd – will make comments on pulled items.

Commissioner BeMent – None, but question on the Quarterly Finance Report

Mayor Haas – A5. (2), (7) and (10)

A5. 1. Minutes – Special, Regular and Workshop for the Regular City Commissioner Meeting and the Workshop held on December 21st, 2020.

A5. 2. Fire Department Report

Mayor Haas asked questions regarding the Fire Marshal Report, Training and Meeting attendance, fire investigations and inspections. Chief Youngblood, in response stated next month's report will include who attended, what kind of training, and more detailed information.

A5. 3. Police Department Report

Commissioner Beard commented with regard to the foot traffic on Collins per Beat 1 and expressed concerns. Commissioner Beard made mention of Crazy Egg providing meals to the Police Department per Beat 10. Commissioner Beard expressed appreciation for the expanded report including statistics. Commissioner Beard also stated that he was unaware of the Code Enforcement officer retiring. City Manager Vela stated that Scott Fajkus was introduced at a previous meeting as the new Code Enforcement Coordinator. Mayor Haas inquired about the streetlights reported on Beat 1 report. City Manager Vela and Assistant City Manager Howard Christian provided the process that is followed regarding streetlights. Chief Craig commented that the officers are including neighborhood quality of life, ways to improve and their personal goals for achieving a certain level of quality for the citizens on their Beats. Speeding on various streets was also discussed. Chief Craig reported the police chiefs of the Fort Bend County cities met with the Fort Bend County Sheriff to devise an action plan if there was a need during the Presidential Inauguration on January 20th. However, noted there has been no threat or suspicion that there will be a need for action. Commissioner BeMent noted the two cadets attending the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Academy.

A5. 4. Municipal Court Department Report

A5. 5. Tax Assessor/Collector Report

A5. 6. Monthly Financial Report

Commissioner Beard requested the cash on hand and the number of days. City Manager Vela stated that it is a balance sheet item and can easily be provided. There was a lengthy discussion of the Utility Fund, who manages and deals with the excess and droughts. As far as

the General Fund, there is a review of businesses that are providing more and/or less sales tax on a quarterly basis. City Manager Vela stated the sales tax paid by a business is confidential information.

A5. 7. Public Works Report

Mayor Haas commended Public Works for the traffic study on Lamar Drive and the excellent work on the sidewalk on Third Street downtown. The sidewalks were repaired with no extra funding and materials on hand.

A5. 8. Planning Department Report

Commissioner Beard had questions regarding the proposed tire shop at the old Sonic Drive-in at 311 11th Street. City Planner Jose Abraham stated staff has had several meetings and plans have been submitted for review. Parking requirements are being reviewed. City Manager Vela stated staff is reviewing the parking issues with Anchor Bend Church at 1400 FM 2218 as well. All entities must follow the same regulations.

A5. 9. Building Department Report

A5. 10. Code Enforcement Report

There were questions regarding old violations that are not being addressed. Scott Fajkus, Code Enforcement Coordinator stated staff is entering the information into a system called lworks that will track the violations and trigger follow ups. It was stated that two clean up events have been scheduled and communicated with citizens to utilize these events to dispose of garbage and rubbish. Commissioner Beard stated the map that was included is a very valuable tool and appreciated. Mayor Haas inquired if citizens could place complaints on the City website anonymously and the response will be in the future. Also, Mayor Haas made note of the donation box next to What-A-Burger. Commissioner BeMent inquired what defines a dangerous structure. There was a discussion about the structures, cost to demolish and passing the cost along as a lien on the property. It was noted that the Building and Standards Commission will be meeting January 25th which has not met since January 2020.

A5. 11. Emergency Management Report

A5. 12. Review and consider taking action on a Preliminary Plat – Lamar CISD Maxine Phelan Elementary School – 15.835 acres of land – 0 Lots – 1 Block – 1 Reserve. The subject site is a proposed school site within Veranda Master Planned Development. Commissioner Beard inquired if the traffic pattern concerns had been addressed? City Planner Abraham stated the traffic impact analysis has been revised. Commissioner Drozd expressed concerns for the noise pollution.

A5. 13. Review and consider taking action on a Preliminary Plat – Mandola Farms Section Two – 25.0 acres of land – 109 Lots – 3 Blocks – 3 Reserves. The subject site is a section within Mandola Farms Residential Development located on the south side of U.S. Highway 90A, demarcated by Hennessey Road, Edgewood Drive, and Damon Street.

A5. 14. Set date for next meetings. (Regular City Commission Workshop and Meeting on Monday, January 25th at 4:30 p.m. and February 15th at 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.)

REGULAR AGENDA

Agenda item A6. Review and discuss a policy related to reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United State flag and the Texas flag. Commissioner Gaul stated the policy is quite good, only question was to if the policy mandates all the different groups, Commission, Committees and Boards will decide if they will do the pledge at their own discretion. City Attorney Gary Smith stated the policy was drafted vaguely to allow for the direction of the Commission. Commissioner Drozd reviewed the suggested language changes he believes are necessary. Commissioner Drozd pointed out the different ways of saluting the flag and retiring the colors. Comments will be provided to City Attorney Smith for inclusion.

Agenda item A7. Review and discuss a policy related to an Invocation before the opening of City Commission meetings. Commissioner Gaul inquired if it was necessary to include the court cases within the policy. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the policy. The Commissioners and Mayor expressed their concerns and opinions on adopting the policy.

Agenda item A8. Review and consider taking action on a replat of Lots 19 & 20 of Block 2, Estates at Lakes of Williams Ranch Sec. 1 as recorded in Plat No. 20180168 of the Fort Bend County Plat Records as Estates at Lakes of Williams Ranch Sec. 1, Partial Replat No. 4 – 1.016 acres of land – 1 Block – 1 Lot – 0 Reserves. The subject site is part of Lakes of Williams Ranch Residential subdivision and is located at the northwestern corner of the Alexandra Way Circle cul-de-sac. There was no discussion regarding this item.

Agenda item A9. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 353-2021, approving and authorizing Amendment No. 5 to the Water Supply and Wastewater Services Contract with Fort Bend County MUD No. 140 to clarify the maximum authorized purchase rate per connection. Commissioner Gaul expressed concerns of limiting the number of gallons per day of water to the district. Mud 140 was defined as including Rivers Edge, the center that includes Clancy's, Pier 36, the Chevron on 36 and the area behind it. There is a cap on the capacity, and they are at a max until new facilities are built. It was stated the City reads the meters and performs the billing for MUD 140. The Commissioners requested more specific language.

Agenda item A10. Review and consider on awarding and authorizing a contract for the exterior renovations of the old fire station and the Myrtle Street facilities. Commissioner Gaul inquired if the City should spend additional funds to repair the two buildings when the future of them is uncertain. City Manager Vela stated the funds for repair were budgeted by the Development Corporation of Richmond last year. The feeling was that the buildings would be more marketable if the curb appeal was there and/or creating a buyer's atmosphere. City Manager Vela stated the City finds it necessary to tend to its own buildings

and keep the structures off the dangerous building list. City Planner Abraham stated the City would need to conform to the same rules and regulations as the citizens. There was a lengthy discussion.

Agenda item A11. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 354-2021 approving and authorizing a temporary resale of raw water under the System Water Availability Agreement with Brazos River Authority. Commissioner Beard inquired as to the term of the contract. Assistant City Manager Christian stated it was a three-year agreement with one two-year option. It is anticipated that the City will need more water availability. It was stated this is a direct pass through with no upcharge. Also, a take or pay agreement. There were questions regarding the language, it was stated it was a standard agreement from Brazos River Authority. The question and answer session was very lengthy with the request to assure the language in the agreement is solid.

Agenda item A12. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 352-2020 approving Interlocal Agreement with Fort Bend County on FM 762/10th Street Improvement. Mayor Haas made the statement that A12 & A13 have been discussed in detail and please look to the future and move forward. There was a brief discussion.

Agenda item A13. Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2020-31 abandoning a portion of 3rd Street to Fort Bend County. Commissioner Beard commented about the County voicing the requirement for green space in the parking lot. There was a brief discussion.

Agenda item A14. Review and consider awarding and authorizing a contract for the installation of Wayside Horns. Commissioner Gaul inquired how the actual cost compares to what was budgeted for the Wayside Horns. Assistant Public Works Director indicated it is in alignment with the expenses for the concrete mediums. Finance Director Alderete stated he would provide the information tracking the capital improvement project. There was a brief discussion.

Agenda item A15. Excuse from Attendance at Regular City Commission Meeting.

Agenda item A16. Consider taking action on requests for future agenda items.

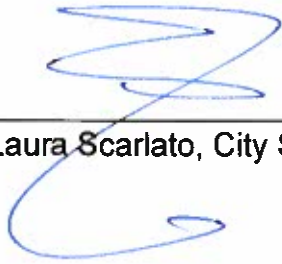
With no further business to discuss, Mayor Haas declared the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

APPROVED:



Becky K. Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary