

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, January 08, 2024

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, absent was 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 Dedication of a bench in memory of Alderman Neil Moyer to be in the City Hall Reflection Garden.

Mayor Jennings made the presentation to Ms. Dolly Arons who was present. Mayor Jennings advised this was going to be done outside, however, due to the inclement weather in had to be done inside. A photo showing the bench in the park with the special plaque was displayed on the large screen. Mayor Jennings also presented a beautiful photo to Ms. Dolly Arons.

Mayor Jennings asked if anyone wanted to make any comments. Mayor Pre-Tem McKown, citizen and friend Richard Adams, and past council member Bo Bunker took the opportunity to say many nice things about Mr. Moyer. Mayor Jennings advised he too reflected the same thoughts as all who commented.

Alderwoman Ramos thanked Dolly for sharing Neil with the Council and the City.

4.0 COUNCIL REPORTS & REQUESTS

- 4.1 Mayor Jennings asks council members if anyone had any Reports or Requests to share with the community with all members present responding no.

5.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

5.1 Public Comments –

Mayor Jennings read the instructions shown below to the citizens present and asked if anyone had anything to say.

Present:

George Ashworth had nothing to say.

Mary Becker asked that when there is a Council Meeting, there be additional Agendas available for the citizens who attend, adding that she was not able to see what was on the TV screen.

She also asked that the meeting notice be placed on the marquee outside of City Hall like before giving notice to the citizens.

George Perdue commented regarding the signs placed around Shell Beach and expressed his dissatisfaction with those signs and would like to see a more respectable sign placed.

He asked if there was going to be any major work taking place in and around the city, that the residents be notified for their input instead of just doing the work.

He asked if there was anything being done with citizen tax money that the citizens be allowed to comment on and give their feedback on what is to be taking place.

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** – Updates on city activities, staff, budget, public works, police.

Mr. Harrison went over the financial report as attached advising that the Total of these reports was \$1,541,661.89 as of December 31, 2023.

Mayor Jennings asked Mr. McKown and Ms. Ramos if there were any numbers in the report that stood out to them. Neither commenting, Mayor Jennings stated that previously the reserve for the city was only \$263K and now it is well over 1 million dollars.

There being no questions or discussion the City Manager moved to the next item on the agenda.

6.2 **Monthly Police Department Report**

Mayor Jennings advised he'd like to recap Municipal Court advising Ms. Stokes and Ms. Anderson have been working hard to get the court caught up and it is beginning to get back on track with regular court dockets and jury trials. This year the budget will look different with active court dates and income being properly recorded. The idea is for the court to break even not being profitable.

Mr. Harrison advised that the officers previously wrote tickets with court dates being 30-60 days out and now they are writing tickets for 120 days out reflecting the work that is being done by the officers on traffic and possible looking at having to add a second court date to even things out.

Mr. Harrison advised the report as attached shows nothing special, officers are continuing their normal patrols of the Houston Yacht Club and San Jacinto College as well as the city. He added that there were only a couple of calls made over the New Year holiday for fireworks and loud music. These were calls called in to dispatch that are trackable, if the calls do not come through dispatch, there is no record of these calls. There were a few calls called in to dispatch regarding fishing at shell beach, those were handled and there were no issues asking those individuals to leave the area.

6.3 **Public Works Report**

Mr. Harrison reported that there was not much to report as there were only 4 leaks that are being repaired, nothing major like during the drought period.

He advised there have been several endpoints replaced which is the signaling devise of the meter to keep the meters communicating.

Mr. Greeson asked Mr. Harrison about the Covid Funds left in the account. Mr. Harrison advised they are mostly expended. There were a couple of invoices in that were about to be paid for the emergency repair of the sewer lines on Oakdale being finished and the water distribution lines being completed.

Mayor Jennings asked that Mr. Harrison contact Mr. Lackey to come and give a recap of the project that has been completed.

7.0 BUSINESS

7.1 **Approve Minutes** from the December 11, 2023. meeting. Goodman

Alderman Ramos made a motion to approve the minutes as written with a 2nd from Alderman Greeson. There being no questions and/or discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

7.2 **Discussion of Lose Animals**

A motion was made by Mayor Pre-Tem McKown with a 2nd from Alderwoman Ramos to discuss issues with loose dogs in the City. Alderman Bell advised he wanted to share an incident that had taken place in December where an older gentleman walking his small dog in the 3300 block of Meadowlawn was attacked by 2 larger dogs who were running loose. The older man and his dog made it home safely and were ok other than being shook up. There was a post made on next-door read by Alderman Bell. He advised he knows this older couple very well and has checked on them. Mr. Harrison advised that there was not a police report made on this incident, however, he was made aware of the posting, and he went and visited with the couple.

It was asked of Mr. Harrison about the number of reports taken in the city regarding loose dogs. He advised this past month there were only 3 reports, 1 for animal cruelty, however the dogs had food water and shelter, the 2nd was for a lost pet and the 3rd was regarding 2 dogs at large.

Mr. Harrison was asked if the loose dogs are found and brought back to the owners, do they check to see if there are fences in place, Mr. Harrison advised that yes, they do check for this and if there is a nuisance issue the pet owner is then written a citation.

Mr. Greeson shared his story of his granddaughter being bitten by a loose dog, however; they knew where the dog lived and was able to get with the owners regarding this matter and the dog was up to date with his vaccines but not everyone is that fortunate.

7.3 **Ordinance 2024-01-01 Ordering a General Election**

Mayor Jennings asked for a motion to discuss ordinance 2024-01-01 ordering an election for the mayor and 2 alderman positions.

Mr. McKown made a motion to discuss Ordinance 2024-01-01 relating to the General Election with a 2nd from Mr. Bell.

Mayor Jennings advised the positions open are for Mayor Jennings position and the positions of Mr. Bell and Mr. Greeson. January 18 is the 1st date for packets to be turned in and the last date being February 17th.

Mayor Jennings advised the packets will be published on the website. There being no questions and/or discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

7.4 **Ordinance 2024-01-02 relating to changes to Article VI Regulations of Golf Carts**

With a motion from Mr. McKown and a 2nd from Mr. Greeson discussion began by Ms. Ramos requesting that the City of Shoreacres Ordinance on golf carts be brought up to date with the State Laws on golf carts.

Mayor Jennings advised the first change would be striking age 14 and changing it to age 16 as per the State Law. The other change will be that the driver be accompanied by someone 21 or older.

Mayor Jennings added these changes will make the City of Shoreacres in compliance with the Texas State Law and curb some of the issues with young children being out late at night on golf carts.

The Ordinance and its changes are inside your packet.

Mayor Jennings also advised that all golf carts must also be covered by insurance just as a motor vehicle.

If a person 16 and under is caught driving a golf cart with no driver's license and insurance, the parents will be called to come and get the golf cart and written a citation as well as the juvenile.

A brief discussion was held on the use if side by side vehicles and any other vehicle not matching the description of a golf cart as per the state law are prohibited in the City of Shoreacres

The city of la Porte registration is honored in the city. Mr. Harrison advised the registration is simply a checklist of items that are required on a golf cart as per the law. Mr. Harrison feels that The City of Shoreacres is such a small city, and an extra registration is not currently necessary.

Mayor Jennings re-clarified the State Law for golf carts being the age of 16, must have a drivers license and insurance and asked if there were any questions and or discussion, the vote was taken.

There being no questions and/or discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

7.5 **Ordinance 2024-01-03 relating to changes to Article II City Council**

Mayor Jennings asked for a motion to discuss this ordinance as it pertains to remote attendance at Council meetings. Mr. McKown made the motion with a 2nd from Ms. Ramos.

Mayor Jennings advised he was a bit reluctant to do this, but with the new system in place and it is working great, he does not see an issue now.

Mayor Jennings called for any questions, and for discussion of this ordinance, all Council members present. All agreed that it would be a good idea. The mayor called for a vote, all were in favor there being no other questions and/or discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

7.6 **Second regular meeting**

Mayor Jennings asked if it was necessary to have a second meeting January 22, 2024. All council members, Ms. Goodman and Mr. Harrison, all replied no.

8.0 **ADJOURNMENT** Jennings

Mayor Jennings asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ramos made the motion to adjourn with a second from Mr. Greeson. The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm

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: January 5, 2024



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).

The City Council Chamber is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available.

Requests for accommodation or interpretive services must be made at least two (2) working days prior to the meeting. Please contact the City Office at 281-471-2244 or fax 281-471-8955 for additional information.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify this Notice of Meeting was removed from the City Hall bulleting board at 6:00 pm on January 9, 2024.

BY: Elaine Goodman
City Secretary

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting ID: 898 6812 4529

Passcode: 210303

Phone number to call in: (346)248-7799