

THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2010 - 3:00 P.M.

Declaration of a quorum and call meeting to order.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jaworski, CM Puccetti, CM Gonzales, CM Beeton, CM Greenberg
Absent: CM Legg, MPT Colbert
Staff: City Manager LeBlanc, City Attorney Green, City Secretary Lawrence

Receive and discuss comments from the GLO.

Trace Findley, Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Governmental Affairs for the Texas General Land Office explained the current situation pertaining to the Severance Decision and answer questions of the Council and public. Attorney David Land from the GLO Legal Division was also present to answer questions as well as Ray Newby from the Coastal Resources Division of the GLO.

Public Comment

Susan Fennewald, former Council Member spoke in support of getting easements from property owners.

Alice Ann O'Donnell, 13357 Senegast, asked for clarification regarding the beach setback ordinance.

Ellis Picket, Surfriders Assn., spoke regarding beach setbacks and the need for public beaches.

Chula Ross Sanchez, asked if there was a time line for gathering signatures for the easements on Options 1 and 2. She stated the West End of the Island needs the sand renourishment but, if that doesn't happen, she hopes it will go on the Seawall.

David Colombo, 5109 Denver, there are 40 plus blocks of beach that is unusable and could use the sand if it doesn't get placed on the West End.

Mark Zahler, asked what would prevent using old vegetation line going forward.

Marty Baker, Pirates Beach, stated the need to maintain an open beach.

Marie Robb, 47 Pirates Beach West, asked to cancel the November 29 meeting on the setbacks.

Jerry Mohn, WGIPOA President, need an easement agreement and asked for the City's support.

Lou Muller, Director Park Board of Trustees, stated the sand is critical to Delanero Park.

Jeri Kinnear, urged Council to support placing sand on the West End.

Greg Roff, 7700 Seawall, questions about the Severance Case. David Land, Coastal Law Team of the Legal Services Division of the GLO responded. Mr. Roff spoke in support of the rolling easement.

Peggy Zahler, 12520 East Ventura, supports West End sand project.

Steve Schulz, Attorney, 1 Moody Plaza, asked GLO to consider easement form presented by West End.

Discuss the CEPRA Beach Nourishment Project No. 1391, the GLO cancellation of the project, alternatives including other locations, and related matters.

Discuss and consider for action urging the GLO to continue CEPRA Beach Nourishment Project No. 1391, consider alternatives, and related matters.

Discuss and consider providing the City Manager direction relating to beach renourishment.

After discussion, CM Puccetti moved that language be inserted in the indemnity that's agreeable to the City Attorney under Section 5 Waiver of Claims and Further Considerations so that the City is protected in that area as well. Second by CM Gonzales. Unanimously approved by those present. MPT Colbert and CM Legg absent.

Council would like the City's resources to be made available to the easement effort. Urge the GLO to promptly finalize an agreed easement. Council commemorate and approve that the City provide its best efforts and resources to enlist and persuade and make folks see the light in signing these easements to that the 30 day deadline.

CM Puccetti moved that the City support and utilize resources including Planning Department information that can be used, possibly some educational information on Channel 16 if that can be done, so that we can move forward securing easements for the West End Project. Second by CM Beaton. Unanimously approved.

CM Beaton moved that the City also provide City support and resources to help the GLO in its simultaneous pursuit of permission from various and sundry authorizing agencies to pursue an alternative project in the event we are not able to move forward on the West End Project. Second by CM Greenberg.

CM Greenberg stated he wanted to make clear that he is no way saying that anything other than the West End the top priority. Mayor Jaworski stated the legislative intent of the motion is to put the original plan as a priority. That is Council's primary desire. If that fails, Council would hate to have lost 30 days.

Vote on the motion: Unanimously approved.

CM Puccetti moved to postpone the meeting that had been set for November 29, 2010 to discuss setbacks and she would entertain the possibility of discussing easement and gaining cooperation for that at that time. Second by CM Gonzales.

After discussion, CM Puccetti amended her motion to cancel the meeting on the setback that was scheduled for November 29, 2010. Second by CM Gonzales. Unanimously approved.

Council clarified that City Attorney Susie Green should be involved in the process.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.