

CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Rockport Service Center, 3751 State Highway 35 Bypass

and

Via Video Conferencing Application ZOOM

A temporary suspension of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or video conference public meetings was granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions were being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the attorney general has said: "statutes that may be interpreted to require face-to-face interaction between members of the public and public officials are suspended; provided, however, that the governmental bodies must offer alternative methods of communicating with their public officials." 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 at the meeting. 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 11th day of May 2021, the City Council of the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, convened in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m., at the Training Room of the Rockport Service and via 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 Bob Cunningham, Ward 3
Council Member Andrea Hattman, Ward 4 – *Via ZOOM*

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Council Member Michael Saski, Ward 1

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

City Manager Kevin Carruth
Assistant to City Manager Kimberly Henry
City Secretary Teresa Valdez
Director of Public Works & Building Services Mike Donoho
Director of Finance Katie Griffin - *Via ZOOM*
Parks & Leisure Services Director Rick Martinez
Chief of Police Greg Stevens

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Opening Agenda

1. Call 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, May 11, 2021, 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. Proclamation: National Police Week – May 9-15, 2021.

Mayor Rios proclaimed May 9-15, 2021 as Police Week in the City of Rockport. Mayor Rios read the Proclamation and presented it to Rockport Chief of Police Greg Stevens.

Chief Stevens stated he appreciated the Proclamation and the amazing support the Police Department has from citizens and elected officials. Chief Stevens said the City has never lost an officer in the line of active duty, but last week the City lost Detective Steven Reyes to natural causes. Chief Stevens expressed the Police Department is taking this very hard; Detective Reyes has been with the City for over 11 years.

Mayor Rios requested a moment of silence honoring Detective Steven Reyes. Mayor Rios offered condolences to Detective Reyes family.

4. Proclamation: Community Health Worker Week – May 10-16, 2021.

Mayor Rios proclaimed May 10-16, 2021 as Community Health Worker Week in the City of Rockport. Mayor Rios read the Proclamation and stated this was a Joint Proclamation with Aransas County and the Town of Fulton.

5. Deliberate and act on a Resolution and Order of canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Saturday, May 1, 2021, General Election.

(Deliberar y tomar medidas respect a la Resolución orden para hacer el escrutinio de los votos y declarar los resultados de las Elecciones Generales a realizarse el sábado 1 de mayo de 2021.)

City Secretary Teresa Valdez said the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-03 on January 26, 2021, ordering a General Election to be conducted on May 1, 2021, for electing a Council Member to represent Ward 1 and a Council Member to represent Ward 3. Ms. Valdez stated the General Election was conducted on May 1, 2021, and the results (below) are shown in the Resolution and Order canvassing the returns.

Ward No. 1:

	Absentee Voting	Early Voting	Election Day	Total
Day, James Rusty	0	14	14	28
Jackson, Kathleen "Katy"	0	46	29	75
Under Votes	0	0	0	0
Over Votes	0	0	0	0

Ward No. 3:

	Absentee Voting	Early Voting	Election Day	Total
Cunningham, Bob	50	160	60	225
Brundrett, Brad	0	207	57	264
Under Votes	0	0	0	0
Over Votes	0	0	0	0

Mayor Rios serving as the Presiding Officer of Canvassing Authority signed the Summary of Ward Returns (below) and Canvass of General Election (below).

SUMMARY OF WARD RETURNS

I, the undersigned, the presiding officer of the canvassing authority for the General Election, held on the 1st day of May 2021, City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas do hereby certify that the following is a total of all votes received by each candidate as shown by the Ward returns. I further certify that the following vote totals include early voting votes by ward received under Section 87.1231 of the Texas Election Code.

Name of Office	Name of Candidate	Total Votes Received
Council Member Ward 1	James Rusty Day	28
Council Member Ward 1	Kathleen "Katy" Jackson	75
Council Member Ward 3	Bob Cunningham	225
Council Member Ward 3	Brad Brundrett	264

Dated this 11th day of May 2021.


 Patrick R. Rios, Mayor
 Presiding Officer of Canvassing Authority

CANVASS OF GENERAL ELECTION

I, Patrick R. Rios, Mayor, of City of Rockport, Texas, met with the Rockport City Council sitting as the canvassing board to canvass the General Election of May 1, 2021, on May 11, 2021, at Rockport, Texas.

I certify that the figures on the tally sheets correspond with the figures on the returns. Witness my hand this 11th day of May 2021.


 Patrick R. Rios, Mayor
 Presiding Officer of Canvassing Authority

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa moved to adopt the Resolution and Order canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Saturday, May 1, 2021, General Election. Mayor Rios seconded the motion. Motion carried: 3:0.

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

ABSTAIN: Council Member Cunningham.

Mayor Rios congratulated the newly elected Council Members and thanked Council Members Saski and Cunningham for their service to the City.

6. 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.

Mayor Rios said one Citizen Participation Form had been received from Andrew Kane, 2106 Lakeview Drive.

Mayor Rios read Mr. Kane's comments recognizing and thanking Council Member Saski and Council Member Cunningham for their two years of service to the citizens of Rockport.

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.

7. Deliberate and act on approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2021.

8. Deliberate and act on 2nd quarter Report from Rockport Cultural Arts District for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 marketing expenditures.

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, as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Villa seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

9. Deliberate and act on first reading of an Ordinance granting a Conditional Use Permit for mobile food and retail vending for property located at 210 Seabreeze Drive; also known as approximately 80.0 acres of land out of portions of the Aransas County Navigation District No.1 Rockport Beach Park and Festival Grounds property located

in the city of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas and being a portion of the 102.5 acres Rockport Harbor patent, Abstract 343 and revised August 12, 1953, and recorded in Volume M3, Page 499, Deed Records of Aransas County, Texas, along with a portion of Abstract 357 dated November 6, 1953, containing 604.296 acres and recorded in Volume N-3, Page 178, Deed Records of Aransas County, Texas, with said 80.0 acres being a portion of Abstracts 343 and 357; currently zoned R-1 (1st Single Family Dwelling District); subject to compliance with the conditions stated within this Ordinance, 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.

Director of Public Works Mike Donoho stated this came to the Building Services Department in a round about way; City staff was attending a meeting and discovered the building placed on Aransas County Navigation District property. Mr. Donoho explained staff inquired as to the placement of the building and brought to the Navigation District's attention the land was required to be zoned a certain way to allow for buildings. Mr. Donoho said everyone worked together and the best solution was for the Navigation District to request a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Mr. Donoho added the Planning and Zoning Commission considered the request and recommend approval.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Villa moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance granting a Conditional Use Permit for mobile food and retail vending for property located at 210 Seabreeze Drive; also known as approximately 80.0 acres of land out of portions of the Aransas County Navigation District No.1 Rockport Beach Park and Festival Grounds property located in the city of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas and being a portion of the 102.5 acres Rockport Harbor patent, Abstract 343 and revised August 12, 1953, and recorded in Volume M3, Page 499, Deed Records of Aransas County, Texas, along with a portion of Abstract 357 dated November 6, 1953, containing 604.296 acres and recorded in Volume N-3, Page 178, Deed Records of Aransas County, Texas, with said 80.0 acres being a portion of Abstracts 343 and 357; currently zoned R-1 (1st Single Family Dwelling District); subject to compliance with the conditions stated within this Ordinance, 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 Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Hear and deliberate on status of COVID-19 and response efforts.

Mayor Rios stated the COVID-19 vaccine is now in local distribution channels – clinics and pharmacies.

City Manager Kevin Carruth said the State numbers that were sent out yesterday show Aransas County a shade above or below the State averages.

11. Reports from Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Villa thanked Council Member Saski and Council Member Cunningham for their service to the citizens of Rockport. Mayor Pro-Tem Villa stated he appreciated everything they had done.

Council Member Cunningham stated Representative Jeanie Morison had prevailed with the House Bill supporting the Little Bay Restoration Initiative in Aransas County and the partnership with the General Land Office. Council Member Cunningham thanked City staff for being patient and understanding of him during his two years of service as a Council Member. Council Member Cunningham also thanked the Council for the same. Council Member Cunningham expressed he had learned a lot and it was a privilege and honor to represent Ward 3.

Council Member Hattman thanked Council Members Saski and Cunningham for their service. Council Member Hattman stated it was a privilege to work with them.

Mayor Rios stated it was good to see things getting back to normal; the bar-b-que cookoff this weekend was well attended. Mayor Rios said at the Chamber luncheon today an update on upcoming events was given and it is reassuring that we are back on track to get back to normal. Mayor Rios added the City has a lot of projects going on, and the Key Allegro Bridge project will begin on June 1, 2021.

Mayor Rios extended condolences to the Rockport Police Department on the loss of Detective Reyes. Mayor Rios expressed Detective Reyes was a good man and Mayor Rios had enjoyed a special relationship with him.

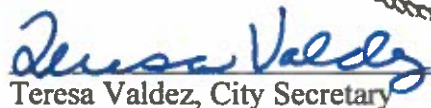
Mayor Pro-Tem Villa wished all the mothers a belated Happy Mothers Day.

12. Adjournment.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Pro-Tem Villa moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Council Member Cunningham. Motion carried unanimously.



ATTEST:


Teresa Valdez, City Secretary

APPROVED:


Patrick R. Rios, Mayor