

CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Rockport Service Center, 2751 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." Video conferencing capabilities were utilized to allow individuals to address the City Council. Members of the public could participate in the meeting remotely via ZOOM by utilizing the web link provided on the Agenda or if attending the meeting in person registered at the meeting.

On the 8th day of June 2021, the City Council of the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, convened in Special Session at 1:30 p.m., at the Training Room of the Rockport Service Center 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 Pat Rios
Mayor Pro-Tem J.D. Villa, Ward 2 – *Via ZOOM*
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

City Manager Kevin Carruth
City Secretary Teresa Valdez
Assistant to City Manager Kimberly Henry
Director of Finance Katie Griffin
Accountant Lorenzo Lara
Public Works Director Mike Donoho

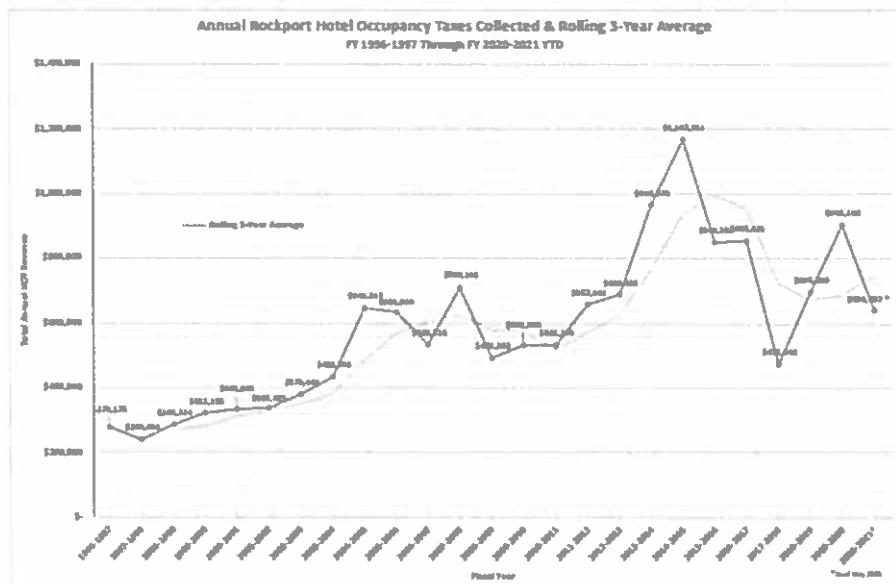
ELECTED OFFICIALS

1. Call to Order.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Special Session of the Rockport City Council was called to order by Mayor Rios at 1:32 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, in the Training Room of the Rockport Service Center, 2751 State Highway 35 Bypass, Rockport, Texas.

2. Hear and deliberate on a presentation of hotel occupancy fund revenues and expenditures.

Finance Director Katie Griffin addressed the Council. Ms. Griffin stated the City is predicting a positive ending for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenues. Ms. Griffin called the Council’s attention to the information included in the agenda packet (below). Ms. Griffin explained the City’s fund balance policy requires 365 days of working fund balance for the HOT fund and the September 30, 2020, audited HOT fund balance totals \$1,027,645. Ms. Griffin said the estimated Fiscal Year 2020-2021 ending fund balance is approximately \$1.2 million, 490 day working capital. Ms. Griffin stated revenue estimate for next year is \$1,250,000 and total requests from local venues and organization, with intent to place heads in beds, for use of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 HOT funds total \$1,256,000.



City of Rockport

Revised 6/04/23

City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Collections, FY 1993/1994 - FY 2020/2021 YTD

Fiscal Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
1993-1994	\$ 13,436	\$ 23,258	\$ 347	\$ 2,000	\$ 54,325	\$ -	\$ 9,827	\$ 24,772	\$ -	\$ 24,235	\$ 20,280	\$ -	\$ 162,145
1994-1995	\$ 23,271	\$ 23,080	\$ -	\$ 23,265	\$ 3,773	\$ 949	\$ 17,899	\$ 3,760	\$ 64	\$ 48,498	\$ 12,080	\$ -	\$ 175,684
1995-1996	\$ 68,370	\$ 43,884	\$ 136	\$ 26,320	\$ 4,320	\$ 580	\$ 23,420	\$ 2,861	\$ 423	\$ 43,673	\$ 18,471	\$ 74,272	\$ 271,726
1996-1997	\$ 65,013	\$ 9,721	\$ -	\$ 27,420	\$ 3,836	\$ 568	\$ 18,260	\$ 6,376	\$ -	\$ 48,270	\$ 15,224	\$ 64,888	\$ 278,275
1997-1998	\$ 42,554	\$ 24,151	\$ -	\$ 33,400	\$ 11,528	\$ -	\$ 30,265	\$ 13,320	\$ 726	\$ 49,046	\$ 42,115	\$ -	\$ 226,494
1998-1999	\$ 16,303	\$ 38,088	\$ 134	\$ 13,951	\$ 32,360	\$ -	\$ 4,115	\$ 22,175	\$ 1,068	\$ 22,821	\$ 45,477	\$ -	\$ 206,124
1999-2000	\$ 47,864	\$ 21,234	\$ -	\$ 26,147	\$ 14,020	\$ 897	\$ 7,614	\$ 34,620	\$ -	\$ 64,838	\$ 17,448	\$ 1,017	\$ 222,122
2000-2001	\$ 39,864	\$ 16,928	\$ -	\$ 25,126	\$ 28,117	\$ 426	\$ 1,628	\$ 43,843	\$ -	\$ 61,247	\$ 27,246	\$ -	\$ 283,006
2001-2002	\$ 21,200	\$ 41,800	\$ 289	\$ 42,426	\$ 36,820	\$ -	\$ 34,226	\$ 23,148	\$ 8,894	\$ 58,221	\$ 24,220	\$ -	\$ 281,426
2002-2003	\$ 61,265	\$ 22,257	\$ 14,894	\$ 26,817	\$ 6,336	\$ 13,876	\$ 11,626	\$ 28,718	\$ 6,471	\$ 47,843	\$ 28,770	\$ -	\$ 276,481
2003-2004	\$ 63,571	\$ 42,440	\$ 2,240	\$ 16,323	\$ 8,674	\$ 1,728	\$ 48,574	\$ 24,712	\$ 2,643	\$ 38,762	\$ 78,180	\$ -	\$ 432,768
2004-2005	\$ 74,834	\$ 22,162	\$ 2,982	\$ 46,785	\$ 24,681	\$ 28,157	\$ 49,020	\$ 25,720	\$ 2,621	\$ 114,000	\$ 22,220	\$ 181,253	\$ 666,385
2005-2006	\$ 101,326	\$ 19,167	\$ 1,245	\$ 54,577	\$ 14,811	\$ 4,267	\$ 73,623	\$ 6,524	\$ 1,008	\$ 128,610	\$ 27,224	\$ 148,261	\$ 624,600
2006-2007	\$ 101,908	\$ 27,224	\$ 21,320	\$ 12,247	\$ 13,191	\$ 1,284	\$ 48,484	\$ 22,161	\$ 4,247	\$ 104,484	\$ 43,780	\$ 24,874	\$ 524,213
2007-2008	\$ 124,820	\$ 17,787	\$ 3,415	\$ 61,620	\$ 19,205	\$ 315	\$ 22,685	\$ 54,680	\$ 2,267	\$ 94,274	\$ 63,280	\$ 122,680	\$ 709,149
2008-2009	\$ 101,538	\$ 74,165	\$ 8,283	\$ 48,184	\$ 17,283	\$ 288	\$ 15,423	\$ 62,740	\$ 211	\$ 62,742	\$ 72,000	\$ -	\$ 682,263
2009-2010	\$ 102,040	\$ 62,323	\$ 18,823	\$ 29,820	\$ 71,120	\$ 11,620	\$ 28,224	\$ 12,287	\$ 4,273	\$ 42,206	\$ 42,206	\$ 866	\$ 522,206
2010-2011	\$ 47,464	\$ 46,423	\$ 23,890	\$ 52,180	\$ 68,440	\$ 14,461	\$ 28,111	\$ 47,884	\$ 6,284	\$ 111,543	\$ 74,243	\$ 4,287	\$ 521,123
2011-2012	\$ 128,123	\$ 70,891	\$ 1,247	\$ 38,104	\$ 61,716	\$ 1,460	\$ 43,084	\$ 96,326	\$ 7,221	\$ 111,683	\$ 114,220	\$ 14,881	\$ 627,441
2012-2013	\$ 103,126	\$ 64,000	\$ 23,767	\$ 53,048	\$ 34,000	\$ 3,401	\$ 68,222	\$ 29,713	\$ 11,281	\$ 64,000	\$ 67,220	\$ 1,243	\$ 688,422
2013-2014	\$ 165,247	\$ 63,420	\$ 1,111	\$ 64,420	\$ 15,120	\$ 3,260	\$ 69,246	\$ 28,244	\$ 28,244	\$ 108,280	\$ 69,180	\$ 202,244	\$ 696,220
2014-2015	\$ 192,870	\$ 28,244	\$ 16,894	\$ 16,240	\$ 17,244	\$ 12,148	\$ 62,246	\$ 68,240	\$ 18,240	\$ 174,220	\$ 102,880	\$ 202,244	\$ 1,127,211
2015-2016	\$ 201,000	\$ 140,775	\$ 13,160	\$ 24,220	\$ 65,424	\$ 61,440	\$ 62,227	\$ 93,000	\$ 22,220	\$ 161,211	\$ 161,211	\$ 22,170	\$ 681,322
2016-2017	\$ 140,000	\$ 130,604	\$ 9,774	\$ 51,200	\$ 71,180	\$ 15,722	\$ 66,277	\$ 101,267	\$ 20,243	\$ 148,472	\$ 148,227	\$ (21,888)	\$ 624,421
2017-2018	\$ 68,000	\$ 65,424	\$ 28,662	\$ 28,204	\$ 13,720	\$ 12,528	\$ 34,771	\$ 46,247	\$ 21,267	\$ 71,281	\$ 46,248	\$ (1,220)	\$ 471,248
2018-2019	\$ 61,000	\$ 34,800	\$ 14,302	\$ 29,020	\$ 29,672	\$ 29,682	\$ 22,241	\$ 64,820	\$ 48,287	\$ 105,820	\$ 122,217	\$ 88,000	\$ 685,220
2019-2020	\$ 78,277	\$ 221,894	\$ 28,200	\$ 42,323	\$ 42,001	\$ 22,228	\$ 18,423	\$ 49,441	\$ 49,440	\$ 148,441	\$ 18,720	\$ 142,424	\$ 688,220
2020-2021	\$ 44,120	\$ 102,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 28,200	\$ 46,243	\$ 29,200	\$ 12,220	\$ 44,120	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 628,197

**City of Rockport
FY 2021-2022 Budget Worksheet**

	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	REQUESTED
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
27 -HOTEL OCCUPANY TAX									
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	0	0	728,489	896,628	1,049,342	829,162	757,314	1,827,645	1,827,645
REVENUES									
602001 HOTEL/MOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX	828,712	926,768	849,381	828,297	534,352	692,329	1,033,824	914,130	1,290,000
610111 DONATIONS-TROPICAL CHRISTMAS	0	0	0	0	0	23,000	0	0	0
TOTAL HOT FUND REVENUES	828,712	926,768	849,381	828,297	534,352	729,329	1,033,824	914,130	1,290,000
EXPENDITURES									
60-HOT ADMINISTRATION									
10-PERSONNEL									
6021001 BASE PAY	0	0	8,448	9,211	13,227	22,791	11,292	11,180	34,139
6021002 PART TIME	0	0	4,018	4,920	0	0	0	7,000	7,000
6021010 TRNG	0	0	1,349	1,329	2,436	3,329	6,349	2,894	6,181
6021011 PCA	0	0	915	1,103	1,129	2,349	2,999	3,074	3,201
CATEGORY TOTAL	0	0	14,730	17,563	17,892	49,469	40,640	40,154	54,521
20-CONTRACTS AND SERVICES									
6022001 R-F CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-MARKETING	298,000	310,000	220,000	327,000	325,000	370,000	370,000	130,000	430,000
6022003 R-F CHAMBER/LOCAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE	0	0	0	0	27,300	30,000	0	0	0
6022002 TEXAS MARITIME MUSEUM	77,000	77,000	80,000	80,000	72,000	72,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
6022009 FLATON MARSHION	89,000	91,230	34,200	22,000	18,730	34,230	30,000	22,300	23,800
6022012 TML BOOTH PROMOTIONS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6022043 PCA-ARTS, CULTURE, & HUMANITIES TOURISM	74,300	117,800	114,829	114,900	128,000	128,000	123,000	123,000	271,000
6022045 AC COUNCIL ON AGING-BOUNTIFUL BOWL	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000	1,026	1,132	1,200	1,200
6022046 ROCKPORT YACHT CLUB-NAUTICAL FLEA MCT	1,500	2,000	2,500	2,500	3,387	1,408	1,500	1,500	1,800
6022046 CONTRACTED SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	14,774	30	13,000	22,000
6022047 R-F CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-SEAFAR	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,499	1,750	1,750	1,500
6022048 R-F CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-HUMMERBIRD	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,250	1,500
6022050 TROPICAL CHRISTMAS	9,388	14,121	13,761	7,087	18,724	22,972	22,785	23,000	29,000
6022051 RIBBY CLUB-FILM FESTIVAL	2,000	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,250	2,500	0
6022057 AQUARIUM AT ROCKPORT HARBOR-401-APET	7,994	9,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6022056 FRIENDS OF THE HISTORY CTR	0	0	0	2,500	3,000	3,000	0	0	0
6022057 VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL TRVL EXHIBIT	0	0	0	1,500	1,500	0	0	0	0
6022059 ICMA TV	0	0	0	17,300	0	0	0	0	0
6022060 ED. FOUNDATION-SHOPPING TOURNAMENT	3,000	3,000	2,500	3,000	3,300	1,344	0	0	0
6022061 PUBLIC ART	0	1,164	1,164	0	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
6022073 VISITOR TRANSPORTATION	0	0	72,147	4,731	9,123	210	893	3,000	3,000
6022083 EVENT SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	0	261	0	21,000	21,000
6022080 ARANSAS WOODS	0	3,000	0	900	0	0	0	0	0
6022093 S-COR BLINE STABILIZATION	0	0	0	0	0	4,624	0	20,000	20,000
6022097 ROCKPORT CULTURAL ARTS DISTRICT	0	0	0	0	30,000	20,000	34,900	25,000	74,200

**City of Rockport
FY 2021-2022 Budget Worksheet**

	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	REQUESTED
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
27 -HOTEL OCCUPANY TAX									
6107045 TRANSFER TO FLEET/VEHICLE MGMT	0	0	0	92,604	0	11,524	0	0	0
6022003 LYMCH-BAY EDUCATION CENTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,000	13,000	13,000
6022008 ROCKPORT-FLATON TOUR OF HOMES	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,794	0	0
6022099 PCA GRANT ADMINISTRATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180,000	180,000
6022000 LABOR DAY MUSIC FEST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,000
6022000 ROCKPORT LITTLE THEATRE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000
6022000 ROCKPORT FLATON COM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000
6022000 ARANSAS COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120,000
CATEGORY TOTAL	562,782	628,629	643,379	654,894	698,164	761,157	723,282	891,380	1,994,200
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	562,782	628,629	643,379	654,894	698,164	761,157	723,282	891,380	1,994,200
90-NON-DEPARTMENTAL									
80-INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRFS									
6022046 CONTRACT SERVICES	0	0	0	0	4,300	0	0	0	0
6993034 TRF TO BEACH PARE FUND	0	0	0	6,200	0	0	0	0	0
6993033 TRF TO I & J DEBT SERV FUND	43,812	43,502	23,225	12,008	27,116	0	0	0	0
6993043 TRF TO SECUR/INTERNAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,679	0	0
CATEGORY TOTAL	43,812	43,502	23,225	24,218	31,416	0	4,679	0	0
90-OTHER USES OF FUNDS									
6999009 RESERVE FOR CONTINGENCY	0	0	0	2,340	100	0	0	30,000	30,000
CATEGORY TOTAL	0	0	0	2,340	100	0	0	30,000	30,000
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	43,812	43,502	23,225	27,190	31,516	0	4,679	30,000	30,000
TOTAL HOT FUND EXPENSES	606,594	672,131	666,604	782,084	729,680	761,157	727,961	921,380	2,024,200
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	222,118	254,637	183,007	156,213	(210,100)	(11,245)	249,729	0	(137,431)
ENDING FUND BALANCE	234,138	264,627	878,313	1,049,342	829,162	757,314	1,827,645	1,827,645	698,214
FUND BALANCE REQUIREMENT (365 days operating cost)									
Over / Under / Fund Balance Requirement						763,297	763,297	854,238	1,587,431
Days Over / Under Fund Balance Requirement						(1,381)	264,348	113,295	(897,217)
						362	493	410	139

Council Member Brundrett asked Ms. Griffin if the Fund Balance was projected after expenditures.

Ms. Griffin answered “yes, it was” and this year requests total 1.5 million so we would need \$1.5 million in reserve.

Jeff Hutt addressed the Council. Mr. Hutt said he owns property at 2201 Prairie Road. Mr. Hutt expressed concerns about the hotel occupancy tax (HOT) in general. Mr. Hutt stated it seemed as if we are doing everything we can to generate more HOT funds and he believes government should not be doing that.

3. Hear and deliberate on requests for grant funds from the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account from the following entities:

A. Aransas County Council on Aging – Bountiful Bowl Pottery Fair

Luis Purón, Executive Director of the Rockport Center for the Arts addressed the Council. Mr. Purón stated he would speak on Ms. Mary Ellen Nies, Executive Director for Aransas County Council on Aging, behalf. Mr. Purón stated the Aransas County Council on Aging is requesting \$1,200 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund.

B. Aransas County Navigation District

Malcolm Dieckow, Chairman of Aransas County Navigation District addressed the Council. Mr. Dieckow presented a request for \$125,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund.

Discussion was held among Council, City Manager Kevin Carruth, Mr. Dieckow, and Keith Barrett, Aransas County Navigation District Harbor Master.

C. Friends of the Fulton Mansion – Fulton Mansion State Historic Site

City Secretary Teresa Valdez informed the Council that the HOT application for the Friends of the Fulton Mansion had inadvertently been left out of the Agenda packet. Ms. Valdez stated she would email the HOT application to Council and post a Corrected Agenda packet on the City’s website.

Allen Lea, Site Manager for the Fulton Mansion State Historic Site, addressed the Council. Mr. Lea presented a request for \$25,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund.

D. Labor Day Music Fest

Jim Luna addressed the Council. Mr. Luna presented a request for \$15,000 grant funds for the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund for the Labor Day Music Fest.

Discussion was held among Council and Mr. Luna regarding the request.

Finance Director Katie Griffin informed the Council that previous years funds from the City had been taken out of the Parks and Leisure Services operating budget.

E. Rockport Center for the Arts

Luis Purón, Executive Director, Karen Ernst, Deputy Director and Elena Rodriguez, Curator of Exhibitions, of the Rockport Center for the Arts, addressed the Council. Mr. Purón presented a request for \$271,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

F. Rockport Cultural Arts District

Jennifer Day, Executive Director of the Rockport Cultural Arts District, addressed the Council. Ms. Day presented a request for \$74,200 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

G. Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce

i. Marketing

Robert Mitchell, Chairman of the Board, Donna Townsend, Chair-Elect, Sandy Jumper, Director of Tourism and Events, Diane Probst, President & Chief Executive Officer and Jatin Bhakta, Chairman of the Hotel and Lodging Council, addressed the Council. They presented the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce 2021-2022 Marketing Plan. The Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce presented a request for \$450,000.

ii. HummerBird Celebration

Sandy Jumper, Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Marketing & Promotion addressed the Council. Ms. Jumper presented a request for \$1,500 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account for the September 2022 HummerBird Celebration.

iii. Seafair

Sandy Jumper, Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Marketing & Promotion addressed the Council. Ms. Jumper presented a request for \$1,500 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account for the October 2021 Seafair.

H. RockportFulton.com

Andy Grunberger, Webmaster of social media for RockportFulton.com addressed the Council. Mr. Grunberger presented a request for \$100,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

Discussion was held among Council and Mr. Grunberger regarding his request.

I. Rockport Little Theatre

Analisa Kennedy, Secretary of Rockport Little Theatre, addressed the Council. Ms. Kennedy presented a request for \$105,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

Discussion was held among Council and Ms. Kennedy regarding the request.

J. Rockport Yacht Club – Nautical Flea Market

There was no one in attendance to present the Rockport Yacht Club’s request for \$1,800 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account for the Nautical Flea Market to be held May 2022.

K. Texas Maritime Museum

Justin Parkoff, Executive Director of the Texas Maritime Museum, addressed the Council. Mr. Parkoff presented a request for \$70,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

L. University of Texas Marine Science Institute – Bay Education Center

There was no one in attendance to present the Bay Education Center request for \$15,000 grant funds from the City of Rockport Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Account.

5. Adjournment

At 2:55 p.m., the Special Council Meeting adjourned.



CITY OF ROCKPORT, TEXAS


Patrick R. Rios, Mayor

ATTEST:


Teresa Valdez, City Secretary