

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, September 23, 2008.

1. Call To Order

Mayor Weems called the meeting to order. Reminded Council and audience meetings are conducted in strict compliance with Roberts Rule of Order.

2. Roll Call

Council present: Mayor Pro-Tem Gary Coker, Neal Bess Jr., Ray Bailey, and Linda Diaz.
Absent: Thomas Lemon

Also present: Tim Moss, City Manager; Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney, and Homer Toscano, Director of Public Works. Absent: Gary Stroud, Chief of Police.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Charlie Stevenson

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

5. Presentations by Citizens

Visitors: Morris and Karen Bailey, Jerri Morris, Frank Lawrence, Darla Helm, Grant McGee, Bob Geer, Gloria Harrison, Aprile Askew, and Tim Webb.

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes - August 19, 2008

B. Approval of Bills - \$53,017.43

Ray Bailey questioned bills – Blackboard Connect (city notification system 1 year contract), McCoy's (hurricane supplies), Mercer (work on water well #2), Keese and Assoc. (architect to look at High School renovations and Canterbury Square Apt.)

Neal Bess made a motion to accept the consent items. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

7. Public Hearings

None

8. Fire Department Report

Devin Lemon gave fire department report. Total of 12 calls. 40 additional after Hurricane Ike. We had 15 firefighters and 3 auxiliary members that stayed. They each worked an average of 91 hours in six days. 138 people evacuated via bus and ambulance. Current roster at 20.

Mayor Weems gave compliments on the all the work Sweeny Fire and Rescue did before, during, and after the storm.

9. Old Business

A. Consider Amending Animal Control Ordinance / Gary Coker

Gary Coker requested to table this item until further notice. Gary Coker made a motion to table until further notice. Discussion made. Neal Bess seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

10. New Business

A. Bob Geer / Brazoria County Fairgrounds

Mr. Geer gave a presentation on what will be on the ballot in November for renovations on the Brazoria County Fairgrounds. No action taken.

B. Ordinance to Adopt Tax Rate for 2008-2009

Charlie Stevenson read the Ordinance. Neal Bess made a motion to adopt the tax rate for 2008-2009. Linda Diaz seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

C. Resolution to Adopt The Budget for 2008-2009

Ray Bailey made a motion to adopt the budget for 2008-2009. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

D. Amend the 2007-2008 Budget

Tim Moss spoke about the amendments to the 2007-2008 budget. Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the amendments for the 2007-2008 budget. Neal Bess seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

E. Brazoria County Road and Bridge Interlocal Agreement Fiscal Year 2009

Mayor Weems spoke about the Interlocal Agreements. Gary Coker made a motion to accept the Brazoria County Road and Bridge Interlocal Agreement for Fiscal Year 2009. Linda Diaz seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

F. Ordinance to Revoke Declaration of Disaster

Mayor Weems stated this was for Hurricane Gustav. Since the City did not receive any damage from this storm an ordinance to revoke the declaration of disaster needs to be made. Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the ordinance to revoke the declaration of disaster from Hurricane Gustav. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

G. Consider Opening Sixth and Early Street to Through Traffic / Ray Bailey

Ray Bailey spoke about opening the intersection of Sixth Street and Earley Street. Discussion made. Ray Bailey made a motion to open the intersection of Sixth Street and Earley. Motion died for lack of second. Tim Moss stated he would look into the intersection and make any necessary changes.

H. SEDC - New Members

Mayor Weems spoke about the vacancies on the SEDC Board. Applicants for the SEDC Board are: Ray Bailey, Jay “Brian” Hayes, Bill Hatchett, Ronald Lynn, and Debbie Williams. Voting done secret ballot. Ray Bailey, Debbie Williams, and Jay “Brian” Hayes top three votes. Neal Bess made a motion to accept Ray Bailey, Debbie Williams, and Jay “Brian” Hayes as new SEDC members. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

I. SEDC - New Electronic Sign

Council was given information on an electronic sign to replace the existing marquee at City Hall. No action taken.

J. Consider Alcohol Ordinance / Mayor Weems

Mayor Weems discussed the proposed November ballot options on alcohol sales. Charlie Stevenson read the ordinance. Discussion made. Neal Bess made a motion to accept the Ordinance as read with a change on page 3 section (b) change to no exceptions. Gary Coker seconded. 3 in favor; Ray Bailey opposed. Motion carried.

K. Appoint Representative to H-GAC

Ray Bailey made a motion to appoint Mayor Rodney Weems and Mayor Pro - Tem Gary Coker as representatives to H-GAC. Neal Bess seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

L. Appoint Two Representative to Sweeny Library Association

Sweeny Library Assoc. is requesting two representatives they would like one from Council and one from the public. Neal Bess made a motion to appoint Linda Diaz as the Council rep. and a CTY to go to the community for another rep. Ray Bailey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

M. Consider Bids on Surplus Vehicles

Tim Moss spoke; one sealed bid received for both surplus vehicles in the amount of \$400.00 (\$200.00 each). Discussion made. Neal Bess made a motion to table; and check on salvage prices. Motion dies lack of second. Gary Coker made a motion to accept the bid. Ray Bailey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

N. Approve Contract for Hurricane Ike Debris Removal

Tim Moss spoke; a contract was signed with Republic Waste over the weekend because of time constraints, but it still needs Council approval. Neal Bess made a motion to accept the contract for the 70 push with Republic Waste for hurricane debris removal. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

O. Hurricane Ike Operational / Recovery Report

Mayor Weems thanked all the City employees for their hard work before, during, and after Hurricane Ike. Devin Lemon (Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Marshall/Chief of Fire Department); gave reports on Hurricane Ike. Special thanks went to Stewart’s Food Store and Texas New Mexico Power Company for help. No action taken.

11. Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions
None

12. Mayor, Council and Staff Reports

Mayor Weems – None
Gary Coker – None
Thomas Lemon – Absent
Neal Bess – None
Ray Bailey – None
Linda Diaz – None
Tim Moss – None
Chief Stroud – Absent
Homer Toscano – None

All Council thanked the Fire Department and City Employees for their work during Hurricane Ike.

13. Announcements
None

14. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with Open Meetings Act, Tex. Gov't Code

§ 511.071, § 551.072 and § 551.074. To Discuss:

OPEN MEETING:

15. Discussion and action on any items discussed in Executive Session

16. Adjournment

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2008

Reatta Minshew, City Secretary