

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTIES OF ARANSAS  
SAN PATRICIO AND NUECES  
CITY OF ARANSAS PASS

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A Special Meeting of the Aransas Pass City Council was held on Monday, March 28, 2022. A notice of the meeting was posted 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code. Mayor Ramiro Gomez, Mayor Pro Tem Carrie Scruggs and Council Members Vickie Abrego was present; Council Members Jason Knight and Janet Moore were absent. Also present was City Manager Gary Edwards and City Attorney Roxann Pais Cotroneo (via Phone).

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**

Mayor Gomez called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**2. DISCUSSION ITEM(S):**

2.I Propose Market Place at Conn Brown Harbor - Thomas Meinhausen

Mr. Meinhausen stated that Artisan Crafter Markets consistently has over 200 artists, crafters, resellers, food trucks and musicians at their events and is interested in bring this event to Conn Brown Harbor He then provided a brief overview of the project and discussed the following points: the benefits of creating Conn Brown Harbor into a Destination; invest over \$12,000 on advertising to bring new customers and discussed statistics; and the benefits of bring 10,000 people to an area impacts all local businesses and puts heads in beds in area hotels.

Mr. Meinhausen discussed standard needs and accommodations - overnight camping for vendors, permanent structures, livestock structures, signage and billboards, security fencing, landscaping and hardscaping, natural surfaced parking and food and alcohol statistics. He then discussed the following five-year plan: Year 1 - stabilization in exchange for rent, Year 2 - additional weekends added to fill every weekend at 50% rent reduction per weekend, Years 4-5 - addition of hardscapes and full rent with the goals of bringing the economy back to Aransas Pass. Lastly, Mr. Meinhausen stated he is looking to partner with the City of Aransas Pass and is looking for a long-term lease, and these events would be held weekly.

Mayor Pro Tem Scruggs asked if he has permanent structures for his events in Rockport, and Mr. Meinhausen responded he does not because the Rockport events are only on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of every month and on other weekends it is used for other events. He stated the market event would be every weekend. Mr. Edwards explained the city is looking at future development at Conn Brown Harbor and asked how this would affect his event, and Mr. Meinhausen responded it would compliment his event because he intends to grow the market with a small carnival and in response to residential development could present a problem because of the traffic in the area.

There was a consensus from the Council to continue discussions, and since two council members are not present today, he would provide them with the presentation.

2.II POSTPONED - City Transportation for Seniors

2.III Voucher System at the Transfer Station - Sandra Garcia, Director of Finance

Mr. Edwards explained the current issue is accommodating citizens who are unable to pick up a voucher to the Transfer Station during regular working office hours.

Sandra Garcia, Director of Finance stated one option is to do away with the voucher system

completely and have a pay station after calculating the amount taken to the transfer station and charged accordingly, and no cash accepted only credit cards transaction. She stated this would solve the problem of citizens not being able to come in and pick up their voucher. She stated citizens could go as many times as they want, except they would be charged. Ms. Garcia then stated the charge to the city for hauling to Corpus Christi, not including staff personnel, is \$100,000 annually, and once you include staff personnel and benefits is approximately \$150,000 to operate the transfer station annually.

Ms. Garcia stated another option is to continue with the voucher system but also have a pay station at the Transfer Station, invest on a scale system approximately \$25,000, and the city could re-coup their cost in the first year. Ms. Garcia also stated that on Saturdays the Transfer Station closes at 12 Noon or earlier once the roloffs are full, but to accommodate citizens we can increase the number of roloffs on weekends or during the week.

Fernando Quintanilla, Director of Public Works stated the drive-on scale being recommended is full size and large enough to accommodate a vehicle. Mr. Quintanilla stated that Aransas Pass is the only city in the area that has a transfer station. Ms. Garcia added the city would not have a surcharge but rather a pass-through charge and its purpose is to allow the citizens to have access and to increase the volume. Council Member Abrego asked if there is a possibility of it being stolen, and Mr. Quintanilla responded the scale is too large to be stolen but the City could place security cameras in the area. Mr. Quintanilla stated if the city chooses to have a scale system, the transfer station would continue to only service Aransas Pass residents.

Mr. Edwards stated the purpose is to keep the community clean and if this system attracts more citizens, it may keep citizens from illegally dumping. In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Scruggs, Mr. Quintanilla stated the dates and hours would remain the same, but would allow the city to expand on the number of roloffs since it would only be a pass-through expense. Ms. Garcia stated she would analyze the invoices for the last twenty-four months.

There was a consensus from the Council to pursue this option, and would bring necessary action to council for approval.

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The meeting was recessed into Executive Session at 6:19 pm under the provision of Section 551, Texas Government Code to discuss the authority of:

15.I.1 Complaint Against Contractor

The council reconvened in open session at 6:20 pm. Due to the absence of two council members, the executive session item was delayed until the next regular meeting.

**4. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm.

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Ramiro Gomez  
Mayor

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Mary Juarez  
City Secretary

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

