



City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
cctexas.com

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

FY 2023-2024 Budget Workshop for Police, Fire, Municipal Court, and Development Services/Code Enforcement

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

Mayor Guajardo called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

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

Assistant City Secretary Stephanie Box 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, Assistant City Attorney Buck Brice and Assistant City Secretary Stephanie Box

Note: Council Member Pusley arrived at 9:08 a.m.

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

C. BRIEFINGS:

1. [23-1288](#) FY 2023-2024 Budget Workshop for Police, Fire, Municipal Court, and Development Services/Code Enforcement

Mayor Guajardo referred to Item 1.

Police Chief Mike Markle presented information on the following topics: mission statement; about police department; services; community outreach; organization; FY 2023 achievements; performance measures; FY 2024 police department proposed budget: \$105.7M; FY 2024 proposed budget general fund: \$83.6M; FY 2024 proposed budget crime control fund: \$11.2M; FY 2024 proposed budget metrocom fund: \$9.1M; FY 2024 enhancement 1; FY 2024 enhancement 2; FY 2024 enhancement 3; FY 2024 enhancement 4; FY 2024 enhancement 5; FY 2024 enhancement 6; FY 2024 enhancement 7; FY 2024 enhancement 8; and FY 2024 enhancement 9.

Council Members, Police Chief Markle, City Manager Peter Zaroni, and Director of

Management and Budget Eddie Houlihan discussed the following topics: a request for a more detailed briefing about the Corpus Christi Police Athletic League; options are being discussed for re-purposing the existing police academy on Corona Street; currently there are 194 units, so the \$250,000 enhancement will assist with acquiring about three or four more units; the Flour Bluff police substation is 4,000 square feet; a Council Member's concern about the high cost of the generator for the police substation; all building allocations in all departments increased significantly; the increase in the uniform division is for clothing for new officers; the minor office equipment for \$500,000 under police training is for the two academies; a Council Member commended Chief Markle for staying within the overtime budget; the \$4 million is a transfer from the general fund to Metrocom to cover the City's 77% share of the Metrocom expenses; the law enforcement trust funds are confiscated monies that are used for several items; a Council Member's concern about the considerable amount of traffic fatalities in the City; and the support of having more police officers on the streets.

Fire Chief Brandon Wade presented information on the following topics: mission statement; about the fire department; organization; FY 2023 achievements; performance measures; FY 2024 fire department proposed budget: \$80.18M; FY 2024 proposed budget general fund: \$79.00M; FY 2024 proposed budget LEPC fund: \$0.22M; increase in contributions to firefighter's retirement system; FY 2024 enhancement 1; FY 2024 enhancement 2; FY 2024 enhancement 3; FY 2024 enhancement 4; FY 2024 enhancement 5; FY 2024 enhancement 6; FY 2024 enhancement 7; FY 2024 enhancement 8; and FY 2024 enhancement 9.

Council Members, Fire Chief Wade, City Manager Peter Zanoni, and Assistant Fire Chief Kenny Erben discussed the following topics: the number of inspections completed per fire code did not impact new construction; a request for data where the structure fires occur and how city numbers compare to other cities; a request for a breakdown of data for residential structure fires versus commercial; the fire department's response time is usually less than eight minutes; a fire truck arrives with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) vehicle to assist with CPR and cardiac arrests; the fire department's grant writer is researching all available grants; a request for data on the most common causes of fires; the Refinery Terminal Fire Company does not have EMS transport services available; a Council Member's request for data when the EMS is called to refineries; the City's Fire Department responds to fires outside the refineries and performs air monitoring; the City does not get reimbursed for responding to fires at the refineries; a Council Member's suggestion that staff address charging industries for City fire service responses; the task money is for additional fire enhancements; the time frame to get a new fire truck is about 18 months; the average cost for an ambulance ride is \$1,400; to look at the Industrial District Agreement to ensure no language prohibits billing; the fire department is exploring an ATV at station 7 (Staples and Doddridge); diesel exhaust systems will be installed at the new fire stations; a concern that overtime is close to 12%; a Council Member's concern with the increase in professional services for training; the fire department has zero sworn vacancies; and in the Capital Improvement Program, staff recommends replacing half of the 18 fire stations that were built in the 1950's.

Presiding Judge Chapa and Director of Municipal Court Services Gilbert Hernandez presented information on the following topics: mission statement; about municipal court; organization; FY 2023 achievements; performance measures; FY 2024 municipal court proposed budget: \$7.04M; FY 2024 proposed budget general fund: \$6.5M; FY 2024 proposed budget special revenue funds: \$0.54M; FY 2024 enhancement; FY 2024 reduction; FY 2024 City Marshal reduction City Marshal overview; FY 2024 City Marshal reduction survey of top seven cities; FY 2024 City Marshal reduction arrest metrics for Class C misdemeanors; and FY 2024 City Marshal reductions.

Council Members, Judge Chapa, and Director of Municipal Court Services Hernandez discussed the following topics: a Council Member's concern about the unbalanced organizational chart; traffic fines are reviewed and controlled by the Presiding Judge; a Council Member's desire to increase traffic fines to possibly reduce speeding violations; a Council Member's request for data for adjudicated cases versus dismissed cases; and a request for a breakdown by violations.

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Guajardo adjourned this meeting at 12:00 p.m.