

ISLAND VIBES

the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island

STAY IN THE KNOW

REMINDERS

- City Hall will be closed on Monday, February 21, in Observance of President's Day.
- Early voting began February 14th and will continue until Friday, February 25th. Click [here](#) to find a polling location near you.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday • February 22

- 1:30 PM • Laguna Madre Living Shoreline Workshop
- 2 PM • Shoreline Task Force

Wednesday • February 23

- 9 AM • Convention & Visitor's Advisory Board

Friday • February 25

- 10 AM • Special City Council Meeting

View upcoming meetings, live stream meetings in session, and watch archived meetings [here](#).

EVENTS

Saturday • February 19, 11 a.m.

South Padre Island Chili Expo at Louie's Backyard, presented by Walk for Women.

Saturday • February 26, 11 a.m.

Join Friends of Animal Rescue for Tails on the Beach. A great event for the two-and-four-legged members of the family!

For a complete list of events happening on the Island, click [here](#)!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

A regular City Council meeting was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. Sherry Pindard from Friends of Animal Rescue introduced Pet of the Month: Dixie! Little Dixie was featured in last weeks newsletter and is still searching for the perfect fur-ever home. She behaved like an angel and was definitely the cutest attendee!



From the Regular Agenda:

- Council discussed funding options for future side street improvements between Padre and Laguna Boulevard.
- Council approved a letter of support for an application to join Bird City Texas, a certification program that focuses on protecting birds and their habitats. Javier Gonzalez, a member of the Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee, shared that bird friendly habitats can increase property value and even generate eco-tourism dollars by attracting rare birds to the Island.
- Approval of the first reading of the ordinance for a lease agreement with the South Padre Island Historical Foundation of a City owned property (610 Padre Blvd.) for the operation of a historical museum.

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CITY SPOTLIGHT

In this week's City Spotlight, we have City Council Member Joe Ricco! Joe is a long-time Island resident, moving to SPI in 1998 from Cleveland, Ohio. Today, he's the General Manager at Louie's Backyard, where he's worked for 24 years, and a partner in Tequila Sunset Bar & Grill.

Over the years, Joe has served on various committees for the City of South Padre Island and became a City Council Member in 2018. While serving on Council, he's accomplished many things like overseeing construction on phase 2 of the Padre Boulevard medians project which finished on budget and ahead of schedule, bringing a new bay side public boat ramp, and forming the Substandard Structure Review Board, to name a few. His continued work on the Island has definitely made this "a better place to live, work, and play" and we look forward to seeing what Joe and his fellow Council Members have for the future of South Padre Island.



CITY PREPS FOR SPRING BREAK



The City of South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce hosted its monthly Coffee & Conversation on Thursday, February 17th at the Padre Island Brewing Co.

Fire Chief Jim Pigg and Police Chief Claudine O'Carroll spoke to the community and answered questions regarding planning for this year's Spring Break. The previous two years were quite different than what the Island is accustomed due to the pandemic, but plenty of families and collegiate students are expected to be returning this year.

A busy Spring Break is nothing new for the City though. Staff has many years of experience managing the busy month and is well prepared for this year's Spring Break.

If you'd like to watch a saved livestream of the Chamber's Coffee & Conversation event, click [here](#).

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PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Nebula! He's a beautiful blue-nose Pitbull, between 5 and 6-years-old. His favorite thing to do is play ball and cuddle with his human pals. Nebula wants to be the only furry man in your life, so he must go to a home with no other pets. If you think you can be his *fur*-ever home, fill out an adoption application with Friends of Animal Rescue by clicking [HERE](#). Or give them a call at 956-772-1171.



JOIN TEAM SPI

The City of South Padre Island is hiring! We offer great benefits like medical, vision and dental plans covered at 100%, a 2-to-1 match in the Texas Municipal Retirement System, competitive pay, plus more. [Apply](#) to become a part of our extraordinary team today!

- **Code Enforcement Officer:** Temporary & Part-Time
- **Police Officer:** Temporary & Part-Time
- **Traffic Control:** Temporary
- **Jail Technician:** Temporary & Part-Time
- **Maintenance:** Full-Time & Part-Time
- **Firefighter/Paramedic:** Full-Time & Part-Time

More positions and information available [here](#).

MULTIMODAL RECEIVES NEW EMERGENCY GENERATOR

The City is staying prepared when it comes to emergency management. Through a grant received from TXDOT, the Transit Department was able to purchase a new emergency generator which would allow the Multimodal Facility to keep the Island Metro buses running without delay.

With assistance from the Public Works department, Global Electric, and Elizondo's Crane Operators, the generator was safely delivered on February 15th and is expected to be fully operational by next month.



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