

**REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NASSAU BAY, TEXAS
JANUARY 14, 2019
7:00 PM**

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Don Matter, Councilmembers Ashley Graves, John Mahon, Bryce Klug, and Matt Prior

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ABSENT: Mayor Mark Denman and Councilmember Jonathan Amdur

OTHERS PRESENT: City Attorney Dick Gregg Jr., City Manager Jason Reynolds, City Secretary Sandra Ham, Assistant City Manager Mary Chambers, Police Chief Tim Cromie, Fire Chief Tom George, Human Resources & Special Events Manager Chani Honeycutt, and Planning Commission Chairman Roscoe Lee

PRESIDING: Mayor Pro Tem Don Matter

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mayor Pro Tem Don Matter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced a quorum of Council was present with five elected officials in attendance.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by NBVFD volunteer Mary Dickerson. The Pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by Park Place Commandery #106. Mayor Pro Tem Matter presented Park Place Commandery #106 a certificate of appreciation and posed for a photo.

APPOINTMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS: None

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING: None

CITIZENS' REQUEST FOR HEARING BEFORE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Pro Tem Matter announced a Public Hearing for citizens to address Council regarding issues and concerns.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:05 p.m.

Omar Aberteen, 18327 Barbuda Lane, requested the City's support in the installation of a "Little Free Library" in David Braun Park. Mr. Aberteen stated he will be presenting the proposal to the Parks & Recreation Committee at their upcoming January 23rd meeting. He provided an overview of the "Little Free Library" model and noted it would be acquired and maintained by the citizens. He ended his comments by stating the library would be a great addition to the many amenities offered in Nassau Bay.

There were no other public comments and the hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

Councilmember Matt Prior welcomed everyone to the new Fire & EMS Station. He toured the facility prior to the Council meeting and remarked on the significance of the facility for the Fire & EMS departments, as well as for the City.

Councilmember Bryce Klug also expressed enthusiasm about being in the new Fire & EMS facility. Councilmember Klug read his comments for the record as follows:

The City on the Metaphorical Hill – a specific iteration of the metaphorical city on a hill, built by volunteers, has manifested itself in the geographic boundaries known as Nassau Bay, Texas. Though void of what one may classify as an actual hill, our city is rich with the virtues, spirit, and a volunteer citizenry that one conjures when they hear of the term "City on the Hill." Further, the archetypal city on the hill would not be complete without a mythical hero.

Who are Nassau Bay's heroes? The word "hero" derives from the Latin root "ser" in the Latin word "servare" from which we get the modern word "servant," "public servant" and, a worthy synonym, "volunteer." Over the years, the word "servant" lost the hero connotation or a hero's status. But, the literal translation is something like "to guard, protect" often at the expense of one's safety.

Our city on a hill is nestled in a society whose underpinnings depend upon, and whose security is guaranteed by, volunteer heroes. Too often, these bravest amongst us are unsung. But I will submit that our service volunteers are true to the Latin root and are indeed heroes.

I don't know or understand the recipe or chemical formula that makes Nassau Bay the special City on the Hill that it is. I doubt it is the placement of palm trees, architecture of waterfront homes, or proximity to a trendy restaurant. Other areas around us certainly have Nassau Bay beat in the multitude of metric one can judge a city. That said, most people of Nassau Bay with whom I speak, articulate in their own way the special place Nassau Bay is. The definition of "is" is simple to understand but difficult to present via a mathematical proof.

I am proud of what Nassau Bay is. I'm proud that our city dedicated resources and built the new Fire & EMS Station to honor our volunteers. I'm cognizant, however, that without the volunteers / heroes / servants, this would just be another building in the greater Houston Metropolitan Area. But from those very walls, brave men and women will disregard their own safety to enter burning homes, drive tankers into rising waters, and face angry winds for the safety of their fellow citizens.

It is from this volunteer spirit, that we will see a steel and brick structure become the City on a Hill's memorial to the men and women of honor.

Councilmember John Mahon echoed similar sentiments, noting excitement about the new building, especially as a resident who has previously utilized the NBVFD's services.

Councilmember Ashley Graves congratulated the Fire & EMS departments for their successful move into the building and recognized the time and efforts it took to complete the building. She continued by announcing CANBE is interested in gaining new Board Members, and any volunteers interested in joining can contact her for more information. Lastly, she remarked on

Nassau Bay's continued partnership with Communities in Schools Bay Area and expressed appreciation to all those who participated in the Christmas gifting tree at City Hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Don Matter acknowledged Fire Chief Tom George for his extraordinary efforts towards the building completion. He anticipates the volunteer membership will rapidly grow with the completion of the Fire & EMS facility.

REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS & COMMITTEES

City Manager

City Manager Jason Reynolds began his comments by congratulating the Fire and EMS departments on their new building, specifically noting their extensive volunteer contributions which allowed the City to save approximately \$250,000. The volunteers invested extra time on the weekends running electrical wire, finishing floors, and more, to ensure the project was completed on budget.

Mr. Reynolds continued by announcing the upcoming Annual Peninsula Cleanup on February 23rd from 8:00am to 12:00pm. He noted large past participation and invited all to join in the volunteer efforts. City Manager Reynolds also overviewed the Comprehensive Plan Update, as the RFQ has been issued to assist the City in updating the document. The City will begin reaching out to the citizens for input and assistance in the update.

Continuing his comments, Mr. Reynolds introduced the new Human Resources / Communication & Special Events Manager, Chani Honeycutt. Ms. Honeycutt joins the City from Clear Creek Independent School District's Safe and Secure Department, and additionally, spent four years in the United States Coast Guard.

Lastly, Mr. Reynolds addressed Mayor Pro Tem Matter's concern about the number of police calls to the Sapphire Apartments for the month of December 2018. He continued by noting there is a City ordinance that allows the Police Department to investigate apartment complexes that exceed a certain threshold of calls. Additionally, Mr. Reynolds stated Police Chief Tim Cromie is actively monitoring these statistics and is meeting with the various apartment complexes in the City.

Fire Department

Fire Department President Matt Roper welcomed Council and citizens to the new Fire and EMS Station and expressed his appreciation to those who have recognized the full efforts of the volunteers in completing the building. At the time, the department is still troubleshooting their IT program system, and Mr. Roper was unable to provide the December status report. Current membership stands at 36 members, with 32 active responders and 4 members on special assignment. Lastly, he invited all to attend the Grand Opening and Open House on January 19, 2019. At the event there will be an official ribbon cutting, and additionally, members of the public will be able to tour the new facility.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda listed the following items for approval:

Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 10, 2018

Authorization of the City Manager to sign an Interlocal Agreement with the Harris County Flood Control District

It was moved by Councilmember Bryce Klug, seconded by Councilmember Matt Prior, to approve the consent agenda.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Receival into City records and approval of recommended changes by the 2018 Charter Review Commission, with Council decision to place Charter amendments on a future ballot

Chairman Bob Warters presented the 2018 Charter Review Commission's report and recommended changes to the City Charter, specifying every five years the Charter requires a formal review by a commission of five appointed citizens. The committee members include Bob Warters, Dr. Sandra Mossman, Dick Gregg, III, Tuie Lee, and Rena Bozak. The Charter Review Commission met six times and recommended changes to 27 articles of the Charter, none of which made changes to the City's fundamental processes.

Chairman Warters overviewed the recommendations, noting most of the recommended changes are for the purpose of clarification and do not change the Charter's intended meaning. He noted changes were made to clarify the meaning of an article, make grammatical corrections, or to reflect the reality of what the City has been doing. The Commission has not found any changes that would necessitate an election to amend the Charter if that were the only reason for the election, but the Commission does recommend that at such time an election is otherwise required, the recommendations be included in the election to make amendments to the Charter.

It was moved by Councilmember Bryce Klug, seconded by Councilmember Ashley Graves, to accept the 2018 Charter Review Commission's report into City records, approve the recommendations provided, and defer action of placement of amendments on a City Election ballot until an election is otherwise required.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

Adoption of Ordinance O2019-781 calling the May 4, 2019 City Officers' Election for the purpose of electing three Councilmembers, Positions 1, 3 & 5 (first of two readings)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASSAU BAY, TEXAS, ORDERING A REGULAR CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD IN SAID CITY ON THE 4TH DAY OF MAY 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THREE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL; DESIGNATING THE DAY(S) OF THE ELECTION(S) AND THE POLLING PLACE; PROVIDING THAT ALL DULY QUALIFIED RESIDENT ELECTORS SHALL BE QUALIFIED TO VOTE; PRESCRIBING A FORM OF THE BALLOT; PROVIDING A NOTICE OF ELECTION; AUTHORIZING THAT THE ELECTION SHOULD BE HELD JOINTLY WITH HARRIS COUNTY; CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO SAID ELECTION; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

(Said Ordinance is of record in Ordinance Book No. 13 of the City of Nassau Bay, Texas, being Ordinance No. O2019-781.)

It was moved by Councilmember Bryce Klug, seconded by Councilmember Matt Prior, to approve the first reading of the ordinance calling the May 4, 2019 City Officers' Election.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted and/or amended this 11th day of February, A.D. 2019.

ATTEST:



Sandra V. Ham
City Secretary



CITY OF NASSAU BAY, TEXAS



Donald C. Matter
Mayor Pro Tem