



City of Rockport
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024 ~ 1:00 p.m.
ROCKPORT SERVICE CENTER
2751 STATE HIGHWAY 35 BYPASS
ROCKPORT, TEXAS 78382

City Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Tim Jayroe
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Andrea Hattman
Councilmember (Ward 1) Stephanie Rangel
Councilmember (Ward 2) Matt Anderson
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brad Brundrett

City Councilmembers Absent:

City Staff Present:

Vanessa Shrauner, City Manager
Bob Argetsinger, Director of Information Technology
Lee Brown, Public Safety Communications Center Director
Kimberly Henry, Assistant to the City Manager
Nathan Anderson, Police Department Captain
Robbie Sorrell, Director of Finance
Shelley Goodwin, City Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jayroe called the August 6, 2024, Special Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and announced that a quorum had been met.

II. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Patrick Kane spoke about the debt capacity and feels it is irresponsible to take out debt for non-emergency situations.

III. FY 2025 BUDGET AND 2024 TAX RATE

The following items are for discussion, direction, consideration, and action.

- 1. Consider the award of bids for United Health Care for Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance; and Blue Cross Blue Shield for Life Insurance for active employees and Pre-65 retired employees not eligible for Medicare; as well as, signing on Brinson Benefits as Benefits Administrator.**

Kaycee Eddins, Human Resources, introduced Nick. Stair, Branson.

Nick Stair, with Branson, reviewed the cost savings and the step program. He reviewed the 2 Health Insurance Plans (HSA and PPO), Dental and Vision Plans.

The City Council discussed the following:

- Difference between two
- Employees pay difference
- Spouse and family
- Claim report
- Survey health care needs of the employees
- Savings in health insurance

Motion: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Brundrett and a second by Councilmember Rangel to award of bids for United Health Care for Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance; and Blue Cross Blue Shield for Life Insurance for active employees and Pre-65 retired employees not eligible for Medicare; as well as, signing on Brinson Benefits as Benefits Administrator. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember (Ward 1) Rangel	aye
Councilmember (Ward 2) Anderson	aye
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brundrett	aye
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Hattman	aye
Mayor Jayroe	aye

The City Council voted five (5) aye and none (0) nays. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Receive a presentation from Dan Jackson with Willdan regarding Utility Rates and Fees

This item was pulled from the Agenda to be considered at the August 13, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting.

3. Discuss the possibility of issuing Debt

4. 2024 Tax Rate

a) Proposed 2024 Tax Rate

5. FY 2025 Funds

a) General Fund

b) Enterprise Fund

c) Interest & Sinking (I&S) Fund

Robbie Sorrell, Finance Director provided the attached Budget PowerPoint presentation and discussed the following:

- Tax Rates and what the difference percentages would provide
- Rockport Freeze Adjusted to Tax rate (reduced rate every year, but asking for use of the unused increment of 1.8)
- Preliminary budget and priorities
- Doing nothing would result in cutting 20 positions to monetize the deficit
- Pushing replacements and repairs out means paying for it in future budgets
- M&O Funds

Vanessa Shrauner, City Manager, reviewed benefits of increasing \$.02 pennies. - \$.06 pennies. She reviewed what amount it would take to include CIP, City Hall completion, and to build up the reserves.

Patrick Kane spoke in opposition to issuing debt since that should only be done during emergency situations.

The City Council discussed the COLA, Police Officer, CIP projects and the building up the reserves. They also discussed impact fees and fee study.

Vanessa Shrauner, City Manager, stated the funds for an officer will be held and if the current opening are filed then the funds from the grant can be used to hire another officer.

d) 4:00 p.m. Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund path forward and review of the Grant Applications

Vanessa Shrauner, City Manager, discussed the value of bringing marketing in house. She provided two spreadsheets with the different options for Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds. She also reviewed the how the marketing would work if brought in house and hiring a specialty person. She provided the process used to make the first round of reduction to the grant funding.

The City Council discussed the following:

- The process for bringing marketing in house.
- Benefits to consolidation of marketing.
- Hold a meeting with the HOT requestor to discuss the proposal of bringing marketing in house.

Sharon Layland, Oysterfest, stated that the Oysterfest is very unique and put on by volunteers.

Karn Mella inquired to how the City would run the tourism marketing.

Luis Patron spoke regarding the funding and marketing of the Art Center.

Jennifer Day spoke regarding the unified marketing, which is similar to becoming a Destination Designation, which promotes all events within the City.

The City Council agreed by consensus to move the tourism marketing to in-house. They asked for the remaining funds to be reduced evenly (attached grant funding spreadsheet).

Vanessa Shrauner, City Manager, stated that she will schedule a meeting with the HOT requestors. She stated at the next meeting the City Council will award the funding.

6. Next steps for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget process

Next steps were provided under Agenda Item 7.

7. Budget and Tax Rate Announcements

- City Council Meeting August 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.
- File proposed budget with City Secretary on August 12, 2024
- City Council Meeting August 27, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

8. Consider the approval of a Construction Change Directive 2.1 to be negotiated with Teal Construction

Kimberly Henry, Assistant to the City Manager, stated this directive is due to a change regarding concrete coloring.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Hattman and a second by Councilmember Rangel to approve the Construction Change Directive 2.1 to be negotiated with Teal Construction . The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember (Ward 1) Rangel	aye
Councilmember (Ward 2) Anderson	aye
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brundrett	aye
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Hattman	aye
Mayor Jayroe	aye

The City Council voted five (5) aye and none (0) nays. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Consider the approval of an award of bid to Raw Demo for an amount not to exceed \$24,050.00 for the pad site preparation located at the Main Street Visitors Kiosk and Art Installation site

Motion: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Rangel and a second by Councilmember Brundrett to approve the Construction Change Directive 2.1 to be negotiated with Teal Construction. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember (Ward 1) Rangel	aye
Councilmember (Ward 2) Anderson	aye
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brundrett	aye
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Hattman	aye
Mayor Jayroe	aye

The City Council voted five (5) aye and none (0) nays. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Consider the approval to award a bid to Reel Electric, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$8,095.00 for the electrical connection located at the Main Street Visitors' Kiosk and Art Installation site

Kimberly Henry, Assistant to the City Manager, stated City staff had tried to bid the entire Main Street Visitor Kiosk project as one entire project, however the bids come in over the budget, so the bids were separated. The electrical connection work came in at \$8,095.00 and staff recommend awarding the bid to Reel Electric.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Rangel and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Hattman to award a bid to Reel Electric, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$8,095.00 for the electrical connection located at the Main Street Visitors Kiosk and Art Installation site. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember (Ward 1) Rangel	aye
Councilmember (Ward 2) Anderson	aye
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brundrett	aye
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Hattman	aye
Mayor Jayroe	aye

The City Council voted five (5) aye and none (0) nays. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Consider the approval to award a bid to Compass Plumbing Solutions for an amount not to exceed \$10,970.00 for the plumbing connection located at the Main Street Visitors Kiosk and Art Installation site

Kimberly Henry, Assistant to the City Manager, explained that this was another phase of the Main Street Visitors Kiosk project. After reviewing the bids, City staff recommended awarding the project to Compass Plumbing Solutions for their services.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Rangel and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Hattman to award a bid to Compass Plumbing Solutions for an amount not to exceed \$10,970.00 for the plumbing connection located at the Main Street Visitors Kiosk and Art Installation site The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember (Ward 1) Rangel	aye
Councilmember (Ward 2) Anderson	aye
Councilmember (Ward 3) Brundrett	aye
Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 4) Hattman	aye
Mayor Jayroe	aye

The City Council voted five (5) aye and none (0) nays. The motion passed unanimously.


12. Consider the approval of an emergency purchase of an Electrical Control Panel and Two Submersible Pumps for the Gagon Lift Station for a total of \$14,242.20.

This item was pulled from the Agenda to be considered at the August 13, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting.

V. ADJOURN

Without any additional business Mayor Jayroe closed the August 6, 2024, Special Meeting at 4:45 p.m.


Shelley Goodwin, TRMC/CMC
City Secretary


Tim Jayroe
Mayor