



Meeting Minutes

City Council

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

11:30 AM

Council Chambers

Addendums may be added on Friday.

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

Mayor Guajardo called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

B. Invocation to be given by Pastor Steve Lopez with Koinonia Church.

Pastor Steve Lopez with Koinonia Church gave the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the Texas Flag to be led by Arceneaux Arnold student at Incarnate Word Academy.

Arceneaux Arnold, student at Incarnate Word 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 Zaroni, City Attorney Miles Risley and City Secretary Rebecca Huerta

Present: 9 - 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, Council Member Jim Klein, and Council Member Sylvia Campos

E. CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS / UPDATE ON CITY OPERATIONS: (ITEMS 1 - 2)

1. [24-1447](#) Update on FY 2025 Budget Process

City Manager Peter Zaroni gave an update on FY 2025 Budget Process as follows: community and council engagements; city council budget workshops; other communication items; reduction in force (RIF); and key dates.

Council Members, City Manager Zaroni, and Director of Human Resources Rebecca Castillo discussed the following topics: the employees who were relocated was based on status and tenure; and there are 400 vacant positions at the City.

2. [24-1413](#) Labor Day Holiday Preparations (September 2, 2024)

City Manager Peter Zanoni presented information on the Labor Day Holiday preparations as follows: history and celebrating workers; preparations for the Holiday; city services closed on Labor Day; and city services open on Labor Day.

A Council Member and City Manager Zanoni discussed the following topic: a City Council meeting will be held on September 3 to provide the property tax rate to the Nueces County Tax Assessor.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to Item 7, Industrial District Agreements (IDAs): John Weber, 609 Naples St., Heather Shields, 217 Knickerbocker St., Jumana Abd al Rahman, 1948 SPID, Lamont Taylor, 522 Hancock Ave., Rachel Caballero, 522 Hancock Ave., Guillermo Gallegos, 7621 Cedar Brook Dr., Maggie Peacock, 4407 SE 28th Ave., and Myra Alaniz, 4695 FM 1889, Robstown, TX.

The following individuals spoke in support of Item 7, Industrial District Agreements (IDAs): Al Arreola Jr., 301 Louise Dr. and Mike Culbertson, 800 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Shawn Flanagan, 4218 Herndon St., spoke in support of the citizen initiative petition to revisit the COVID-19 informed consent form.

Cheryl Martinez, 326 Country Club Dr., expressed concern about the high cost at Animal Control Services.

Susie Luna Saldana, 4710 Hakel Dr., spoke about council's duties and in support of desalination.

Joshua De Leon, 5914 Colorado Dr., spoke about expanding the City's smoking prohibition ordinance.

Jason Hale, 211 Leming Ave., spoke in opposition to desalination.

Jesus Soto, 3429 Kilgore St., expressed concern about fixing streets.

Cheryl Votzmeyer-Rios, 901 N. Upper Broadway, gave an update about The Ritz Theatre.

Adam Rios, 7301 Tangled Ridge Court, advocated for parks and recreation.

Tony Reyes, 5905 Harvest Hill Rd., stated that September is suicide prevention month.

Eli McKay, 1008 Marguerite St., spoke in opposition to Item 7, IDAs and Item 10,

Trust Funds.

Lou Lutostanski, 14813 Leeward Dr., spoke in support of Item 9, Michael J. Ellis Seawall on North Padre Island.

The following individuals submitted a written public comment which are attached to the minutes: Raven McClellan, 4141 Whiteley, Catherine Grether, 6515 Ocean Dr., Eileen Compton, 1773 Ennis Joslin Rd., John Weber, 609 Naples St., Jason Hale, 211 Leming, Molly Davis, 4025 Markins Dr., Christian Beauchamp, New Orleans, LA, Stephanie Crean, New Orleans, LA, Ariel Moyal, New Orleans, LA, Christy Mo, New Orleans, LA, and Gina Kissee, New Orleans, LA.

G. BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: (NONE)

H. BRIEFINGS: NONE

I. EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL ACTION:

J. CONSENT AGENDA: (ITEMS 3 - 6)

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mayor Guajardo referred to the Consent Agenda. No Items were pulled for individual consideration.

Council Member Pusley moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Barrera. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy, Council Member Klein and Council Member Campos

Abstained: 0

3. [24-1442](#) Approval of the August 20, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

The Minutes were approved on the consent agenda.

Consent - Contracts and Procurement

4. [24-1103](#) Resolution authorizing two one-year supply agreements, with two one-year options, for the purchase of hot mix asphaltic concrete pavement material, with Anderson Colombia Co., Inc., of Corpus Christi for up to \$4,500,000.00 and with Berry Contracting, LP, dba Bay LTD., of Corpus Christi for up to \$4,500,000.00, for a combined total amount not to exceed \$9,000,000.00 and a potential amount up to \$27,000,000.00 if options are exercised, with FY 2025 funding of \$5,000,000.00 from the Street Fund, subject to budget approval.

This Resolution was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: 033446

5. [24-0980](#)

Motion authorizing execution of a new five-year software and support agreement, with renewable one-year terms with Infor LLC, of New York, in an amount not to exceed \$1,226,457.00, for the purchase and dedicated support of the Infor CareFor managed services software, providing the City of Corpus Christi with a dedicated support team, business application support, custom development and configuration, and release impact support for Infor's Financial, Human Resources, Permitting and Utility Billing modules currently used by the City, with FY 2024 funding of \$245,291.40 from the IT Enterprise Applications Fund.

This Motion was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: M2024-134

Consent - Capital Projects

6. [24-1336](#) Motion authorizing a professional services contract with LJA Engineering, Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas, to provide a Preliminary Engineering Report for the Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements Project in an amount not to exceed \$240,020.00, located in Council District 1, with FY 2024 funding available from Wastewater Capital Fund.

This Motion was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: M2024-135

K. RECESS FOR LUNCH

Mayor Guajardo recessed the Council meeting for lunch at 1:30 p.m. Executive Session Item 11 was held during the lunch recess. Mayor Guajardo reconvened the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

L. PUBLIC HEARINGS: (NONE)

M. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEMS: (ITEMS 7 - 10)

7. [24-1408](#) Ordinance authorizing execution of new 15 year Industrial District Agreements (IDAs); and reestablishing the land areas located within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Corpus Christi, Texas as Industrial Districts Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 7.

Assistant City Manager Heather Hurlbert presented information on the following topics: industrial district summary; what is an industrial district; location of industrial

districts; industrial district history; initial negotiation position; negotiation structure; agreement comparison; bottom line summary; and next steps.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zanoni, Assistant City Manager Hurlbert, and City Attorney Miles Risley discussed the following topics: future investments could be limited if these IDAs are not approved; the proposed agreement provides for annual payments from industrial districts to the City in lieu of ad valorem taxes; IDAs are for commercial properties only; Council Members commended staff for bringing these IDAs forward; and IDA discussions were held privately to protect organizations' financial information.

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

Jason Hale, 11 Leming Ave., spoke in opposition to the IDAs.

Bob Paulison, 15226 Barataria Dr., spoke in support of the IDAs.

Mayor Guajardo closed public comment.

Council Member Hernandez moved 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 Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley and Council Member Roy

Nay: 2 - Council Member Klein and Council Member Campos

Abstained: 0

8. [24-0992](#) Resolution amending and reaffirming the City of Corpus Christi's Investment Policy and Investment Strategies for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 8.

Director of Finance Sergio Villasana stated that sections of the Investment Policy have been amended as requested by Council.

Council Members and City Manager Peter Zanoni discussed the following topic: requests to add City Council Members to the Investment Committee.

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Guajardo closed public comment.

Council Member Pusley moved to amend Section VI (B) Investment Committee of the resolution as follows: "and confirmed by City Council," seconded by Council Member

Hunter and passed unanimously.

Council Member Pusley moved to approve the resolution as amended, seconded by Council Member Hunter. This Resolution was passed as amended and approved with the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy, Council Member Klein and Council Member Campos

Abstained: 0

Enactment No: 033447

9. [24-1380](#) Motion authorizing execution of all documents necessary to acquire property interests necessary for the City to accept legal responsibility, improve and maintain the Michael J. Ellis Seawall on North Padre Island, which will be dedicated to the City at no cost.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 9.

Director of Engineering Services Jeff Edmonds presented information on the North Padre Island Seawall project. Staff recommends authority to execute all property estimates and for the City to take legal responsibility of the Seawall.

Council Members and Director Edmonds discussed the following topics: Council Members commended staff for bringing this project forward; and a concern with the City taking on more infrastructure built by private entities.

Mayor Guajardo opened public comment.

Gerald Sinclair, 14810 Windward Dr., and Dale Rankin, 13817 Gunwale Ave., spoke in support of the City taking legal responsibility of the Michael J. Ellis Seawall on North Padre Island.

Mayor Guajardo closed public comment.

Council Member Suckley moved to approve the motion, seconded by Council Member Hunter. This Motion was passed 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 Campos

Nay: 1 - Council Member Klein

Abstained: 0

Enactment No: M2024-136

10. [24-1421](#) Resolution to authorize the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee to review solutions to the viability of extending the Trust Funds for the purpose of future development versus Impact Fees, **as requested by Council**

Members Mike Pusley, Michael Hunter, and Gil Hernandez.

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 10.

Council Members, City Manager Peter Zaroni, and Assistant Director of Development Services Michael Dice discussed the following topics: a concern about discussing trust funds after investing \$4 million on impact fee discussions with the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (CIAC); trust funds would be managed in-house; concerns about the timing for trust fund discussions; a concern that trust funds were not thoroughly considered by CIAC; the consultant recommended impact fees versus trust funds; and impact fees were planned to start on October 1, 2025.

Council Member Suckley moved to amend the motion as follows: "Motion to direct staff to meet with CIAC to develop a work plan, potential calendar, and deliverables on adjusting trust fund fees as an alternate to impact fees, no later than September 17th," seconded by Council Member Barrera and approved with the following vote: Mayor Guajardo and Council Members Barrera, Hernandez, Hunter, Pusley, Roy and Suckley, voting, "yes"; and Council Members Campos and Klein voting, "no".

Council Member Hernandez moved to approve the motion as amended, seconded by Council Member Pusley. This Motion was passed as amended 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 Roy

Nay: 2 - Council Member Klein and Council Member Campos

Abstained: 0

Enactment No: M2024-137

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (ITEMS 11 - 12)

11. [24-1401](#) **Executive Session pursuant to Texas Gov't Code § 551.071** and Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 1.05 to consult with attorneys concerning legal issues related to personnel matters and the City Auditor and **Texas Gov't Code § 551.074** (personnel matters) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee (including, but not limited to, the City Auditor).

This E-Session Item was passed after executive session.

The following motion was considered:

Motion to authorize the Audit Committee to establish further direction for the City Auditor.

Council Member Barrera moved to approve the motion, seconded by Council Member

Suckley. This Motion was passed and approved with the following vote:

Aye: 9 - Mayor Guajardo, Council Member Barrera, Council Member Hernandez, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Pusley, Council Member Suckley, Council Member Roy, Council Member Klein and Council Member Campos

Abstained: 0

Enactment No: M2024-138

12. [24-1414](#) **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 industries, infrastructure, utilities, and property in the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction, services thereto, annexation, Texas Local Gov't Code service plans, industrial district agreements (IDA's), and Chapters 42, 43 and 212 of the Texas Local Government Code § 43.0116, et. seq., rates for utilities, actions for limitation of rates, Texas Water Code §13.043 and associated statutes and regulations, and **Texas Government Code § 551.087** to discuss and deliberate regarding potential financial or other incentive(s) to business prospects(s) that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the City and with which the City will be conducting economic development negotiations, authorizing preparation of service plans for areas to be considered for annexation, and authorizing professional services agreements and amendments thereto with attorneys, engineers, and other consultants involved in the aforementioned actions.

This E-Session Item was withdrawn.

O. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Guajardo adjourned this meeting at 4:45 p.m.

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary; Norma Duran](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Christian Beauchamp
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:56:54 AM
Attachments: [6005761940951167619.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Christian Beauchamp
Address	Street Address: 3700 Orleans Avenue, APT 5323 City: New Orleans State / Province: LA Postal / Zip Code: 70119
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	IDA
Agenda Item Number	24-1308
Describe Feedback:	Tax parasitic corporations who are complicit in genocide

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary; Norma Duran](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Christy Mo
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:57:29 AM
Attachments: [6005834373769773150.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Christy Mo
Address	Street Address: 615 S Johnson street City: New Orleans State / Province: LA Postal / Zip Code: 70112
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	IDA
Agenda Item Number	IDA
Describe Feedback:	Pay your fair share of taxes and stop freeloading. The Gulf South community is watching.
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	christy.q.mo@gmail.com

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Molly Davis
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 11:09:53 AM
Attachments: [6005841843013304141.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Molly Davis
Address	Street Address: 4025 Markins Dr City: Corpus Christi State / Province: Texas Postal / Zip Code: 78411
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	Yes
What district do you reside in?	District 3
Topic	IDA's - Annex Industries in the Port of Corpus Christi
Agenda Item Number	IDA/24-1408
Describe Feedback:	As a resident of Corpus Christi, I ask that city council annex the industries of the Port of Corpus Christi and make them pay their fair share. Being exempt from taxes as million/billion dollar corporations so they can continue destroying our communities and ecosystems is not in the best interest of anyone except them. It is unfair and unjust, at the expense of our community.
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	mollygreenhamdavis@gmail.com

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Stephanie Crean
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:01:38 AM
Attachments: [6005764871556487296.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Stephanie Crean
Address	Street Address: 6948 General Diaz St City: New Orleans State / Province: Louisiana Postal / Zip Code: 70124
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	IDA
Agenda Item Number	24-1308
Describe Feedback:	I am in favor of taxing Valero and other companies within Refinery Row. These companies are so huge that taxation would affect them very little, and taxing them would generate a lot of revenue that could go back to the Texan people.
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	stephanie.crean@yahoo.com

From: [Norma Duran](#)
To: [Sarah Brunkenhoefer](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Catherine Grether
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 3:32:10 PM
Attachments: [6005974668808362578.pdf](#)

Here is another public comment.

From: City of Corpus Christi <noreply@formresponse.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 2:51 PM
To: City Secretary <CitySecretary@cctexas.com>; Norma Duran <NormaD2@cctexas.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Catherine Grether

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Public Comment & Input Form	
Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Catherine Grether
Address	Street Address: 6515 Ocean Drive Apt Street Address Line 2: Apt 7-704 City: Corpus Christi State / Province: Texas Postal / Zip Code: 78412
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	Yes
What district do you reside in?	District 2
Topic	Annexing
Agenda Item Number	IDA/24-1408

Describe Feedback:

I believe that corporations should be held to the same standards, if not higher standards, as individuals, particularly when it comes to taxes. As part of the Corpus community, all industries have a responsibility to help give back to that community.

Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.

catherineagrether@gmail.com

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Ariel Moyal
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:07:09 AM
Attachments: [6005768188223638595.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Ariel Moyal
Address	Street Address: 2642 Dumaine Street City: New Orleans State / Province: LA Postal / Zip Code: 70119
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	IDA
Agenda Item Number	IDA
Describe Feedback:	<p>Refinery Row has been tax exempt for 10 years! In those 10 years what have they provided for the community of Corpus Christi? As a fellow Gulf Coast neighbor in Louisiana, we in New Orleans and the rest of the Gulf South are watching you. Polluting the environment and taking Corpus resources without giving anything back to the community should not result in a tax benefit.</p> <p>Do what is right for your community and for the Gulf in general. Stop the tax exemptions for extractive companies. We are watching and fighting alongside our neighbors just like the will do for us.</p>

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Eileen Compton
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 11:33:54 AM
Attachments: [6005856172224063368.pdf](#)

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
Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Eileen Compton
Address	Street Address: 1773 Ennis Joslin Rd City: Corpus Christi State / Province: TX Postal / Zip Code: 78412
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	Yes
What district do you reside in?	District 4
Topic	Taxation
Agenda Item Number	IDA 24-1408
Describe Feedback:	Corporations, especially those which have a large impact on our community such as those exposed to pollutants and carcinogens in Refinery Row, must be taxed.
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	eileencompton.emc@gmail.com

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Raven Drake
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 11:56:56 AM
Attachments: [6005870042219842918.pdf](#)

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 Public Comment & Input Form	
Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Raven Drake
Address	Street Address: 4798 fm 2986 Street Address Line 2: Apt 715 City: Gregory State / Province: Tx Postal / Zip Code: 78359
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	Annex industries
Agenda Item Number	IDA/24-1408
Describe Feedback:	Being exempt from taxes while having no restrictions regarding the safety of the environment and the community does not benefit citizens of corpus christi as it will negatively impact health outcomes of citizens due to the declining health of the environment. Taxing these industries would also help the community by funding schools, libraries, and social welfare programs which benefit everyone in the community, not just the company. The more profitable a company, the more those profits should be shared to make the community a better place.
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	rjdrake@rocketmail.com

From: [Norma Duran](#)
To: [Sarah Brunkenhoefer](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Gina Kissee
Date: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 10:07:52 AM
Attachments: [6005830740816277167.pdf](#)

From: City of Corpus Christi <noreply@formresponse.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:51 AM
To: City Secretary <CitySecretary@cctexas.com>; Norma Duran <NormaD2@cctexas.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Gina Kissee

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<input type="checkbox"/> Public Comment & Input Form	
Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Gina Kissee
Address	Street Address: 3056 Marais City: New Orleans State / Province: LA Postal / Zip Code: 7011
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	No
Topic	Industrial District Agreement
Agenda Item Number	24-1308
Describe Feedback:	I am writing from New Orleans, Louisiana to urge the council to annex and tax the industries protected under the IDA. Similar tax exemptions in Louisiana have enabled corporations to make a significant portion

of the state completely inhospitable with zero ramifications. Louisiana has been permanently scarred by our legislators' willingness to sell out residents and historic communities in order to appease corporations that have no stake in our state beyond their own opportunities to profit. There is no excuse for corporations to get tax exemptions while poisoning the very communities they do nothing for. Annex and tax the industries protected under the IDA.

Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.

ginakissee@gmail.com

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Public Input: 08-27-2024 - Jason Hale
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 11:16:09 AM
Attachments: [6005845528918155438.pdf](#)
[Hale Jason Public Comment City 08_24_2024.pdf](#)

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Public Comment & Input Form

Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	Jason Hale
Address	Street Address: 4421 HAMLIN DR City: CORPUS CHRISTI State / Province: TX Postal / Zip Code: 78411-3059
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	Yes
What district do you reside in?	District 2
Topic	Desalination
Agenda Item Number	Desalination
Describe Feedback:	<p>Last week the Port authority announced that it will no longer pursue their La Quinta plant due to its limited scalability and its impact on bay salinity. Using this model, The Port concluded that they would have to reduce the capacity by a third in order to be environmentally friendly.</p> <p>City staff say that the Port's model is not a useful tool for Inner Harbor, but they have failed to explain what makes one area of this model less accurate than the other. The setups are nearly identical and the model is for the whole bay. If the Port thinks this model is valid for the whole bay, which I think they do, then the results for both locations should be equally accurate. In fact the results could</p>

actually be underreporting the increase in salinity due to simplified inputs mentioned two weeks ago.

With that in mind, I am requesting the City to produce a document outlining what makes the Inner Harbor's inclusion in the Port's model less accurate than the results for the Port's La Quinta plant.

Uploads: [Hale Jason Public Comment City 08_24_2024.pdf](#)

Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission. positivelypositiv@yahoo.com

[Public Comment City 08/24/2024](#)

Hi Council members, Jason Hale 211 Leming, can you please start the video

Two weeks ago John and I presented modeling results from the Port's CCBay model. I explained how the model showed concerning results for the City's Inner Harbor plant and how they could actually be much less favorable if the inputs were updated to match the City's near field modeling results.

You see, models like this are important because they give insight into how desalination will affect the bay. For example, will the brine accumulate to toxic levels of salinity or will it create low oxygen environments that lead to dead zones. These are important things to know. (0:30)

Last week the Port authority announced that it will no longer pursue their La Quinta plant due to its limited scalability and its impact on bay salinity. This conclusion was based in part on the modeling results that I'm showing right now. The Port's discontinued project is on the right and the City's Inner Harbor plant is on the left. (1:00)

What's interesting about these two plants is that even though their outputs are similar, the results are extremely different. Each plant has an output that is around 50 million gallons per day at a salinity around 50 parts per thousand. Yet, despite these similarities the Inner Harbor plant shows much worse results, frequently exceeding the 2 ppt limit that is an industry standard used by the TCEQ and other state agencies in the US.

Now what I want to know is why is the City pursuing a project that looks worse than the one that the Port abandoned. Even Council members last week stated how the Inner Harbor plant wasn't the most ideal location and that discharging offshore is the right way to go. (2:00)

City staff say that the Port's model is not a useful tool for Inner Harbor, but they have failed to explain what makes one area of this model less accurate than the other. The setups are nearly identical and the model is for the whole bay. If the Port thinks this model is valid for the whole bay, which I think they do, then the results for both locations should be equally accurate. In fact the results could actually be underreporting the increase in salinity due the simplified inputs that I mentioned earlier. (2:30)

My concern here is that a poorly designed desalination plant benefits nobody. Failing to do a far field model using accurate inputs is poor plant design.

Using this model, The Port concluded that they would have to reduce the capacity by a third in order to be environmentally friendly. How much would the Inner Harbor capacity need to be reduced in order to meet the same requirement. To me it looks like half or more.

That means higher costs per thousand gallons. Water rates will go up. And if you're pro-desal, public support will disappear, making future projects in better areas less likely.

With that in mind, I am requesting the City to produce a document outlining what makes the Inner Harbor's inclusion in the Port's model less accurate than the results for the Port's La Quinta plant.


I'd also like to request a statement of fact on whether or not the City has confirmed that it will do a far field model for the Inner Harbor plant. Thank you. (3:00)

From: [City of Corpus Christi](#)
To: [City Secretary](#); [Norma Duran](#)
Subject: Public Input: 08-27-2024 - John Weber
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 11:21:52 AM
Attachments: [6005848769735034943.pdf](#)
[8.27.24 written.docx](#)

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 Public Comment & Input Form	
Date of Meeting	08-27-2024
Name	John Weber
Address	Street Address: 609 Naples St City: Corpus Christi State / Province: TX Postal / Zip Code: 78404
Are you a resident of Corpus Christi?	Yes
What district do you reside in?	District 2
Topic	Bootstrap and desal
Agenda Item Number	Public comment
Describe Feedback:	See attached.
Uploads:	8.27.24 written.docx
Provide an email to receive a copy of your submission.	js_weber@hotmail.com

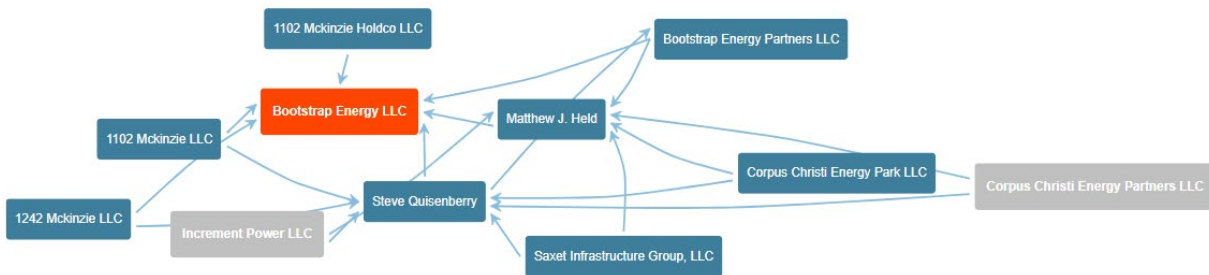
Dear Mayor and Council members,

In case you weren't aware of the people behind Bootstrap Energy LLC.

https://www.corporationwiki.com/p/3a5pye/bootstrap-energy-llc

Name

<p>Steve Quisenberry 7 ~ Background Report ~</p>	<p>Managing Member</p>
<p>Matthew J. Held 5 ~ Background Report ~</p>	<p>Managing Member</p>



https://www.transparencyusa.org/tx/candidate/roland-barrera/contributors

Roland Barrera

\$485
CASH ON HAND

\$188,341
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$226,284
TOTAL EXPENDITURES

Overview Contributions Expenditures Loans Personal Activity

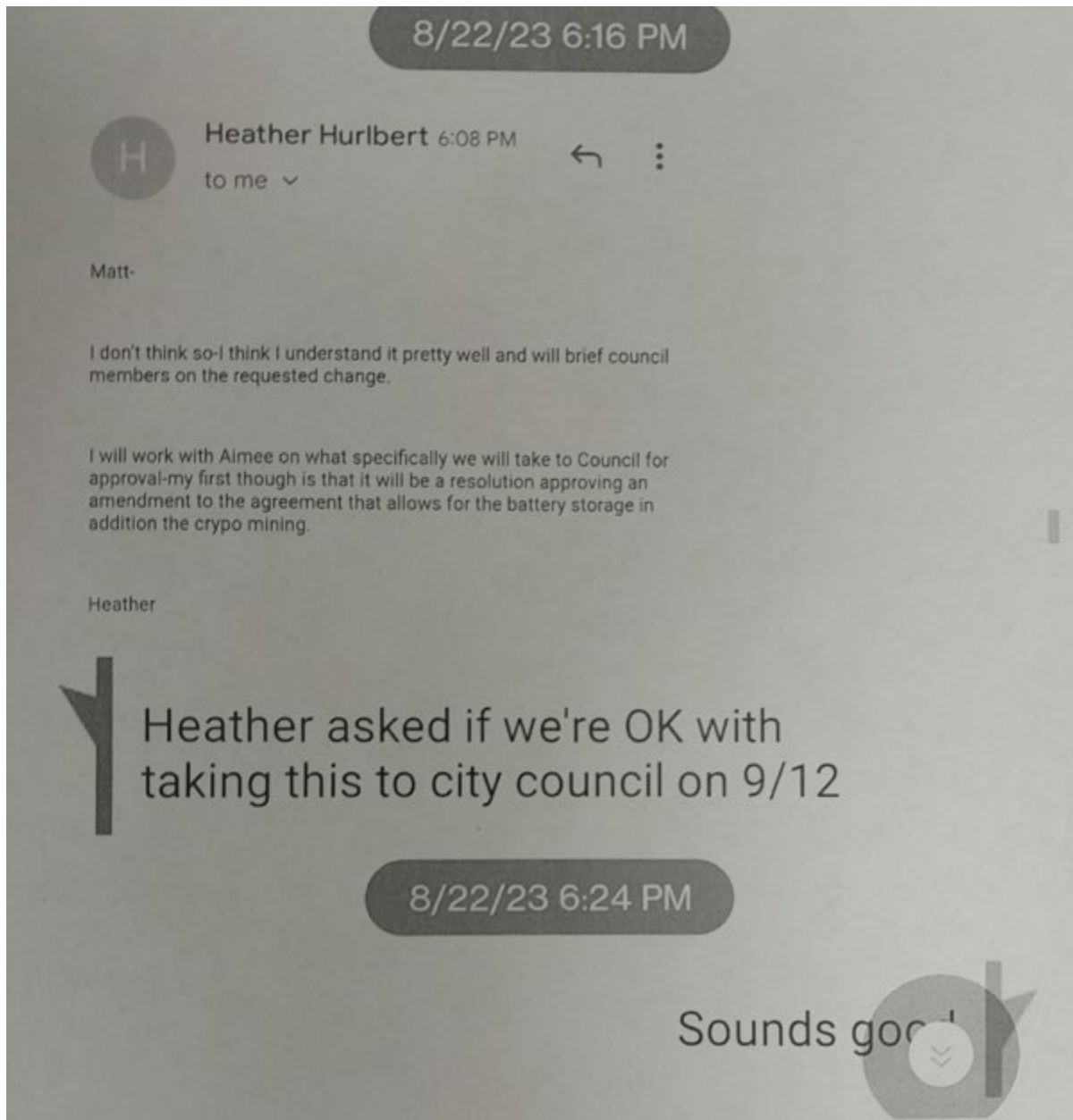
Contributors

This page displays the cumulative amount given by these contributors to this candidate during the selected election cycle.

View By: **CONTRIBUTORS** CONTRIBUTIONS

Total Contributions	Contributor	Type
\$25,000.00	Texans for Lawsuit Reform PAC	ENTITY
\$8,500.00	Jennifer and Philip C Skrobarczyk	INDIVIDUAL
\$6,000.00	Alex Azali	INDIVIDUAL
\$5,000.00	Mark Marlow	INDIVIDUAL
\$5,000.00	Matthew Held	INDIVIDUAL
\$5,000.00	Steven Quisenberry	INDIVIDUAL

Text message between Matthew Held and Council member Barrera.



Also, a Council member gave his ideas on desal while running for office. This can be compared to how he voted on desal. Taken from his own website.

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Mike Pusley on desal

It's our choice, so let's make a change

My first-year geology professor told our class that we would all live to see the day when a barrel of water cost more than a barrel of oil, well she was right, that day is here. We

are not even into the summer months and already our water supplies (lakes) are at 50% capacity. So as painful as it may be, Corpus Christi must act now to address its increasing demand for water to support future industrial and residential growth, while protecting us from higher cost. The Corpus Christi City Council is currently pursuing a plan that will require residents and customers to pay for the construction and operation of a 10 MGD seawater desalination plant estimated to cost at least \$222 million. But, as with most projects of this size, the final cost will most likely exceed this estimate, not to mention the cost of yearly maintenance and operation. That M&O number must be factored into future City budgets.

To be clear, I am a strong supporter of desalination and truly believe it's a part of the solution that can free us of the constant problems our City has faced as we go from one water shortage to the next. Concerns as to whether industry will stay or locate here, issues with residents being forced to curtail their water usage and, most importantly, what the long-term ramifications are for not having adequate water resources are all issues that have plagued our City for years.

The City's current plan to bring desal to our area has several problems but these are the main ones: 1.) They plan to borrow the money for construction, 2.) who will pay that cost, industry ? property owners ? 3.) they are planning a facility that will dump excess brine stripped from the sea water into our harbor, 4.) the unknown cost to own and operate a desal facility.

The City doesn't need to borrow the money nor do they need to own and operate a desal facility. As we are all aware, governments never operate anything very efficiently and certainly not cost effectively. For 30 years our City struggled to fix a pothole properly, how do we expect they can operate a complex desal facility. Then apply State and local regulations and the fact that the cost of government ownership is always more expensive than a private sector business. There are numerous companies that specialize in desal and they will provide the engineering, permitting, cost of construction, and operation of our desal facility. All we have to do is provide the take or pay contracts for the raw water they provide. This has the potential to allow our City to provide local industry with a reliable, uninterrupted raw water source through a negotiated, long term contract. At the same time, rate paying water users will not be saddled with paying for the \$220 million dollar loan and the yearly operating cost.

As to the brine disposal, there are far too many environmental issues associated with disposal in the inner harbor or the coastal bays. The better solution is to go off-shore with the disposal where it has been proven there is actually a halo effect around the disposal sites and all sea life proliferates. This is what most companies in the business of building desal plants will tell you and we need to heed their knowledge in this area. Permitting will be an order of magnitude more difficult for anything that impacts bays and estuaries and could derail the entire project.

Although I whole heartedly support desal and its implementation I am also a realist and I know that a desal solution will take time to complete. That said, we still need to move

as quickly as possible to solve our short- and long-term water shortage issues. One way we can do this easily and inexpensively is to take advantage of our abundant sources of groundwater.

Currently, Corpus Christi relies 100% on surface water for its water supplies (rivers and lakes). While surface water is our sole-source today, throughout the years the City of Corpus Christi used groundwater as a key component of our regional water supply, helping to pull us through major droughts in the 50's, 60's, 80's and 90's. As recently as the mid-1990's groundwater from the regional Gulf Coast Aquifer supplied approximately 10% of our water, but when the Mary Rhodes Pipeline was completed, the City abandoned its wells. Kingsville, Sinton and Refugio, rely on groundwater as a primary water source for residents and industry, as do Houston, San Antonio, Lubbock and many other Texas cities. **The Gulf Coast Aquifer is a prolific, drought-proof, sustainable source of water, which in some locations is drinking water quality right out of the ground.**

Drilling wells and delivering water through pipelines is a centuries-old, proven technology and groundwater resources can be developed in months, not years, to supply substantial volumes of water to meet the region's current short term needs. In fact, the reservoirs for the majority of this groundwater are located in very close proximity to the Mary Rhodes Pipeline such that a connection could be made with very little effort or cost. This water resource is available now and at a very low cost and the City should move quickly to access it to supplement our limited surface water resources.

The Coastal Bend likely will ultimately need both groundwater and desalinated seawater in the long term to provide abundant water supplies for residents and industry. But we need to be smart in how we develop these resources such that industry and property owners reap the benefits and are not saddled with a bottomless pit of expense. Remember, if we do this correctly everyone who lives north of Corpus Christi becomes a potential customer.

The alternative – it's never going to rain enough, so we keep draining the lakes, rationing water, curtailing industry and charging rate payers more every year. It's our choice, so let's make a change.

Mike Pusley
Lifetime resident of Corpus Christi
Candidate for Corpus Christi City Council At-Large
mikepusley.com



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