

**MINUTES CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council Members of the City of South Padre Island, Texas held a Regular City Council Meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at the Municipal Complex Building, 2 Floor, 4601 Padre Boulevard, South Padre Island, Texas. Mayor McNulty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present: Mayor Patrick McNulty, Council Members Joe Ricco, Ken Medders, Kerry Schwartz, and Rees Langston.

City staff members present were City Manager Randy Smith, Director of Operations Wendi Delgado, Fire Chief Jim Pigg, Police Chief Claudine O'Carroll, Public Works Director Alex Sanchez, Assistant Public Works Director Jon Wilson, CFO Rodrigo Gimenez, CVB Director Blake Henry, IT Director Victor Martinez, Shoreline Director Kristina Boburka, Administration Coordinator Hilda Delgado, and City Secretary Angelique Soto.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

Mayor McNulty led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Public comments and announcements were given at this time.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

4.1. PROCLAMATION: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEK.

5. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:

Council Member Ricco made a motion, seconded by Council Member Langston to approve Consent Agenda Items 5.1 through 5.12. Motion passed unanimously.

- 5.1. APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,000 FROM FUND 60 FOR BEACH ACCESS RESTROOM SUPPLIES. (BOBURKA)**
- 5.2. APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FROM FUND 60 FOR BEACH ACCESS UTILITY CHARGES. (BOBURKA)**
- 5.3. APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7200 FROM FUND 60 FOR THE SUPPLIES AND PURCHASE OF A NEW TRUCK. (BOBURKA)**
- 5.4. APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,700 FROM FUND 03 FOR SANITATION COSTS AT THE FUTURE WIND AND WATER SPORTS VENUE LOCATION. (BOBURKA)**
- 5.5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT FROM GENERAL FUND EXCESS RESERVES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 FOR THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE FRIENDS OF ANIMAL RESCUE. (BALDOVINOS)**
- 5.6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR \$35,000 TO INCREASE BEACH PATROL FUNDS IN FISCAL YEAR 2022-23. (PIGG)**

- 5.7. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR \$57,000 TO INCREASE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET IN FY 2022-23. (PIGG)**
- 5.8. **APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT. (GIMENEZ)**
- 5.9. **APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,805.00 FOR GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE 2023 SIDE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PHASE I PROJECT. (SANCHEZ)**
- 5.10. **UPDATE REGARDING THE COMPARISON OF SEPTEMBER 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2023 BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY. (MEDDERS)**
- 5.11. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS. (GIMENEZ)**
- 5.12. **APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2023 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING. (SOTO)**

6.REGULAR AGENDA

- 6.1. **UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING SHORT TERM RENTAL PROGRAM BY DECKARD TECHNOLOGIES LLC. (MCNULTY)**

Chief Financial Officer Rodrigo Gimenez introduced Rick Del Pego of Deckard Technologies.

Rick provided the following update. Over the last year and half, the City had around 1,700 – 1,750 rental properties and now has more than 2,300 license. In April 2023, the compliance rate was about 71% and is now 92%.

Deckard Technologies outreach as sent 1,085 letters to 725 rental properties. 538 properties have registered and 151 are still pending. 36 properties are no longer operating.

There are 16 properties with one or more complaints with a total of 27 complaints.

The software is able to track online rental sites that are not registering and the company is able to assist with more punitive measures should the properties fail to become compliant.

Concerns of the Complaint Hotline were discussed regarding the automatic prompt may be confusing the callers and disconnects. Rick discussed the process and that the hotline operators will receive a complaint, check the permitted list, and reach out to the local contact multiple times over that hour. If those calls to the local contact go unanswered, the company will forward to the City's local dispatch. The hotline number is listed on the City's Short Term Rental website and there is an online complaint form.

- 6.2. **UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NEW CITY WEBSITE REDESIGN. (MARTINEZ)**

Information Technology Director Victor Martinez updated the Council on launching the new City website. The current website has not been updated since 2014 and the new design/layout will be more user-friendly. The staff has been working diligently to review out-of-date documents and broken links that need to be removed.

New features will include more icons and a calendar that will have the Community Center events, CVB events, and the scheduled agenda meetings.

The new website is scheduled to be on October 24, 2023 and the transition may cause the website to be down for about half of the day. While this transition is the beginning, this will be an ongoing project.

6.3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-22 VOTING FOR A REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, POSITION 9. (MCNULTY)

Council Member Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ricco to nominate Ken Medders, Jr. to serve on the Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors, Position 9. Motion passed unanimously.

6.4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SELECT THE STYLE AND SPACING OF BOLLARDS ON LAGUNA BLVD. (SANCHEZ)

Council Member Ricco made a motion, seconded by Council Member Medders to approve Option 1 (135) and to bring an example of the slip pole at the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

6.5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-23 OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND IN SUPPORT OF PARTNERING WITH THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE TO IMPLEMENT SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BEACH NOURISHMENT COASTAL TEXAS STUDY PROJECT.

Council Member Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ricco to approve Resolution No. 2023-23 of South Padre Island in support of partnering with the Texas General Land Office to implement South Padre Island Beach Nourishment Coastal Texas Study Project. Motion passed unanimously.

A true and correct copy of said Resolution was placed in the City's Resolution Book and entitled Resolution No. 2023-23 and, by reference hereto, included in these Minutes as if fully set out and spread upon the pages of the Minutes Book.

6.6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000 FROM FUND 81 FOR THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION GRANT. (BOBURKA)

Council Member Ricco made a motion, seconded by Council Member Langston to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$300,000 from Fund 81 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant. Motion passed unanimously.

6.7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MARKETING BUY WITH THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS FOR \$283,000 AND REQUEST A BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$283,000 FROM CVB EXCESS RESERVES. (TREVINO)

Council Member Ricco made a motion, seconded by Council Member Schwartz to approve the marketing buy with the San Antonio Spurs for \$283,000 and a budget amendment of \$283,000 from CVB Excess Reserves Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

6.8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHANGE NAME FROM SOUTH PADRE ISLAND CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU TO VISIT SOUTH PADRE ISLAND. (HENRY)

This item was pulled.

7.EXECUTIVE SESSION:

7.1. PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 551.071, CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY; 551.072, DELIBERATIONS ABOUT REAL PROPERTY; A CLOSED SESSION WILL BE HELD TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY. (MCNULTY)

At 6:39 p.m., Council Member Schwartz made a motion, seconded by Council member Ricco to go into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

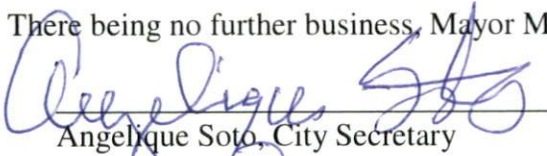
At 6:55 p.m., the City Council reconvened into open session.

8.OPEN SESSION


8.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE POTENTIAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY. (MCNULTY)

9.ADJOURN.

There being no further business, Mayor McNulty adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.


Angelique Soto, City Secretary

APPROVED


Patrick McNulty, Mayor

