CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 27, 2017

Rockport City Hall, 622 East Market Street

On the 27th day of June 2017, the City Council of the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, convened in Workshop Session at 1:30 p.m., at the regular meeting place in City Hall, and notice of meeting giving time, place, date and subject was posted as described in <u>V.T.C.A.</u>, <u>Government Code</u> § 551.041.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Mayor Charles J. Wax
Mayor Pro-Tem Pat Rios, Ward 3
Council Member Rusty Day, Ward 1
Council Member J. D. Villa, Ward 2
Council Member Barbara Gurtner, Ward 4

YMCA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Rosemary Vieux Eric Heller Joshua L. Jones Jim Guidry

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Edward Bellion
Shawn Johnston
Graham Wilson
G. Maynard Green
Ruth Davis
Diana Severino-Saxon
W. Kent Howrd

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

ELECTED OFFICIALS

City Manager Kevin Carruth
City Secretary Teresa Valdez
City Attorney Terry Baiamonte
Police Chief Tim Jayroe
Public Works Director Mike Donoho
Community Planner Amanda Torres
Finance Director Patty Howard
Parks & Leisure Services Director Rick Martinez
Information Technology Director Brian Jacobs

Opening Agenda

1. Call to Order.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Workshop Session of the Rockport City Council was called to order by Mayor Wax at 1:33 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Rockport City Hall, 622 E. Market Street, Rockport, Texas.

Regular Agenda

2. Call to Order - YMCA Development Committee.

With a quorum of the members present, the meeting of the YMCA Development Committee was called to order at 1:33 p.m., on Tuesday, June 27, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Rockport City Hall, 622 E. Market Street, Rockport, Texas.

3. Hear and deliberate on Community Aquatic Center's interface with YMCA.

Mayor Wax welcomed Rob Wiggins, Executive Director of the Corpus Christi YMCA. Mayor Wax stated this is a Workshop and it is intended to be an exchange of ideas and opinions.

Mike Bray, 1004 S. Verne Street, addressed the Council. Mr. Bray stated he wants to keep the pool as it currently is; he sees no reason for the YMCA to come in and take over something that was donated. Mr. Bray expressed that the YMCA has plenty of business in Corpus Christi and he does not think we need one here. Mr. Bray said if this is a money issue the City should take care of it. Mr. Bray added that the pool is managed well and the challenge is to get more money from Aransas County. Mr. Bray commented that the City has spent a lot of money on trees, the Bent Oaks property, and on trollies which are piles of junk. Mr. Bray said this is money going out the door which could be used elsewhere, the pool and Police Officers could use a raise.

Mayor Wax stated that he was going to correct a few things Mr. Bray had said. Mayor Wax expressed that the pool is a Community Aquatic Center which does not belong to the City alone, it belongs to the City, Aransas County, and the Town of Fulton, and regardless of what Mr. Bray may have heard, the City has no intention and could not if they wanted to give the pool to somebody. Mayor Wax said the City does intend to enhance programs for youth and citizens, this being the purpose of an agreement with the YMCA. Mayor Wax added these programs would be responsive to the needs expressed in the survey that was recently conducted. Mayor Wax explained that the reason the City has chosen to locate a YMCA at this property is because the City already owns the property and it is adjacent to schools. Mayor Wax said there has been confusion about not being able to use the pool unless you are a member of the YMCA, and for clarification what has been stated is that people who have YMCA memberships could also use the pool. Mayor Wax concluded by stating that he took Mr. Bray's point that a YMCA is not needed, but there are others who disagree.

Jenny Bray, 1004 S. Verne Street, provided written comments which Mayor Wax read as follows: Not opposed to YMCA here in Rockport, but not to have anything to do with the community pool—get your own land and develop your own YMCA.

Eric Heller, Chair of the YMCA Development Committee addressed the Council. Mr. Heller said the YMCA is not here to take the pool; they are looking to enhance not only the adult programs, but also the children's programs. Mr. Heller said the YMCA would help children in Rockport, and provide programs for adults; it would enhance things we can do as a community as well. Mr. Heller added that there are issues with money, the pool loses money and the City has been covering for Aransas County and the Town of Fulton. Mr. Heller stated he did not want taxes raised to cover the deficit and he did not think it is fair that citizens fund that deficit.

Dianna Coleman, 315 E. Sagebrush, provided written comments which Mayor Wax read as follows: Please leave our pool in the City and parks.

Mayor Wax stated he hoped his previous comments and Mr. Heller's comments had clarified concerns.

Ms. Coleman answered that it did not clarify things for her because she had been to several meetings where it was discussed that you would have to join the YMCA to use the pool. Ms. Coleman said she has not seen anything in writing. Ms. Coleman added that there was a \$100,000 deficit for maintaining the pool and she wondered how much it costs to maintain all other parks, and asked if the City going to let someone take over those parks.

Mayor Wax answered that he would respond directly to Ms. Coleman. Mayor Wax stated there is nothing written because there has been no management agreement approved by City Council. Mayor Wax said the pool will remain the property of all three entities and access to the pool will be determined by the City's Parks and Leisure Services Department. Mayor Wax declared that this is not a money issue; there has never been a city park that made a profit.

An unidentified person is the audience asked who would have priority over the pool and commented that the YMCA will be overlapping what the pool already provides.

Mayor Wax stated those are details that cannot be answered until an agreement is reached. Mayor Wax added that an executive director has to be hired, fundraising planned, and a building constructed.

Michael Coleman, 315 E. Sagebrush, provided written comments which Mayor Wax read as follows: I think the pool should be for the people and I think the YMCA should not be responsible for it.

Rebecca Johnson addressed the Council. Ms. Johnson stated she is a Middle School teacher who sees 750-1000 children on a daily basis. Ms. Johnson said she had served on the YMCA Project Committee for approximately one and one-half years and she spent a lot of time asking questions. Ms. Johnson said the controversy is slowing down the progress and we do need something for the children. Ms. Johnson expressed that this is going to take the community working together and she is asking everyone to be receptive to everyone's needs.

Lawana Jackson, 493 Augusta, addressed the Council. Ms. Jackson stated that she did not know too much about proposals, but she did know how important the pool is. Ms. Jackson said she did know about keeping control of the pool and she did know that if control is given away, then control is lost.

Ms. Jackson expressed: "Do not share pool with the YMCA."

Lynn Baskind, 623 N. Terry, addressed the Council. Ms. Baskind stated it has been a great pleasure to serve as President of the Friends of the Pool. Ms. Baskind said the Friends of the Pool has made great strides toward awareness about the pool. Ms. Baskind read the following:

The past 2 years have seen the Friends of the Pool raise over \$18,000 through grants and the Great Duck Races.

Thanks to the Ed Rachal Foundation the Friends of the Pool was given \$8,500 to install shade structures for the main pool and the splash pool.

We are able to pay for all the sixth-grade students in Aransas County Independent School District – over 200 – to receive swimming lessons this year.

We helped over 100 children attending the Odyssey After School Program to enjoy swim lessons for the 2nd year.

Friends of the Pool also paid for several scholarships for Lifeguard training and Water Safety Instructor training.

We also sponsored several youngsters who were introduced to swim lessons this summer.

We are proud sponsors of the Sharks Swim Team.

Friends of the Pool helped increase the overall attendance at the pool by 25% this past winter. Ms. Baskind added that she believes the pool belongs to everyone in the community and we should show warm hospitality to our guests. Ms. Baskind thanked the City for keeping the pool running, in good shape and well managed.

Mayor Wax stated the Friends of the Pool have done tremendous work and thanked them.

Linda Valdez, 2003 N. Fulton Beach Road #6, addressed the Council. Ms. Valdez stated she was asked to read a letter (below) from Carla Shelton Gibson.

April 17, 2017

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Evalee VonVillas, 933 Hickory, addressed the Council. Ms. VonVillas stated she really appreciated the City shouldering the bulk of the expense for the pool and that Aransas County, Town of Fulton and the Aransas County Independent School District should step-up. Ms. VonVillas commented that a swim team should be brought back to the community to help children. Ms. VonVillas said that a lot of this information is new to everyone; she has attended meetings and these things were not mentioned. Ms. VonVillas said children are important, but the pool is also important to adults rehabilitating and we should not be dismissive of those people; they are the ones who raised money for the children. Ms. VonVillas added that there has not been a YMCA representative available at meetings and there is no consistency, there is nothing written down. Ms. VonVillas expressed that most people are not against the YMCA, but that they are concerned that the pool is an asset that should stay in the hands of the City. Ms. VonVillas said there had been numbers thrown out about 800 memberships in the YMCA. Ms. VonVillas declared there are worries and fears that a building and parking lot will be put it and then become a defunct facility.

Mayor Wax stated he hoped this dialogue had alleviated those fears.

Rob Wiggins, Executive Director of the Corpus Christi YMCA addressed the Council. Mr. Wiggins stated that YMCA people are really nice folks and the YMCA was asked to come to Rockport to work with the City. Mr. Wiggins expressed that it was never said that the pool would be given to the YMCA, they are just here to bring expertise. Mr. Wiggins said a YMCA is for the community and its citizens, it would help enhance what the community wants to do. Mr. Wiggins added that it has been proven that if a YMCA facility is built property values increase.

Kathleen Huffmeyer, 4000 FM 1069, addressed the Council. Ms. Huffmeyer said there are a lot of buildings (the old HEB building and the old Rockport elementary school) that could be used for a YMCA to save the trees. Ms. Huffmeyer asked if the YMCA is buying the property or will they get to build without paying something.

Mayor Wax stated the City owns the property and it will remain City property and it will be a City owned building. Mayor Wax asked Ms. Huffmeyer if she knew that the old HEB building is listed for \$2.9 million.

4. Adjourn – YMCA Development Committee.

At 2:10 p.m., the YMCA Development Committee adjourned.

Public Hearings

5. Call to Order - Rockport Planning & Zoning Commission.

With a quorum of the members present, the meeting of the Rockport Planning & Zoning Commission was called to order at 2:14 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Rockport City Hall, 522 E. Market Street, Rockport, Texas.

Mayor Wax opened the Joint Public Hearings at 2:14 p.m.

6. Conduct a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning & Zoning Commission to consider a request to rezone and a Conditional Use Permit for newly annexed property located at State Highway 35 Bypass, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, currently zoned R-1 (1st Single Family Dwelling District) to B-1 (General Business District) and Conditional Use Permit, to allow expansion of a recently annexed RV park.

Ray Loxterman addressed the Council. Mr. Loxterman stated he is the owner of the property and has saved all the trees possible when developing the Blue Moon RV park. Mr. Loxterman said he is wanting to expand the RV park to add a few more RV slots.

There were no other public comments.

7. Conduct a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning & Zoning Commission to consider a request to rezone property located at 1117 Sixteenth Street, also known as Lot 70-C, Block 256, Swickheimer Subdivision, 1 acre, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, currently zoned R-1 (1st Single Family Dwelling District) to R-6 (Hotel/Motel District), to allow development of short-term cottage rentals.

There were no public comments.

8. Conduct a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning & Zoning Commission to consider a request to rezone property located at 3579-3589 State Highway 35 Bypass, also known as T.T. Williamson Survey A-219, 17.3 acres, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, currently zoned R-1 (1st Single Family Dwelling District) to B-1 (General Business District), to subdivide property into several tracts for resale for commercial use.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Wax closed the Joint Public Hearings at 2:18 p.m.

9. Adjourn - Rockport Planning & Zoning Commission.

At 2:19 p.m., the Rockport Planning & Zoning Commission adjourned.

Mayor Wax opened the Public Hearings on proposed annexation at 2:20 p.m.

Mayor Wax asked the Community Planner Amanda Torres to review the Service Plans for the four areas being considered for annexation. Mayor Wax stated that all information is on the City's website included in the Agenda packet for this meeting.

Community Planner Amanda Torres reviewed the Service Plans (inserted below each Agenda item) for the four areas being considered for annexation.

10. Conduct first Public Hearing on proposed annexation by the City of Rockport of 107 acres of land, more or less, along Market Street between Kelly Lane and Verne Street, being out of portions of the John Smith Survey A-187, the T.B. Reeves Survey A-323, the T. Green Survey A-72, and the T.T. Williamson Survey A-222.

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Steve Walsh, 305 West Market Street, addressed the Council. Mr. Walsh stated he has lived in Rockport for 35 years; 33 years at the current location. Mr. Walsh asked if he is in the process of building a fence that is seven feet high is he going to have to tear it down to meet City code or will he be allowed to finish building it.

Public Works Director Mike Donoho answered Mr. Walsh by stating that he would be allowed to continue building his fence.

Mayor Wax said the fence would be considered existing non-conforming.

Randy Bash, 124 South Doughty, addressed the Council. Mr. Bash asked the following questions: 1) there are currently goats on the property located behind him, can they keep the goats; 2) is there going to be another meeting to have questions answered; 3) any idea of tax increase; and 4) there is an existing mobile home on property, can it be removed and another mobile home placed there?

Mayor Wax stated annexed areas would become subject to City taxes, but City taxes are not being increased because of annexation. Mayor Wax expressed that the Service Plan for this area is available on the City's website. Mayor Wax said that Community Planner Amanda Torres can answer all of Mr. Bash's questions if he would contact her.

Dorian Calfas, 8103 Rain Forest, San Antonio, addressed the Council. Ms. Calfas said she purchased 309 West Market Street and there is a RV located on the property. Ms. Calfas asked if the RV can be pulled on and off the property and if there is an extra RV slot will she be able to allow family and friends to pull their RVs on and off the property or will the RV be required to remain there at all times.

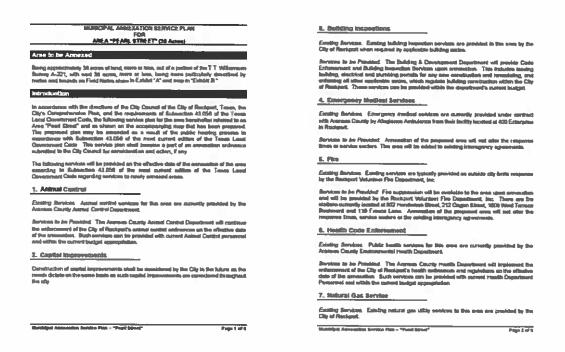
City Manager Kevin Carruth stated that the City Attorney is researching this.

Mayor Wax asked Ms. Calfas to provide her information to Ms. Torres who will contact her after the City Attorney has provided an answer.

Mr. Bash asked stated he was told that it would cost \$20,000 to have City sewer brought to his property. Mr. Bash asked why the City wants to annex this property and why does the proposed annexation area stop where it does and not take in the other side of Bay Street.

Mayor Wax informed Mr. Bash that there is not a requirement to connect to the City sewer system if the property currently has a septic system. Mayor Wax stated there are three reasons why the City is considering annexation of property: 1) zoning protection which results in protection of property values; 2) police have a patrolling responsibility which unincorporated areas currently do not enjoy; and 3) this area is an entry into the City of Rockport and annexation would allow control of development. Mayor Wax answered that there are limitations on how many acres the City can annex in a given year and when the City began to examine areas, staff looked at areas that would be of the best interest to the City. Mayor Wax stated that in a calendar year, a municipality may not annex a total area greater than 10 percent of the incorporated area of the municipality as of January 1st of that year, plus any unused allocation for use in subsequent calendar years. Mayor Wax added that annexation cannot divide a piece of property.

11. Conduct first Public Hearing on proposed annexation by the City of Rockport of 38 acres of land, more or less, along Ann Street between Litron Street and 128 feet east of Pearl Street, being out of a portion of the T.T. Williamson Survey A-221.



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Amendmen

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Page 1 at 9

Rebecca Johnson addressed the Council. Ms. Johnson stated she owns property on Ann Street and she had basically the same question as Ms. Calfas. Ms. Johnson asked if she leases the property to a person who uses it as a spot for a RV, will she be able to continue to do this. Ms. Johnson added that she is a teacher on a fixed income and she would like to know how much additional tax there will be on her property. Ms. Johnson asked if the City was going to annex all the proposed properties as one annexation or each area individually, when a decision is made. Ms. Johnson said she will contact

Ms. Torres for answers to her questions.

Mayor Wax stated that the City began looking at 12 areas for possible annexation and it was narrowed to 4 areas. Mayor Wax said each area will take a separate decision which will be considered by Council at the end of July.

Judy Hereden addressed the Council. Ms. Hereden stated the Agenda item description of the area being considered for annexation is incorrect and it should be revised. Ms. Hereden said she pays county taxes and City taxes are higher and she would like to know how much difference she will be paying if her property is annexed.

City Manager Kevin Carruth stated that the county tax rate is more than the City tax rate.

Mayor Wax stated that you cannot look just at the county tax rate; you also must look at the county road and bridge rate. Mayor Wax said the tax rates are approximately: 55% - Aransas County Independent School District, 20% - Aransas County, 16% - City of Rockport, and 5% - Aransas County Navigation District. Mayor Wax added that in general terms \$.4946 is the rate for Aransas County only, then you have to add in the road and bridge tax rate, and the City tax rate is \$.3486 per \$100 valuation.

Norma Herzog, Ann Street, addressed the Council. Ms. Herzog asked if the City will re-evaluate the property for taxes.

Mayor Wax answered that the Aransas County Appraisal District makes the assessments on property.

An unidentified person in the audience stated they would not be receiving anything from the City if their property is annexed. They said they have a county sheriff, water, and animal control.

Mayor Wax stated county residents do not have dedicated patrolling and criminal investigation department activities, zoning regulations, and if you currently receive City water and your property is annexed, your water bill rate will decrease.

Royce Davis stated that he currently pays state and county taxes and if his property is annexed he will pay one more tax, City.

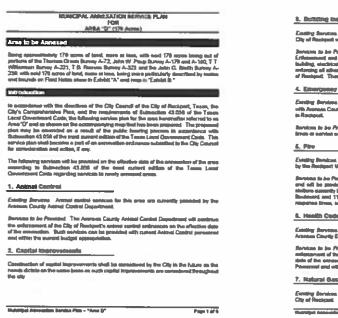
12. Conduct first Public Hearing on proposed annexation by the City of Rockport of 176 acres of land, more or less, along Maple Street between Steart Street and 128 feet east of Pearl Street, being out of portions of the Thomas Green Survey A-72, the John W. Paup Survey A-179 and A-180, the T.T. Williamson Survey A-221, the T.B. Reeves Survey A-323 and the John G. Smith Survey A-239.

Carol L. Hall, 1214 N. Moline, addressed the Council. Ms. Hall stated some of her questions had already been answered. Ms. Hall said she will contact Ms. Torres to get her other questions answered.

Jo Darnell, 1128 N. Hood Street, addressed the Council. Ms. Darnell said she owns a home in this

area but she does not currently reside in Rockport, but she plans to in two years. Ms. Darnell stated she understood that one of the reasons for the proposed annexation was the Texas legislation considering changing annexation laws, and that did not pass and there is no guarantee that it will pass in special session. Ms. Darnell expressed that the street in front of her house is not paved; she paid for gravel and the county maintains the road. Ms. Darnell added that she is in the FEMA floodplain area and the County has not done any good regarding drainage, mosquitos, and health and safety issues. Ms. Darnell declared she is opposed to annexation and she does not see the urgent need for it. Ms. Darnell said the City would be taking on more issues and expense than contemplated.

Nancy Davis, 1123 N. Hood, addressed the Council. Ms. Davis stated her concerns were similar to Ms. Darnell's. Ms. Davis said she had spoken with Aransas County and they have no plans to fix anything where she lives and that is a shame because the road is in dire need, it has never been graded. Ms. Davis expressed that she had concerns that the City will not be able to improve it that much. Ms. Davis said she lives at the end of the road and there are only three houses along the road and the only thing she will get from annexation is that her taxes will increase.



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MUNICIPAL AMMERATION SERVICE PLAN AREA "GAP HI" (182 Aures)

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S. Library Services.

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2. Building inspections

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4. Emergency Medical Services

& Fire

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8. Heath Code Enforcement

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7. Natural Gas Service

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Hamilton Astronom Surface Page - "Bay 22"

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Royce Davis, 1805 Sixteenth Street, addressed the Council. Mr. Davis stated he has lived on Sixteenth Street for 30 years and he sees no reason to annex this portion; they do not have City water or sewer and they do not even have cable television. Mr. Davis said he does not need the extra tax; he is disabled and lives on a fixed income.

Jolan Syarto-Payne, 157 Kluge Trail, addressed the Council. Mr. Syarto-Payne stated Kluge Trail is a dead-end road, is gravel and he thinks everyone who lives there wants to keep it that way. Mr. Syarto-Payne said that most people who live there own four or more acres; they like to shoot their guns, have farm animals, and the neighbors do not care if they shoot guns. Mr. Syarto-Payne said they do not want City water or street lighting. Mr. Syarto-Payne added that they take care of each other. Mr. Syarto-Payne stated he had purchased a piece of property in the Spanish Woods Subdivision and then it was annexed, and when he purchased this property he was told that it would most likely never be annexed. Mr. Syarto-Payne expressed that he did not want to give up this piece of property because of annexation. Mr. Syarto-Payne said he was curious why only one side of Kluge Trail was being annexed when there are houses on the opposite side and that is also the same on Sixteenth Street. Mr. Syarto-Payne commented that it could be that the person at the end of his street has a lot of clout and probably had things changed. Mr. Syarto-Payne declared that they will walk away, make a stink, call Andy Liscano (KZTV Action 10 News) and tell people not to purchase property in Rockport because sooner or later it will be annexed.

René Roeder, 141 Kluge Trail, addressed the Council. Mr. Roeder informed the Council that seven people live on this street and four of those have deer, rabbits and other animals, and are allowed to shoot guns. Mr. Roeder said they have taken care of their own drainage by digging a big lake and rivers that run into it. Mr. Roeder stated the street is a dirt road, graded but not paved and he does not understand why this area should be annexed. Mr. Roeder expressed that there is a large amount of property on the corner, 50-60 acres, and this floods and stays flooded. Mr. Roeder commented

that if the City annexes this area they will start receiving complaints; for example, calls about snakes, when right now they simply shoot them. Mr. Roeder stated that the City should leave them where they are, they take care of each other. Mr. Roeder added that they keep the wildlife alive, there are a lot of trees and they have taken it upon themselves to have fire safety. Mr. Roader expressed they all have dogs that play together. Mr. Roader stated there are few people who live here and there is a lot of dead land.

At 3:01 p.m., Mayor Wax closed the public hearings.

14. Adjournment

At 3:06 p.m., Council Member Villa moved to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Rios seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ROCHOORT OLPORATED ROCHOORT OLST 13-18

APPROVED:

Charles J. Wax Wayor

ATTEST:

Teresa Valdez, City Secretary

City of Rockport, Texas
June 27, 2017 City Council Workshop Minutes