

CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2022 Rockport Service Center, 2751 State Highway 35 Bypass and Via Video Conferencing Application ZOOM

Social distancing guidelines and the video conferencing application ZOOM are actions taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Video conferencing capabilities were utilized to allow individuals to view the City Council Workshop & Meeting. Public participation is valued and citizens wishing to express their views on any topic or agenda item can electronically submit a Citizen Participation Form in order to register to speak by going to <https://rockport.seamlessdocs.com/f/CouncilCitizenParticipation> or scanning the QR code provided on the Agenda, or if attending the meeting in person register before the meeting begins. Using the same form, citizens can also provide written comments to the City Secretary by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The Mayor will read the comments and they will be summarized in the minutes of the meeting.

On the 8th day of March 2022, the City Council of the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, convened in a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the Training Room of the Rockport Service Center with social distancing guidelines and using the video conferencing application ZOOM, and notice of meeting giving time, place, date, and subject was posted as described in V.T.C.A., Government Code § 551.041.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Patrick R. Rios
Mayor Pro-Tem J.D. Villa, Ward 2
Council Member Katy Jackson, Ward 1
Council Member Brad Brundrett, Ward 3
Council Member Andrea Hattman, Ward 4

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) ABSENT

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Interim City Manager Richard Morton
Assistant to City Manager Kimberly Henry
City Secretary Teresa Valdez
City Attorney Allison Bastian-Rodriguez
Director of Finance Katie Griffin
Parks & Leisure Services Director Rick Martinez
Director of Public Works and Building & Development Services Mike Donoho
Chief of Police Greg Stevens
Information Technology Director Bob Argetsinger
Director of Communications Center Lee Brown

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Opening Agenda

1. Call meeting to order.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Regular Meeting of the Rockport City Council was called to order by Mayor Rios at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, in the Training Room of the Rockport Service Center, 2751 State Highway 35 Bypass, Rockport, Texas, and via video conferencing application ZOOM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Villa led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

3. Presentation: Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA): Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2020; Award of Financial Reporting Achievement – Katie Griffin, Director of Finance; and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement – City of Rockport Department of Finance.

Director of Finance Katie Griffin join Mayor Rios in front of the dais.

Mayor Rios read the letter he received from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) notifying him that the City has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program, recognizing the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 report, and Katie Griffin, Director of Finance and the Finance Department received the Award of Financial Reporting Achievement. Mayor Rios stated this is the 19th year in a row the City of Rockport has received this award.

4. Presentation: Promotions in Police Department.

Police Chief Greg Stevens stated five Rockport Police Department officers were selected for promotion based on an assessment of performance, relevant training, education and experience, department needs, officer interests and predicted success, and managerial prerogative. Chief Stevens presented the following Police Department promotions:

Lieutenant Nathan Garcia promoted to Captain, Patrol
Lieutenant Nathan Anderson promoted to Captain, Criminal Investigations Division
Detective Rachel Marshman promoted to Lieutenant, Patrol
Patrol Officer Dennis (DJ) Paine promoted to Lieutenant, Administration
Patrol Officer Isaac Leal promoted to Detective.

The Police Officers family members and Chief Stevens pinned them with their new badges.

5. Citizens to be heard.

At this time, comments limited to three (3) minutes will be taken from the audience from persons who have signed the speaker's card located on the table in the back of the Training Room of the Service Center and delivered to the City Secretary before the meeting begins, or written comments received by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, on any subject matter that is not on the agenda, will be read by the Mayor and summarized in the minutes of the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Council and who have registered using the Citizen Participation Form will have up to three minutes to speak. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council may not discuss or take action on any item that has not been posted on the agenda. While civil public

criticism is not prohibited, disorderly conduct or disturbance of the peace as prohibited by law shall be cause for the chair to terminate the offender's time to speak.

There were no citizens comments.

Consent Agenda

All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- 6. Deliberate and act on approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2022.**
- 7. Deliberate and act on a request from Rockport Center for the Arts for use of the festival site beginning June 20, 2022, through July 7, 2022, for the 53rd Annual Art Festival.**
- 8. Deliberate and act on 1st quarter report from the Texas Maritime Museum for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 marketing expenditures.**
- 9. Deliberate and act to confirm Mayoral appointments to Tree and Landscape Committee.**
- 10. Deliberate and act on approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness and License Agreement submitted by Rockport Center for the Arts to place a bronze sculpture, created by renowned sculptor Kathy Wardle, on the bulb out at the corner of Austin Street and Wharf Street.**
- 11. Deliberate and act on a Resolution of the City of Rockport, Texas, authorizing the metal sculpture known as "Rockport Glory" by artist Nic Noblique, and donated by an anonymous source, to be deemed surplus property and returned to the anonymous donor with an understanding that a new piece of artwork will be donated to and maintained by the Rockport Center for the Arts and will replace this item at the center of the Texas Department of Transportation Right of Way at the intersection of State Highway 35 and Broadway Street.**
- 12. Deliberate and act to accept a Certification of Unopposed Candidates by the City Secretary for the May 7, 2022, General Election.**

Deliberar y actuar para aceptar una certificación de candidatos sin oposición, preparade por la secretaria municipal para las elecciones municipals generals del 7 de mayo de 2022.

- 13. Deliberate and act on Resolution declaring unopposed candidates in the May 7, 2022, City General Election, elected to office; cancelling the Saturday, May 7, 2022, Ward 2 and Ward 4 Elections; and finding and declaring that the meeting at which this Resolution is adopted was open to the public, that the public notice of time, place and the subject matter of the public business to be considered was posted as required by law, including this Resolution.**

Deliberar y actuar sobre una resolución declarando a candidatos sin oposición, en las elecciones municipales generales del 7 de mayo 2022, elegido para un cargo público anulando las elecciones del 7 de mayo, 2022 de barrio 2 y de barrio 4; averiguando y declarando que la reunion en que se adoptó esta resolución fue abierta al público, y el aviso al público de la hora, el lugar y el content de los negocios públicos en consideración fueron publicados como require la ley, incluyendo esta resolución.

Mayor Rios called for requests to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion.

MOTION: Council Member Hattman moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items, as presented. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

14. Hear and deliberate on presentation from Venue Manager for Rockport Center for the Arts Performing Arts and Convention Center.

Carla Ligon, Venue Manager for the Rockport Center for the Arts Performing Arts and Convention Center addressed the Council and gave a presentation on the Performing Arts and Convention Center that is currently under construction. Ms. Ligon stated this project would not be happening if not for the City of Rockport and they are very thankful for that.



The Rockport Conference Center

**Carla Ligon
Venue Manager**



AN ART CAMPUS TO TANTALIZE ALL OF YOUR SENSES



\$12 MILLION DOLLAR TOTAL INVESTMENT
22,000 SQUARE FEET OF NEW SPACE IN DOWNTOWN ROCKPORT
DEBT FREE, FULLY FUNDED
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION DATE AUGUST 2023



We're Getting Started.

Rockport NEW
Conference Center



Modern Industrial with Artistic Elegance
"Be inspired - Get creative"
106 S Austin, Rockport TX 78382
CARLA LIGON
361-779-6801

Construction at a great pace.
Our Ballroom is becoming a reality!



Photo taken
February 21, 2022

Art Center &
Conference Center Buildings
22,000 Square Feet Total


Conference Center
8,000 Square Feet

Conference Center Ballroom
4,400 Square Feet
Can be divided into 4
total rooms



Ballroom Setup
Configurations


- 300 people theater style
- 160 people classroom style
- 220 people dinner rounds without a dance floor
- 180 people dinner rounds with a dance floor
- 400 people reception

Between the outside and the inside of the two remarkable buildings, there is a plentiful amount of usable event rental space.


Focusing on company business and bookings for Sundays thru Thursdays to benefit attractions, restaurants and shops.

Let's talk about it!



On our Conference Center web site there will be a "Be Inspired" rental request form.

Ask Carla for a Bounce Back referral card.



Thank You
Carla Ligon

Questions or comments?

Ms. Ligon expressed without the support of community not too much gets done.

Mayor Rios commented he was looking forward to the opening.

15. Deliberate and act on second & final reading of an Ordinance granting a Conditional Use Permit for development of a RV park on property located at 1411 West Twelfth Street; also known as 12.832 acres of land out of portions of Lot H and portions of Lot 43, Block 251, Foor & Swickheimer Subdivision located in the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas; subject to compliance with the conditions stated within this Ordinances, as well as those stipulated in the City of Rockport Code of Ordinances; repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.

Andrew Kane, 2106 Lakeview Drive, addressed the Council and voiced concerns regarding specifics of the project had not been received and if Council approved the rezoning request, this would be putting the cart before the horse and this was not the normal process.

Community Planner and Assistant Director of Building and Development Services Carey Dietrich addressed the Council. Ms. Dietrich said the staff report included in the Agenda Packet had been written for the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting and the specifics had not been received when the Planning & Zoning Packet had been put together. Ms. Dietrich stated the specifics were received before the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting and the Planning & Zoning Commission had seen them. Ms. Dietrich explained engineering specifics are not done prior to a rezoning request; if the rezoning request is approved then the developed is required to submit engineering plans to the Building and Development Services Department for review.

Mayor Rios expressed this is the standard process which City Staff follows for all rezoning requests.

Council Member Hattman said the Planning & Zoning Commission had received the specifics and asked if Ms. Dietrich could review those.

Ms. Dietrich stated the specifics of the request had been included in the Council Agenda Packet.

Mayor Rios stated there had been no changes in format or content since Council approved the first reading of the Ordinance on February 22, 2022.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa moved to approve the second & final reading of an Ordinance granting a Conditional Use Permit for development of a RV park on property located at 1411 West Twelfth Street; also known as 12.832 acres of land out of portions of Lot H and portions of Lot 43, Block 251, Foor & Swickheimer Subdivision located in the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas; subject to compliance with the conditions stated within this Ordinances, as well as those stipulated in the City of Rockport Code of Ordinances; repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Council Member Brundrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

FOR MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa, Council Member Brundrett, Council Member Hattman, and Mayor Rios.

ABSTAIN: Council Member Jackson.

16. **Deliberate and act on second & final reading of an Ordinance amending the official zoning map as stipulated under Article 4.1 of the City of Rockport Zoning Ordinance Number 1027 by changing the zoning of land from R-6/R-2 (Hotel Motel District/2nd Single Family Dwelling) for property located at 1315 South Church Street; also known as part of Outlot 14, Doughty & Mathis Outlots, Doughty & Mathis Division, being 2.526 acres, City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, to R-6 (Hotel Motel District) to allow individual beach style houses; repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.**

Mayor Rios said he had received two Citizen Participation Forms to address this Agenda item.

Mayor Rios read the comments received from Irene Dubicka, 915 South Live Oak. Ms. Dubicka comments included: approve with conditions relating to limiting to two-story houses, drainage and flooding, build on 8-foot minimum stilts and permeable paving; and no tax abatements or incentives.

Mayor Rios stated there had been no changes in format or content since Council approved the first reading of the Ordinance on February 22, 2022.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa moved to approve the second & final reading of an Ordinance amending the official zoning map as stipulated under Article 4.1 of the City of Rockport Zoning Ordinance Number 1027 by changing the zoning of land from R-6/R-2 (Hotel Motel District/2nd Single Family Dwelling) for property located at 1315 South Church Street; also known as part of Outlot 14, Doughty & Mathis Outlots, Doughty & Mathis Division, being 2.526 acres, City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, to R-6 (Hotel Motel District) to allow individual beach style houses; repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4:0.

FOR MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa, Council Member Jackson, Council Member Brundrett, and Mayor Rios.

ABSTAIN: Council Member Hattman – filed a Conflict of Interest Affidavit with the City Secretary.

17. Reports from Council.

At this time, the City Council will report/update on all committee assignments, which may include the following: Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation; Aransas Pathways Steering Committee; Building and Standards Commission; Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program; Coastal Bend Council of Government; Coastal Bend Mayors Group; Park & Leisure Services Advisory Board; Planning & Zoning Commission; Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce; Aransas County Storm Water Management Advisory Committee; Swimming Pool Operations Advisory Committee; Tourism Development Council; Tree & Landscape Committee; YMCA Development Committee; Texas Maritime Museum, Fulton Mansion, Rockport Center for the Arts, Aransas County, Aransas County Independent School District, Aransas County Navigation District, Town of Fulton, and Texas Municipal League. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time.

Council Member Hattman stated the Rockport Country Club Drainage Committee is scheduled to have a meeting with City Staff. Council Member Hattman congratulated the Rockport-Fulton

Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) for qualifying for national competition.

Council Member Jackson stated the second Saturday in the District is coming up and there will be lots of things going on: Makers Market and new Downtown Market. Council Member Jackson said there will be other things going on as well: garage sale, Master Gardeners Plant Sale; go out and have a good time.

Mayor Pro-Tem Villa stated the girls and boys power-lifting teams are going to State competition and the soccer team won District; Rockport is looking good.

Mayor Rio said the Primary Elections were conducted last week and he congratulated all candidates who won and also the candidates who did not win but stepped up and ran for office. Mayor Rios expressed the Town of Fulton had a hugely successful Oysterfest.

Executive Session

City Council will hold an executive session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- 18. Section 551.071 Consultations with Attorney seeking the advice of attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or a settlement offer; and on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the chapter: Concho Street Drainage Project.**

At 7:18 p.m., Mayor Rios convened the Rockport City Council into an executive session pursuant to Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultations with Attorney) seeking the advice of attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or a settlement offer; and on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the chapter: Concho Street Drainage Project.

Open Session

City Council will reconvene into open session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to take any actions necessary related to the executive sessions noted herein, or regular agenda items noted above, and/or related items.

At 7:34 p.m., Mayor Rios reconvened the Rockport City Council into open session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

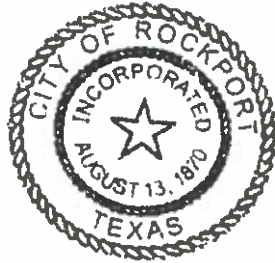
- 19. Deliberate and act on a Resolution approving the acquisition of a stormwater drainage easement from the Aransas County Navigation District and authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to acquire the easement.**

Council did not address this Agenda item.

20. Adjournment.

At 7:34 p.m., Council Member Jackson moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Council Member Hattman. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED:





Patrick R. Rios, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Valdez, City Secretary