

**STATE OF TEXAS**

**COUNTY OF BRAZORIA**

**CITY OF BRAZORIA**

**The City of Brazoria convened in a Regular Meeting on April 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. with the following to-witt:**

BobbyJo Newell	Mayor
Marcus Rabren	Council Position #1
Gail Logsdon	Council Position #2
Gary Kersh	Mayor Pro-Tem
Irv Eddy	Council Position #5

City Personnel:	
Sheila Williams	City Secretary
David Jordan	Public Works Director
R.C. Stevenson	City Attorney
Bill James	City Judge
Duane Stahl	Fire Chief
Neal Longbotham	Police Chief

Others Present and Speaking:

Frank Quinty Jr.	Citizen
Dr. Robert Schwebel	Brazoria Heritage Foundation

**A. CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor BobbyJo Newell called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**B. INVOCATION TO BE GIVEN BY DEACON JIMMY SMITH OF ST. JOSEPHS CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN AND TEXAS FLAGS BY ALL.**

Invocation was given by Deacon Jimmy Smith of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and the pledge to the American & Texas flags was led by Mayor Newell.

**C. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS; REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARIN ON WINE & BEER LICENSE, MARCH 14, 2017 AND SPECIAL MEETING & WORKSHOP, MARCH 28, 2017.**

Motion was made by Gail Logsdon to approve the minutes of the following meetings; Regular Meeting & Public Hearing on Wine & Beer License, March 14, 2017 and Special Meeting & Workshop, March 28, 2017. A second was made by Gary Kersh. Motion carried unanimously.

**J. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION.**

Citizens Communication was moved by Mayor. No comments.

**D. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE GARBAGE CONTRACT AND CITIZEN RATES WITH WASTE CONNECTIONS.**

Motion was made by Irv Eddy to table approving garbage contract and citizen rates with Waste Connections until next meeting. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**E. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO PURCHASE ONE OR MORE PAGES IN THE PUBLICATION “THE SPIRIT OF BRAZORIA COUNTY” BEING PUT TOGETHER BY THE ALLIANCE.**

Mayor Newell felt having the website was enough. Motion was made by Gary Kersh to not purchase one or more pages in the publication “The Spirit of Brazoria County” being put together by the Alliance. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-004 SUPPORTING NO NAME FESTIVAL PARADE.**

Motion was made by Gary Kersh to approve Resolution #17-004 supporting No Name Festival Parade. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #17-004**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BRAZORIA, TEXAS,  
REQUESTING THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TO CLOSE A PORTION OF STATE HIGHWAY 36 WITHIN SAID CITY;  
AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO**

**G. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #17-003 APPROVING SINGLE HOUSING TAX ABATEMENT.**

A motion was made by Gary Kersh to approve Resolution #17-003 approving single housing tax abatement. A second was made by Irv Eddy. Rabren, Kersh, Eddy voted aye, Logsdon voted nay and Shugart was absent. Motion carried with 3 aye, 1 nay and 1 absent.

**H. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE FINAL RE-PLAT FOR BEN BLACK ON A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF BRAZORIA ETJ.**

Motion was made by Gary Kersh to approve final re-plat for Ben Black on a subdivision in the City of Brazoria ETJ. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**I. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO HEAR AND APPROVE A 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ON MARION STREET AND A “NO THROUGH TRUCKS” SIGN.**

Frank Quinty of 205 Cherry Street requested a 20 MPH speed limit sign and No through trucks sign on Marion since there is lots of traffic now on Highway 36. They are using Pleasant Street and Marion Street as a cut through. They are bypassing 4 lights when they cut through on Marion. He said he had some recent neighbors move in that has kids. The trucks are tearing up the roads. Motion was made by Gail Logsdon to approve a 20 MPH speed limit on Marion Street and a “No through Trucks” sign. A second was made by Gary Kersh. Motion carried unanimously.

**L. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE TRACTOR FOR STREETS AND DRAINAGE.**

David Jordan explained the Mahindra tractor has been a lemon. He would go through the Buy Board and purchase a Kabota 33 HP with a 5 Ft. deck and warranty. Gary Kersh asked if he shopped local. David Jordan said no because they are off brand tractors that you get 2 years out of. Motion was made by Gary Kersh to approve budget amendment to purchase tractor for streets and drainage for \$25,741.00. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**M. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO MOVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR MAY 9, 2017 TO BRAZORIA CIVIC CENTER AT 202 W. SMITH STREET, BRAZORIA, TEXAS.**

Mayor Newell explained the council wants to do a Town Hall Meeting on recycling and then have the Regular council meeting after. Motion was made by Gary Kersh to move regular council meeting for May 9, 2017 to Brazoria Civic Center at 202 W. Smith Street, Brazoria, Texas. A second was made by Gail Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**K. CONSIDERATION/ACTION FOR DR. ROBERT SCHWEBEL TO RESPOND TO DEFUNDING THE BRAZORIA HERITAGE FOUNDATION AND TO EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF CIVIC CENTER TO THE COMMUNITY.**

Dr. Schwebel was late so Mayor Newell moved him here when he arrived. Dr. Schwebel said he lives at 606 17<sup>th</sup> Street West Columbia, Texas. He went to school in Brazoria and has a heart for Brazoria. He started his practice here with Dr. Stanger. Brazoria Heritage Foundation started in 2004. When we started the Mayor and Council didn't want it because they wanted something to bring in tax money. It has become a vibrant development. Other cities Civic Centers are funded by their cities but not Brazoria. Brazoria is run by volunteers that pay yearly dues. The Heritage Day Parade and Santa Ana Ball are the 2 fundraisers that are held yearly. We have received 2 grants but grants are hard to get for a civic center. We made \$28,000 in rentals but spent \$28,000 in electricity bills. We have had bus tours and children come. We are trying to develop tourism. Brazoria is a historic town. Heritage Foundation has helped with the No Name Festival and Veteran's Day Parade. We just had a Bluegrass Festival and lots of people come to visit inmates at the prison. We need a motel because we have to send them to West Columbia or Lake Jackson.

Dr. Schwebel explained the plan for developing the Old Town Park. We hope to get started by July 2017. He thanked city council for the support for last 12 years. He wants to work together not against. We need to dream big. Gary Kersh said he was wrong because he was one of those council members that was against the Heritage Foundation 12 years ago. Gail Logsdon said she has lots of sentimental feelings and fond memories from the playground. Mayor Newell thanked Dr. Schwebel for the information.

**N. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT MUNICIPAL LAWYER TO GIVE LEGAL ADVICE ON REMAINDER MONEY IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND.**

Motion was made by Gary Kersh to get TML to give us legal advice on remainder of money in emergency management fund and it is a lawyer and not a clerk if we can use them. A second was made by Marcus Rabren. Motion carried unanimously.

**O. CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT.**

1. Court Dept. – Judge James explained report in packet.
2. Police Dept. - Chief Longbotham explained report in packet.
3. Public Service Dept. – Public Works Director David Jordan explained report in packet. David Jordan explained Magnolia Gardens is complete and needs some clean-up. He explained Bucces is on target for May 15<sup>th</sup>. Brazoria Manor construction is in full swing. There are 2 homes under construction and 3 more projects for demolition. He has 5 applications for ACO/Code Officer. Gail Logsdon said she appreciated the letters and calls for the gas problem. David said that was completed with no problems. Gary Kersh asked David to explain the bills be short last month and over normal this month. David said he doesn't know how it happened but it was a computer problem.
4. Fire Dept. – no report

**P. CITY MANAGERS REPORT.**

City Manager was absent but she had a report in Council packet.

**Q. REPORTS FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND CITY ATTORNEY.**

Gary Kersh thanked everyone for coming and wished good luck to all the candidates.

Marcus Rabren thanked Dr. Schwebel for coming.

Mayor Newell thanked Dr. Schwebel for coming. Mayor Newell recognized Judge Sharon Fox and Lake Jackson Councilman Jon Baker for coming.

**R. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING.**

Mayor Newell adjourned regular meeting at 7:19 p.m.

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BobbyJo Newell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sheila Williams, City Secretary