



# City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
cctexas.com

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council Workshop Session

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Thursday, August 27, 2020

11:30 AM

City Council Chambers

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**Budget Workshop for Airport Operations, American Bank Center, Convention & Visitor's Bureau and Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund**

**NOTE: This meeting will start late. It will begin following the TIRZ No. 4 meeting, which is scheduled to start at 11:15 a.m.**

**A. Mayor Joe McComb to call the meeting to order.**

Mayor McComb called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

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

City Secretary Rebecca L. 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 K. Risley and City Secretary Rebecca L. Huerta.

Council Member Roy arrived at 1:19 p.m. Council Member Barrera arrived at 1:30 p.m.

**Present** 9 - Mayor Joe McComb, Council Member Roland Barrera, Council Member Rudy Garza, Council Member Paulette Guajardo, Council Member Gil Hernandez, Council Member Michael Hunter, Council Member Ben Molina, Council Member Everett Roy, and Council Member Greg Smith

**C. BRIEFINGS TO CITY COUNCIL:**

**1. Proposed FY 2020 - 2021 Airport Operations, American Bank Center, Convention & Visitor's Bureau, and Hotel Occupancy Tax, and potential FY 2021 Proposed Budget adjustments as a result of Community Input.**

**Assistant Director of Aviation for Administration Kevin Smith presented the following information related to the Aviation Department: Airport Board members, mission statement; about the Aviation Department; air service task force; an organizational chart; FY2020 achievements; performance measures; services; the FY2021 Aviation Department's proposed budget and revenue sources; and enhancements 1 and 2.**

**Assistant Director of Aviation for Operations Tyler Miller presented the Aviation Department's FY2021 proposed capital budget projects.**

Council members, Assistant Directors Smith and Miller and Chairman of the Airport Board Jay Wise discussed the following topics: enplanement trends in relation to COVID-19; the airport's impact in jobs, payroll and on the regional economy; that three of the four major US carriers continue to operate at the Corpus Christi International Airport (CCIA); that one of the two fixed-base operators (FBO) has left the airport; the status of the agreement with the remaining FBO; the need to have more than one FBO in relation to services and pricing considerations; actions taken in relation to and the impact of recent Hurricane Laura on the CCIA's operations; and the status and future of concessionaires and gift shops at the CCIA.

General Manager of the American Bank Center Matt Blasy, presented information on the following topics related to the American Bank Center (ABC): mission statement; about the ABC; the impact of COVID-19; an organizational chart; FY2020 achievements; performance indicators; FY2020 proposed budget and revenue sources; and FY2021 enhancements 1, 2 and 3.

Council members, Mr. Blasy and the President and Chief Executive Officer of Visit Corpus Christi Brett Oetting discussed the following topics: the effect of the Ice Rays suspending operation due to COVID-19; options to accommodate large gatherings and required social distancing; the future of big events in the near and long term; using breakout spaces in the ABC; attracting Broadway and off-Broadway performances; the percent of the ABC's business that is comprised of local events; and re-building consumer confidence in relation to attending events at the ABC.

President and Chief Executive Officer of Visit Corpus Christi Brett Oetting presented information on the following topics related to Visit Corpus Christi: hotel occupancy tax (HOT) rate and related details, including the recent addition of collecting hotel occupancy taxes on short-term rentals; FY2021 proposed budget and revenue sources; major uses of HOT in FY2021; about Visit Corpus Christi; FY2020 achievements; performance measures; the Executive Committee and Board of Directors; an organizational chart; FY2021 strategy; and destination next.

Council members and Mr. Oetting discussed the following topics: funding for the American Bank Center as presented in Mr. Blasy's budget presentation versus in the City's proposed budget; short-term rentals revenues and related collection of taxes; addressing the existence of short-term rentals in certain zoning designations in the city; the impact of short-term rentals on solid waste pickup in residential neighborhoods; short-term rentals in single-family residential zoning districts; short-term rentals and their cancellation policies; and recent efforts to accommodate evacuees in Corpus Christi who were fleeing Hurricane Laura.

Director of Management and Budget Eddie Houlihan presented information on the following topics related to the FY20-21 proposed city budget: summary of the Council workshops held; 5 public input sessions were conducted; an enumeration of citizens' concerns / comments from each of the 5 city council districts; a summary of public input sessions; the City Manager's recommended additions to the FY20-21 proposed city budget based on community input sessions and related funding sources; and staff amendments to the budget in the Enterprise, Internal Service, Debt and Special Revenue Funds.

Council members, City Manager Peter Zanoni and Director Houlihan discussed the following topics: debt in the Stormwater Fund; a request from a council member for more information regarding Internal Service and Community Enrichment Funds; thanks to City Manager Zanoni for the FY20-21 proposed budget; the success of past Solid Waste Services' clean up events and a request from a council members for additional such events; purchasing the Frost Bank Building in lieu of continuing to pay rent; an upcoming executive session to consider purchasing the Frost Bank Building at no cost; using the fund balance to make improvements to the Frost Bank Building; thanks to City Manager Zanoni for holding public input sessions on the City's FY20-21 proposed budget; the cost and timing of a master plan with respect to addressing stormwater fees; the addition of two new Code Compliance Inspectors in the Development Services Department, their duties and how they differ from existing Code Enforcement Officers; the total number of Code Compliance Inspectors needed; developing a master plan that will comprehensively address Water, Wastewater, Stormwater and roads, unifying and consolidating these areas into a single plan; maintaining appropriate fund balances in accounts where the fund balance is being drawn down; that the City's credit rating has improved three times over the last 15 months; the timing of COVID-19-related reimbursements, including how much in reimbursements the City has received to date and how much can be applied to FY19-20; offering assistance / aid/ help to Louisiana, assistance offered to date and proactively reaching out to Louisiana to offer the City's assistance in relation to Hurricane Laura; and that the first reading of the City's FY20-21 proposed budget will be on September 8, 2020 followed by the second reading on September 15, 2020.

#### **D. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.