



# City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
cctexas.com

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

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Tuesday, March 7, 2023

11:30 AM

Council Chambers

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**Addendums may be added on Friday.**

**A. Mayor Paulette Guajardo to call the meeting to order.**

Mayor Guajardo called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m.

**B. Invocation to be given by Deacon Michael Mantz, Diocese of Corpus Christi.**

Deacon Michael Mantz, Diocese of Corpus Christi, gave the invocation.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the Texas Flag to be led by Sharol Zambrano, Senior at Harold T. Branch Academy.**

Sharol Zambrano, Senior at Harold T. Branch Academy, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Texas Flag.

**D. City Secretary Rebecca L. Huerta to call the roll of the required Charter Officers.**

City Secretary Rebecca Huerta called the roll and verified that a quorum of the City Council and the required Charter Officers were present to conduct the meeting.

Charter Officers: City Manager Peter Zanoni, City Attorney Miles Risley and City Secretary Rebecca Huerta

**Present:** 8 - Mayor Paulette Guajardo, Council Member Roland Barrera, Council Member Gil Hernandez, Council Member Michael Hunter, Council Member Mike Pusley, Council Member Dan Suckley, Council Member Everett Roy, and Council Member Jim Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Sylvia Campos

**E. CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS / UPDATE ON CITY OPERATIONS:**

1. [23-0447](#) Introduction of new Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History President and CEO, Karen Stevenson

City Manager Peter Zanoni introduced the new President and CEO of the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History Karen Stevenson. Ms. Stevenson began on January 3.

2. [23-0448](#) Fire Chief Recruitment Update

Deputy City Manager Michael Rodriguez gave an update on the Fire Chief recruitment. The City hired Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) to assist with the Fire

Chief recruitment. ESCI narrowed the candidates to the top nine, including internal candidates, who were interviewed on March 3. Three or four candidates will be interviewed in person at the American Bank Center on March 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

3. [23-0449](#) Overview of 2023 Spring Break Operations

City Manager Peter Zanoni gave an overview on the 2023 Spring Break Operations. Crews have begun preparing areas, including beach cleaning, traffic control, public safety and extra street sweeping. Beach safety is a top priority with lifeguards on duty with mobile units. It's important for the community to observe the flag warnings. TxDOT has opened all lanes on the JFK Causeway Bridge. The Port Aransas ferry will also be available for commuting. The city parks, Collier Pool, The Natatorium, and splash pads will be open for Spring Break.

Council Members and City Manager Zanoni discussed the following topics: update on Packery Channel barge removal; the Mud Bridge completion deadline is at the end of April; a Council Member's concern about a sufficient number of lifeguards on duty for Spring Break; and the amount of tourists expected this Spring Break is 5 to 10% less than last year.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

Gwen Ruppert, 417 S. Upper Broadway, spoke about the Texas Independence Day Gala fundraising event at the Ortiz Center on April 6.

Eli McKay, 1008 Marguerite St., spoke about prioritizing homelessness in the city budget.

Shirin Delsooz, 6030 Tapestry Dr., spoke about bike paths and safety.

Lisa Bockholt, 1411 Kingsville, TX, spoke in favor of the animal care ordinance amendments.

The following citizen submitted a written public comment which is attached to the minutes: Julie Rogers, 710 Furman Ave.

**G. BRIEFINGS: (ITEMS 4 - 5)**

4. [23-0397](#) Briefing from the Texas Department of Transportation and Flatiron Dragados on the Harbor Bridge Project

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 4.

Flatiron/Dragados Public Information Coordinator Lynn Allison presented information on

the Harbor Bridge Replacement Project as follows: agenda; project sections; North approach construction progress; North Beach roadworks and utilities; South approach construction progress; South roadworks construction progress; South interchange milestones; new roadway on Doss and Mestina Streets; construction signage; pre-cast yard construction progress; workforce and local economic impact; Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Women in Construction (WIC) initiatives; community outreach; safety recognition and training; CSB-north pylon; CSB-south pylon; CSB sequencing; and CSB lighting features.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zaroni, District Engineer for TxDOT Valente Olivarez, Jr., and TxDOT Public Information Coordinator Allison discussed the following topics: a Council Member's concern about the structural integrity of the new bridge; TxDOT identified five deficiencies that are being addressed, four are completely satisfied and one is being worked on; the solutions will be posted on the txdot.gov website; how TxDOT will increase the community's confidence about driving on the new bridge; the lighting system is being built with the bridge and the city will have control of that lighting; a Council Member's concern about the lack of signage on Crosstown Expressway; if there are plans to do similar reconstruction on North Beach streets similar to Mestina Street; the state currently has not put up any additional money for the extension of this bridge; TxDOT plans to have a wrong way detection system implemented by May for safety on the Harbor Bridge; and a Council Member's concern about the lack of lighting at the stop signs on North Beach.

5. [23-0004](#) Briefing to City Council on the Museum of Science and History.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 5.

President and CEO of Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History Karen Stevenson presented information on the following topics: visitors; education programs; exhibits; events; and financial position.

Council Members and Ms. Stevenson discussed the following topics: the plan is to rotate the Doc McGregor collection; in response to a Council Member's question regarding flooding protocols, the museum is in the process of investigating resources; and the importance of smaller school districts like Calallen ISD attending events at the museum.

#### H. **BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

6. [23-0399](#) Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau (3 vacancies)

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 6.

Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau:

Appointed: Michelle Braselton (Community At-Large) and Jennifer Lira (Community At-Large)

**I. EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL ACTION:****J. CONSENT AGENDA: (ITEMS 7 - 12)****Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Mayor Guajardo referred to the Consent Agenda. Council Members pulled Item 11 for individual consideration.

A motion was made by Council Member Roy, seconded by Council Member Klein to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item 11. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 8 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 0

**7. [23-0401](#) Approval of the February 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

The Minutes were approved on the consent agenda.

*Consent - Second Reading Ordinances*

**8. [23-0326](#) Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the Office of the Attorney General - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force program, in the amount of \$10,000.00 to purchase forensic computer equipment and software licenses for the Corpus Christi Police Department; and appropriating the \$10,000.00 in the Police Grants Fund.**

This Ordinance was passed on second reading on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: 032995

**9. [23-0192](#) Ordinance appropriating \$1,967,995.46 from the following Parks and Recreation Grants: Elderly Nutrition Program, \$1,222,223.54; Senior Companion Program, \$442,122.00; Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, \$176,160.00; Texans Feeding Texans, \$75,517.59; Summer Food Service Program-Deferred Revenue, \$28,880.33; Beat the Heat Cooling Centers, \$12,000.00 and After School Snacks, \$11,092.00; authorizing the purchase of up to \$450,000 in food supplies for the senior nutrition program through the participation in the TEXAS 20 Purchasing Cooperative beginning October 1, 2022, which includes up to \$410,000.00 from Labatt Food Service LLC and \$40,000.00 from Hill Country Dairies Inc.**

This Ordinance was passed on second reading on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: 032996

10. [23-0308](#) Ordinance authorizing a one-year lease agreement with an option of five (5) additional twelve (12) month terms for renewal with ABM Aviation for two spaces inside the Airport Terminal building at the Corpus Christi International Airport (CCIA).

This Ordinance was passed on second reading on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: 032997

11. [23-0304](#) Ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances regarding Animal Care and Control by adding and clarifying definitions, creating and revising sections including an Intact animal permit, pet shop prohibitions, length of stay, updates to the Dangerous and Aggressive dog owner requirements and fee schedule; providing for severance, publication, penalty not to exceed \$500 and establishing an effective date of the new laws.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 11.

Director of Neighborhood Services Linda Stewart presented information on the following topics: spay/neuter and intact permits; analysis of comparable cities with intact permit fees and/or fines; and offsetting program administrative costs.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zaroni, Director of Neighborhood Services Stewart, Animal Care Service Program Manager Joel Skidmore, and Veterinarian with Animal Care Services Dr. Draper discussed the following topics: 17 Animal Care Officers cover the entire city; a request for a percentage of how many animals are intact; a Council Member's concern about adding additional expenses to citizens that cannot afford an intact permit fee; the time frame to spay/neuter dogs and cats varies from 30 minutes to eight minutes; this ordinance does prohibit the sale of animals from pet stores; a Council Member's request for data on the amount of stray dogs and how spay/neutering reduces the problem of stray dogs; the biggest issue is with large stray dogs; front desk staff is being trained on how to provide resources and information to the public about taking in stray animals; a request for an analysis of how many kennels are available at Animal Care Services; the average length of stay is about 25 days including quarantine; the question of staff discretion applies in both code compliance and animal care services; most calls are about aggressive animals or animals destroying property; if stray animals are not claimed by the owner within three days they become city property; the consultants will address operational issues; a Council Member's concern about discretion and a request for staff to follow up with Council in six months with stray animal data; a request for staff to consider including the intact fee permit with pet registration; and best practice is to spay/neuter all animals to control the stray population.

Council Member Hernandez made a motion to amend Section 2 and 9 to limit the intact permit fee to large dogs weighing over 40 pounds and reduce the permit fee from \$100

to \$50 annually, seconded by Council Member Pusley. The motion failed.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to amend the ordinance to reduce the intact permit fee across the board to \$50 annually for registration of intact animals, seconded by Mayor Guajardo and passed by the following vote: Mayor Guajardo, Council Members Barrera, Hunter, Pusley, Suckley, Roy, and Klein-voting "Aye", Council Member Hernandez-voting "No", and Council Member Campos-absent.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to approve the ordinance as amended, seconded by Mayor Guajardo. This Ordinance was passed on second reading as amended and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein  
**Nay:** 1 - Council Member Hernandez  
**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos  
**Abstained:** 0

Enactment No: 032998

*Consent - First Reading Ordinances*

12. [23-0330](#) Ordinance authorizing execution of all documents necessary to accept \$199,432 in additional grant funding for the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program (WIC) from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for FY 2022-2023; and appropriating \$199,432 in the Health Grant Fund.

This Ordinance was passed on first reading on the consent agenda.

**K. RECESS FOR LUNCH**

Mayor Guajardo recessed the Council meeting for lunch at 2:36 p.m. Executive Session Item 20 was held during the lunch recess. Mayor Guajardo reconvened the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

**L. PUBLIC HEARINGS: (ITEMS 13 - 15)**

13. [23-0334](#) Ordinance annexing approximately 141.66 acres of land, at or near the northwest end of London Pirate Road (formerly CR 33) and south of Oso Creek, into the territorial limits of the City of Corpus Christi per owner petition.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Items 13-15.

There were no comments on Items 13 or 14.

Mayor Guajardo opened the public hearing.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Guajardo closed the public hearing.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to approve ordinances 13 and 14, seconded by Council Member Hunter. These Ordinances were passed on first reading and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 1 - Council Member Roy

14. [23-0320](#) Case No. 1121-02, V2 Ventures, LLC: (District 3): Ordinance rezoning property at or near 2601 London Pirate Road (County Road 33), located at the northern end of London Pirate Road (County Road 33) and north of Farm to Market 43, from the "FR" Farm Rural District to the "RS-6" Single-Family 6 District. (Planning Commission and Staff recommend approval).

See Item 13.

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 1 - Council Member Roy

15. [23-0319](#) Case No. 0123-03 Margo Moore Nonexempt Protection Trust: Ordinance rezoning property at or near 7901 South Padre Island Drive from the "RS-4.5" Single-Family 4.5 and the "RS-6" Single-Family 6 District to the "RM-1" Multifamily District. Planning Commission and Staff recommend approval.)

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 15.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zanoni, and Director of Development Services Al Raymond discussed the following topics: a Council Member's concern about supporting or approving residences in a floodplain; and the floodplain issues will be established at the platting phase.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Council Member Barrera. This Ordinance was passed on first reading and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 1 - Council Member Hunter

**M. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEMS: (ITEMS 16 - 19)**

16. [23-0443](#) Resolution adopting the City of Corpus Christi's Legislative Agenda for Federal Legislative Priorities for the 118th U.S. Congress.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 16.

Senior Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator Wendy Herman stated that the purpose of this item is to give direction to the elected representatives and lobbyists regarding the Council's priorities.

Council Members and Senior Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator Herman discussed the following topics: a Council Member's suggestion to add language opposing any legislation that would restrict access to the beaches; a Council Member's concern with Section 4 endorsements in terms of legislative priorities; and staff is supporting the current definition of "Waters of the United States".

Council Member Suckley made a motion to amend the resolution to oppose any legislation that would restrict access to federal beaches in South Texas, seconded by Council Member Pusley.

Council Member Suckley made a motion to approve as amended, seconded by Council Member Pusley and passed unanimously.

Council Member Hernandez made a motion to amend the resolution to remove Section 4 of the resolution, seconded by Council Member Pusley and passed unanimously.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to approve the resolution as amended, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. This Resolution was passed as amended and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 8 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 0

Enactment No: 032999

17. [23-0284](#) Motion awarding a construction contract to Clark Pipeline Services, LLC, Corpus Christi, Texas, for Citywide Water Line Repair/Replace-Large Diameter Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) project in an amount of \$5,000,000.00, located Citywide, with FY 2023 funding available from the Water Capital Fund.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 17.



Council Members, City Manager Peter Zaroni, Director of Engineering Services Jeff Edmonds, and Director of Water System Infrastructure Wesley Nebgen discussed the following topics: the importance of replacing cast iron pipes throughout the city due to pipes rupturing; the City is currently investing about \$30 to \$50 million to replace cast iron water pipelines; and COVID funding has been allocated to actual Capital Improvement Plan projects.

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Guajardo closed public comment.

Council Member Pusley made a motion to approve the motion, seconded by Council Member Klein. This Motion was passed and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 1 - Council Member Suckley

Enactment No: M2023-034

18. [23-0366](#) Ordinance appropriating \$75,492.28 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Retention Grant funds from Nueces County per the Amended Cooperative Agreement for City-Operated Corpus Christi-Nueces County Public Health District.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 18.

Director of Public Health Dr. Fauzia Khan stated that former Nueces County employees that were hired on as city employees were entitled to additional pay through the American Rescue Plan Act, which was negotiated by Nueces County. There is no fiscal impact, and it is a one time funding that the City is contractually obligated to provide to city staff.

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

There were no comments from the Council or the public.

Mayor Guajardo closed public comment.

Council Member Barrera made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Council Member Pusley. This Ordinance was passed on first reading and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 8 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 0

19. [23-0369](#) Resolution adopting a Master Plan for Sherrill Veterans Memorial Park consistent with the Veteran Stakeholder Group and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 19.

President at Turner Ramirez Architects Philip Ramirez presented information on the Sherrill Veterans Memorial Park as follows: USS City of Corpus Christi; Huey Helicopter; and next steps.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zaroni, Director of Parks and Recreation Robert Dodd, and Mr. Ramirez discussed the following topics: staff recommends that Council approve this Master Plan; priority number one is the placement of the helicopter; the City is working on a Memorandum of Agreement for the sail with the Sea Turtles; the submarine still has to be removed; a Council Member's request to install ground security lighting for a cleaner look; a request to increase park hours; a Council Member's request to increase handicap parking closer to the park; a Council Member's request to harvest the ship's bell and plaques associated that can be displayed at the park or City Hall; and a request for the City Manager to meet with the Sea Turtles about the process of acquiring the submarine sail.

Council Member Hernandez made a motion to amend the resolution to include the main sail of the USS City of Corpus Christi shall be included in the comprehensive Master Plan for display at Sherill Veterans Memorial Park, seconded by Council Member Pusley and passed unanimously.

Council Member Hernandez made a motion to approve this resolution as amended, seconded by Council Member Hunter. This Resolution was passed as amended and approved with the following vote:

**Aye:** 8 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy and Council Member Klein

**Absent:** 1 - Council Member Campos

**Abstained:** 0

Enactment No: 033000

**N. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (ITEM 20)**

20. [23-0414](#) **Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.071 and Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 1.05 to consult with attorneys concerning legal issues related to the reservation and potential**

purchase of groundwater.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Executive Session Item 20. The Council went into Executive Session at 2:36 p.m. The Council returned from Executive Session at 3:48 p.m.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Guajardo adjourned this meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Date of Meeting 03-07-2023  
Name Julie Rogers  
Address Street Address: 710 Furman Ave  
City: Corpus Christi  
State / Province: TX  
Postal / Zip Code: 78404  
Topic Social Workers  
Agenda Item Number Proclamation  
Describe Feedback: Good morning, thank you for honoring Social Workers and Social Worker Month with a proclamation today. I am grateful that there is a social work intern at La Retama Library this semester. Unfortunately, just as the community gets used to having this service, it goes away since it is dependent on volunteers. Please consider adding full time paid social workers to the Corpus Christi Public Library system, especially at La Retama. Many public libraries have added these employees to their public libraries with great success. They help the patrons and staff. Sincerely, Julie Rogers, District 1, 78404

**Public  
Comment  
& Input  
Form**

Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.

[rogersjuliet@gmail.com](mailto:rogersjuliet@gmail.com)