

City of Shoreacres

MINUTES OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the
City Council
The City of Shoreacres, Texas held on.
Monday, September 11, 2023

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: Members Present and Absent Quorum

1.1 Mayor Jennings, Mayor Pro-Tem McKown, Alderman Greeson, Alderwoman Ramos, Alderman Bell, Alderman Hoskins

2.0 PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

Texas Pledge:

Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

3.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

3.1 None

4.0 COUNCIL REPORTS & REQUESTS

4.1 None

5.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

5.1 Public Comments

Wes Tipton, 1207 Esther, Kemah, Texas, commented that his children who live at 418 Baywood have ringworms due to sick cats living in the home with them. He added that he feels as he has been labeled a pest to the office and the police Department regarding this matter. He advised there are laws on the books and the City is not taking them seriously and it has become a safety issue for his children. Mr. Tipton also brought up old issues he has complained about as well. He advised there are 5 cats living at this location when the ordinance only allows for 4. He advised he has spoken with the Sgt who advised he does not agree with the law on the books and was not going to write her a citation. Mr. Tipton's time ended and was advised.

This is an opportunity for the public to address the council. Dialogue, deliberation, or discussion, with council members on items that are not on the agenda is prohibited by law. Time for each speaker is limited to five minutes.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6.1 City Manager's Report – Attached harrison

Mr. Harrison advised since the last meeting a new Court Clerk had been hired. Diane Stokes, who is also a resident of the city. She has been here for about 10 days and seems to be settling in well.

Mr. Harrison discussed the financials as attached. He advised that the wastewater project is at the end, there were a few issues, nothing major, just issues with not having accurate maps. Park Pavilion improvements are near completion as well, sidewalks for wheelchair access and the barricades will be added next week and this will complete this project. Mr. Greeson had questioned the barricades that Mr. Harrison had included in his report.

There were NO other questions on the Financial Report.

Mr. Harrison then began the Police Department Report as attached and advised there was nothing that really stood out this month and added that the PD had recovered another gun this month that a homeowner had left on top of his vehicle. This weapon was recovered in La Porte. The mayor questioned if there was any responsibility on the part of the homeowner when something like this happens, Mr. Harrison advised there are laws on the books for this type of incident that will kick in generally when there is an accident or crime committed with the weapon.

There were NO other questions on the Police Department Report.

Public Works, Mr. Harrison advised there have been many waterline issues with the drought and they are working as hard and fast as they can to fix these issues. This month to date, there have been 22 water leaks and 12 main line repairs. Mr. Harrison added, they have been working on valves to control lines so when there is a repair, they can control what water is turned off to not affect the entire city or a specific area. Mr. Harrison advised, as they are marking the water lines as they are finding them and making good maps of these now. Mr. Greeson advised once we have these they need to be stored in a safe place.

There were NO other questions on the Public Works Department Report.

7.0 BUSINESS - Discussion & possible action to be held on the following:

7.1 Approve Minutes Goodman

Ms. Ramos made a motion to review and approve the minutes from the August 14, 2023, meeting, with a second from Mr. McKown. There being no questions and/or comments, the minutes were approved as written.

- 7.2 **Resolution 2023-09-01 City Manager Contract** Jennings
Mr. Greeson made a motion to review and approve the Contract of the City Manager, with a second from Mr. Hoskins. The mayor advised the contract comes up for renewal every September 30th. This is the same contract and there have been no changes for the last 2 years. The mayor asked for questions and discussion, polled the Council, there being no questions and/or discussion, the motion passed unanimously, and the contract was approved as written.
- 7.3 **Resolution 2023-09-02 Water Line Improvement (Covid Funds)** harrison
Mr. Hoskins made a motion to discuss the waterline improvement project. With a second from Mr. McKown. Mr. Harrison advised there was about 400K from the Covid Funds received and these monies must be expended before December 31, 2023. He added this went out for bid and only one bid was received awarding the contract to IUO. Mr. Harrison also advised the water lines from Byway east they will be moving the meters from the back yards to the front yards of these homes. There will be no cost to the homeowner, and this will be done properly as they will have to have inspections as well as the work done by a licensed plumber. Questions from Mr. Greeson and Mr. Bell were if the meters are not damaged, would they be using the same meters, Mr. Harrison's reply was yes. Notices will be placed on the homes notifying the homeowner of the work being done. There being no other questions and/or comments, the motion passed unanimously.
- 7.4 **Ordinance 2023-09-01 – Increase Utility Deposit** Jennings
Mr. McKown made a motion to discuss the increase in the utility deposit with a second from Mr. Greeson. The mayor advised the current deposit was not sufficient any longer to cover those who walk away from their water bills when they move and asked that the deposit be increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00. Mr. Bell asked if this was only for the new homeowners moving in, the mayor responded yes. Mr. McKown added he feels this is still low and asked for an amendment to increase the new rate to \$250.00, discussion was held, and a vote taken, the amendment failed due to lack of enough votes. The original motion to increase the deposit to \$200.00 was then voted on and the original motion passed with a vote all in favor of the \$200.00 rate except for 1 Nay from Mr. McKown.
- 7.5 **Accrue Personal Sick Leave Liability** Jennings
Discussion was held on the Sick Leave liability as it pertains to the budget as attached. Mr. Hoskins asked questions on the overall policy with concerns on paying an employee who has resigned for what ever reason the max time when they are resigning to go elsewhere. Much discussion was held on this matter and was determined that this will be discussed further at a later date.
- 7.6 **Review Latest Draft Budget** Jennings
Mr. Hoskins made a motion to review the draft budget as attached with a second from Ms. Ramos. Mr. mayor advised the budget is also posted on the website where he has had some interaction and questions from some. Discussion was held on the slope mower and why the need to do away with and what alternative will

be considered to keeping the ditches mowed and to keep the city from looking ragged. It was also noted that many residents who are elderly are not able to mow their ditches, what will happen here? Ms. Ramos asked if there was an option for a mowing company and it was replied that they are looking at companies who do this, however, there are not many. It was also asked, who will be enforcing the residents to mow their ditches, and where does it become the city's responsibility to mow the ditches, other discussion was held on the budget such as the electronic sign in front. It was stated by Mr. Harrison that with the FEMA Audit taking place, in order for the city to keep its insurance discount to its citizens, the electronic sign was the cheapest way for an emergency notification system. The systems that many cities use is very expensive. The mayor asked the council if there were any other questions and/or discussion, the answer was no. There being no other changes the draft budget remains as presented.

7.7 Budget and Tax Rate hearing schedule Jennings

Ms. Ramos made a motion to review and discuss the Budget and Tax Rate hearing schedule with a second from Mr. Greeson allowing for a Budget and tax rate hearing to be held September 25, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

7.8 Tax Rate for Publication Jennings

Ms. Ramos made a motion to review and discuss the Budget and Tax Rate for publication with a second from Mr. Greeson. Discussion was held and it was decided that the tax rate for publication will be .758554. After discussion a vote was taken, and the motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.

7.9 Second Regular meeting 9-25-2023 Jennings

Discussion was held to determine if another budget workshop was needed. It was determined another workshop would be held September 25 at 6:00 pm. The mayor advised anyone was welcome to put a draft of their budget on the website for review if needed for discussion.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT Jennings

Mr. McKown made a motion to adjourn with a second from Mr. Hoskins.
Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting of the governing body of the City of Shoreacres, Texas is a true and correct copy of said Notice and that I posted a copy of said Notice on the bulletin board at City Hall on ., at a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times; to remain so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting.

DATED THIS.



SHOREACRES, TEXAS

By: *David Jennings*
David Jennings – Mayor

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultations with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices) and 551.086 (Economic Development).