

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTIES OF ARANSAS §
SAN PATRICIO AND NUECES §
CITY OF ARANSAS PASS §

A Workshop Meeting of the Aransas Pass City Council was held on Monday, April 23, 2018 in the Aransas Pass City Hall, 600 W. Cleveland Blvd., Aransas Pass, Texas 78336. A notice of the meeting was posted 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code. Mayor Ramiro Gomez, and Council Members Vickie Abrego, Billy Ellis were present; Janet Moore and Carrie Scruggs were absent. Also present was City Manager Gary Edwards and City Attorney Roxanne Pais Cotroneo.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Mayor Gomez called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Discussion on creating a Hotel Motel Tax Advisory Committee

Mr. Gary Edwards, City Manager stated that there is a certain amount of hotel motel tax dollars that are targeted for the AP Chamber of Commerce and the City. He explained that organizations submit requests for hotel motel funds from the City to assist with their events, and the purpose of a Hotel Motel Tax Advisory Committee would be to review the request and make a recommendation to council. He added that appointments would be made by the city council.

Council Member Abrego stated that organizations have made comments that they are unaware on how these funds can be spent, and Mr. Edwards responded that one of the responsibilities of the committee would be to create a form and guidelines.

Roxann Cotroneo, City Attorney added that in the last Texas Legislature session there was a broadening on the use of tax dollars and asked to review the ordinance so that it is inclusive of allowances based on new legislation.

b. Follow-up on Broaddus Proposal for Multi-Family Development

Mr. Edwards stated that a presentation was given to council about a month ago by The Broaddus Company regarding multi-family development. He stated that the City would have a major stake and responsibility after twenty years and asked for direction from the Council on how to proceed with this project.

Mayor Gomez stated that he is concerned that after twenty years the project would revert to the City and is concerned on the condition of the properties after 20 years i.e., maintenance, painting, roofs, etc. He added that they would need to make sure that the properties are properly maintained that there is a fund for these repairs when the City assumes responsibility

Council Member Abrego stated that her concern is that the City is not in this type of business. Ms. Abrego added that she would be in favor if they managed the properties for 20 years and sell to someone else rather than return to the City.

Mr. Edwards summarized the discussion that the overall proposal as it involves the city, Council is reluctant to pursue. There was a general consensus of the Council.

c. Review of Upcoming 2018-2019 Budget Process

Mr. Edwards provided the Council with a general overview of the budget process and reviewed the 2018-2019 budget calendar explaining the work session dates, public hearings, budget presentations, and adoption dates of the tax rate and operating budget.

Council members expressed concern with the June 11th workshop session date and suggested moving to June 12th due to the Shrimporee Event held that weekend. Council Member Abrego suggested including the important budget dates on the City's Newsletter as a method of keeping citizens informed.

d. Results of Water Tower Logo

Jeff Martin, Director of Information Technology displayed the different options and discussed the results of the recent citizen survey for the Water Tower Logo, and reported that the overall favorite was Option D – “Our Town Our Pride”, except that they did not like the Panther. A discussion ensued and council members discussed the commissioning of a new logo, conduct another survey with a different logo, and other possible options.

Mr. Edwards stated that they would come back with different ideas and a new timeline and conduct a new survey.

e. Discussion of Parking at Shrimporee

Eric Blanchard, Director of Public Safety discussed past issues with parking during the Shrimporee Event, specifically on Commercial Street. Mr. Blanchard stated that last year, they displayed signs, “By Order of Police No Parking – Must be approved by the Traffic Engineer” in order to meet city code, and “No Pedestrian Crossing” signs. He added that the signage worked as they had no issues, no towing and citizens listened. Mr. Blanchard stated that this street is dark and unsafe.

Mr. Blanchard then discussed issues they had with an apartment complex located on Commercial and Danforth where the Manager was charging for parking making it unsafe for pedestrians to cross Commercial Street. Mr. Blanchard stated that they have held two Shrimporee meetings and the Manager has not attend, but has said she plans to charge again for parking this year; and informed her that is against the Police Departments advise as the City plans to use the same traffic management plan. He suggested implementing an ordinance targeted for Shrimporee only to prohibit “Pay for Parking”.

Roxann Cotroneo, City Attorney stated that she would look at an event parking ordinance making it safe for community. Council Member discussed different options such as placing a crosswalk, shuttle service, color coordinated system, info-boards, and offsite parking. Ms. Cotroneo stated that she would use all resources to protect the city and will conduct research on this matter.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Ramiro Gomez
Mayor

Mary Juarez
City Secretary

Approved on: _____