



PRESS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY OF ROCKPORT HOLDS PLANNING SESSION

ROCKPORT, TX -- City Council, senior staff, and interested citizens took part in the City of Rockport's all day planning session on February 2. City Manager Kevin Carruth presented a 43 point agenda that included topics ranging from ordinances to capital projects, annexation and levels of service, as well as a Sister City program and initial plans for the City's Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2020. The workshop is not only one of the first steps in preparation of the FY 2016-2017 budget, but also provides direction and focus for the next five years.

Immediate items to return to Council for action included:

- Lighting Nuisance. Dr. Bill Wren with the McDonald Observatory will be invited to make a presentation to assist with the development of appropriate development parameters between light allowance and nuisance.
- Network Security. Do additional research and costing for software and services to protect against scammers and hackers.
- Community Security. Meet with homeowners associations and Chamber to discuss the possible purchase and placement of redeployable security cameras.
- Bent Oaks Property. Repair and extend the flag pole on the property for immediate usage. Review options for fencing the Broadway Street side of the property in order to control access and preserve the iconic windswept oaks viewscape.

(more)

- Annexation. Looking at Market Street, Peninsula Oak area, two colonias and Annexation Area “D,” adjacent to Memorial Park on FM 2165.
- Capital Projects. A number of capital infrastructure projects were discussed, including shoreline stabilization along Bayshore Drive, reconstruction of certain streets, storm water drainage, a water main loop, upgrades and repairs to the wastewater treatment plant, as well as different parks projects.

On behalf of the City Council, Mayor C.J. Wax provided guidance to staff in preparation of the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget: 1) baseline for next year’s budget is the current level of service, plus consumer price index and employment cost index; 2) expanding code enforcement; 3) creation of a Human Resources Department and 4) costs associated with annexation and, if approved, redistricting of the wards.

Upon conclusion Mayor Wax stated the Council is pleased with the performance of City employees. “They represent the City in such a positive way in everything they do,” he noted. “It’s an honor to serve with them.”