



## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, August 2, 2016 7:00 pm

Clubhouse - 931 Cedar

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**Present:** Mayor Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem Al Burns, Councilman Hoerner, Councilwoman Bailey, Councilwoman Fenwick, Councilman Solmonsson, City Administrator George Jones, Chief Kenneth Cook, City Secretary Christy Stroup, Bldg. Official Kevin Harrell.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

*Mayor Johnson* called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE TEXAS FLAG

*Mayor Johnson* lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the Texas Flag

### 3. REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

**Councilwoman Bailey** - No report

**Councilman Solmonsson** - Inquired about dirt pile at corner of Clear Lake Rd. and Birch Rd. and when it would be removed. City Admin. George Jones said that when the road project was over all would be cleaned up.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Burns** - No report

**Councilwoman Fenwick** - Will attend a Galveston County Food bank meeting next week and will have more information to provide and hopefully set up drop off points.

**Councilman Hoerner** - No report

**Mayor** - No Report

### 5. STAFF REPORTS:

**City Administrator George Jones:** No animals picked up for the month of July; interim audit is in the process of being done this week; entrance to Jarbo Bayou Park has been fixed and locked gates installed. Only in certain situations will the gate be unlocked to allow a vehicle to drive thru; Lifeguard stand has been replaced at the pool; bulkhead at Sundial Park has been replaced; Several waterfront leases still have not been paid. A second notice will go out and then after that if left unpaid will start the revocation procedure; if any councilmember is interested you can still register for the TML Conference in Austin.

**Mayor Johnson** inquired about the Handicap chair at the pool and asked that it be looked at and possible installation.

**Chief Cook:** Stats for the month of July 2016 (see attached)

### 6. UNSCHEDULED VISITORS: None

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Check Register: 07/14/16 thru 07/27/16
- b. Minutes from Regular Meeting held July 19, 2016

**Councilwoman Fenwick** made motion to approve consent agenda as stated  
**Councilwoman Bailey** second motion

### MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUS

**Councilwoman Fenwick** made motion to approve consent agenda item c

## 8. COUNCIL BUSINESS - Discussion and possible action may be taken on the following items:

- a. **Presentation by Chief Cook, followed by discussion with the City Council regarding establishment of a marine enforcement unit, costs and staffing. City Council to provide guidance to staff.**

**City Administrator George Jones** stated that Council has requested a way to provide better enforcement of the water regulations on our waterway areas. In order for us to do that there is several things involved including costs and staffing.

**Chief Cook** said that several weeks ago he was approached by one of the city's long time residents who wanted to make a very sizable donation to the Police Department. He asked **Chief Cook** what this money could be spent on if he were to donate. **Chief Cook** said that he had been made aware by council that we needed more enforcement on the water.

**Chief Cook** said that he would like to pursue this request but that he has staffing issues. He would need two more full time officers in order to be able to put someone on the water on the weekends.

The donation was in the amount of \$15,000.00 and with other donations that have been given he would like to use this money to purchase two watercraft units that would need to be equipped with lights and Clear Lake Shores Police Dept. logo/designs.

**Councilwoman Fenwick** asked if the two officers needed were included in the budget that was to be reviewed later in the meeting. **City Administrator George Jones** said "yes, that have been included".

**Councilman Hoerner** said that he did not intend to go this extreme in servicing the water areas.

He did not want us to become a boating speed trap and bottleneck the channel. He just wanted the Police Dept. to be more of a presence on the water to speeders that come through. The wake that they create are destroying the bulkheads along the water. He said that it is more important to police the streets of the city.

**Councilman Hoerner** would like to see two officers on the street at all times and if that is what hiring the two new positions would accomplish he was all for it. He does not believe that the P.D. needs two full-time positions strictly for water patrol. His thought was to have patrol on the water more on the weekends.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Burns** asked if there was a speed limit on the water?

**Resident Allan Batchelor** said that there is a speed limit sign posted on the water that was placed there by Paul Shelley with an ordinance number.

**City Admin. George Jones** stated that the ordinance had been repealed at some point and was no longer in effect.

**Asst. Chief Donaldson** this is not a revenue generating detail. The two positions being requested are to fill positions that are needed. Our officers have vacation built up and have training that is required and when they are out it creates void in the schedule.

**City Admin. George Jones** said it takes 11 positions to fill 2 hours per shift.

**Councilman Hoerner** is not contesting that we do not need officers he just doesn't want these positions filled strictly for water patrol. He thinks that water patrol can be done with our other officers as an extra patrol position on the weekends for overtime pay.

**Councilwoman Bailey** asked if special training was needed for water patrol?

**Chief Cook** said that the training is required and is a one week session.

**Councilman Hoerner** recommends that the P.D. by the watercraft that they need. Create a plan that would allow for water detail Friday afternoon thru Sunday during the daytime hours and let the officers sign up for the shift.

**Councilman Solmonsson** asked if any of the officers were currently certified for water patrol?

**Chief Cook** said that **Asst. Chief Donaldson** and **Lt. Charles Akin** were both certified.

Final suggestion is to secure two new positions in the P.D. and budget for overtime for water patrol.

**b. Review and approve contract for financial advisory services from Blich Associates, Inc.**

**City Administrator George Jones** said that this firm is based out of Katy and they specialize in helping small communities.

As the council knows the city has discussed financing to purchase some land. In order for us to do that with debt the city would have tax exempt financing. The city would have to obtain a financial advisor who would prepare an offering statement, obtain non-council opinion on the legality of the purchase, and issue certificates of obligation. Blich Associates, Inc. has offered to do this for the city and a very low rate of 1%.

**Mayor Johnson** asked if we had already approved an offer on this property?

**City Administrator George Jones** stated that that is what he thought the council wanted based on the discussions in previous meetings.

**Councilman Hoerner** made motion to approve the contract for financial advisory services with Blich Associates, Inc.

**Councilman Solmonsson** second the motion

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUS**

**c. Preview of the proposed budget 2016-17 Budget for the City of Clear Lake Shores**

**City Administrator George Jones** reviewed in detail the Sales Tax Revenue estimates. The sales tax revenue forecast is down from last year. Last fiscal year the estimate was at \$1,535,000.00 and this fiscal year the projection is \$1,505,000.00.

Total General Fund Revenue for this year is \$2,214,065.00

Police Department Budget: A step increase is being presented for review. The two additional officers requested are in the budget. The increase in salaries for the officers is to bring the pay up to surrounding cities equal pay.

The P.D. is also requesting one new patrol car. The patrol car computers need to be replaced in all units.

Public Works is requesting a small work truck to replace the truck that was sold this year.

There is no money to fund the Pedestrian bridge in this year's budget.

**Councilwoman Fenwick** stated that she may not be too comfortable with giving the remainder of the employees not including the police officers a .50 cent per hour raise.

**Mayor Johnson** said that we should look at salaries of these positions as well to make sure we are in the ballpark since we doing the same with the Police Department.

**City Administrator George Jones** said that he received a salary comparison from H-GAC and that we were pretty compatible with what they stated. **Councilwoman Fenwick** requested a copy of the H-GAC report.

**Councilman Hoerner** commented that the General Sales & Use Tax seems to be a little conservative since we have two new restaurants possibly opening up in the next six months. His suggestion was to take the recommended budget up another \$50,000.00.

**Councilman Hoerner** recommended bringing the City Council down to \$45,000.00 based on where we are estimated at this year. **City Administrator George Jones** explained that in the past he has included \$1,500.00 for each council member in case they have a special project that they would like to see done but has reduced that amount this year.

**City Administrator George Jones** stated that he would review any further recommendations that council has if they would like to forward them to him. He would like to hold the Public Hearing for the budget the first meeting in September.

9. Adjournment: 8:14 pm

8-18-16  
Date Approved

Vern Johnson  
Vern Johnson, Mayor

Attest:  
Christy Stroup  
Christy Stroup, City Secretary

