

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA

CITY OF BRAZORIA

The City of Brazoria convened in Emergency Special Meeting on February 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. with the following to-witt:

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| Roger Shugart | Mayor |
| Marcus Rabren | Councilman Position #1 |
| Gail Logsdon | Councilwoman Position #2 |
| Gary Kersh | Mayor Pro-Tem |
| Frank Quinty Jr. | Councilman Position #4 |
| Susan Parker | Councilwoman Position #5 |

City Personnel Present:

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| Mike Collard | City Manager |
| Sheila Williams | City Secretary |
| Neal Longbotham | Police Chief |

A. Call to order Emergency Special Meeting.

Mayor Shugart called the Emergency Special Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

B. Invocation and pledge to American and State Flags.

Mayor Shugart gave the invocation and Councilwoman Logsdon led the pledge to the American and State Flags.

C. Consideration/Action to discuss and take action on water issues and all other services the city provides from winter weather issues.

City Manager Collard explained the city over the weekend had made preparations to get ready as best they could for this winter weather. Made sure the system they had in place was as reliable as it could be. The contractor had placed a temporary generator and put in place a variable speed drive that was to be used when water tower was taken out of service. It would modulate the water pressure in the distribution system. The first issue we noticed was the communication between the water tower and water plant had failed due to the inclement weather. It was indicated that the low level and high level indicator was up at the same time. They assessed the situation and looked to see the amount of water in our storage tank and water tower. All indications were we are still good. We were low in water storage and tower but still good. We then made the decision to turn on the booster pumps so we could get the water filled back up in the water tower at full capacity. We then discovered the severe weather had virtually affected some of the instrumentation at the controls indicating the level at the ground storage tank. When it was corrected it was realized that it was not full of water but it was almost empty. We had built the pressure back up from 26 PSI up to 52 PSI.

We contacted Brazosport Water Authority to see how much water we could get from them. They had intended to send us 600 gallons per minute. Tank continued to deplete until we had no water to pump. We were trying to confirm how much water we were getting. We were once again down to 23 PSI. We had to make a decision to shut off our one distribution pump, and see if there was any fluctuation if we had water coming in or not. We did find we had some water coming in but it stopped rising after about an hour. It was instantly from when we

shut off the distribution pump that the pressure went down next to nothing. We knew at that time the water tower had no water in the bowl. We then lost the distribution system entirely.

We then began to understand BWA had some issues with some of their controls, power and backup power.

They were then unable to supply water. At the end of the day the consumption whether it be by people drinking water, showering or having leaks in their system had used or consumed every bit of the supply during that short period of time. Not having a backup water supply such as a well to bring on, we were crippled at that point.

At this point BWA had their power restored by the normal grid. Within thirty minutes of BWA saying they had power they began to bring us water. The ground storage tank is receiving water but is still in a critical state and we can't turn on the pumps. We should not turn on the pumps until full or mostly full. When it is full and can turn on the pumps, we should not turn on the pumps if it is 2:00 in the morning because of the people that have undiscovered broken water lines. But if we get a full tank of water at midnight and we don't pump out of the tank then BWA stops supplying water. It is a difficult decision to make. There are a lot of people with faucets open and some in lower lying areas that are turning on their faucet and getting a cup of water. It is continuing to drain to their lower point and causing our lines to drain dry. That makes a lot of gallons to go into our system. There are things that can be done to introduce our water into the system at a slower pace. It can be by gravity by opening the valve from the distribution tank and prop open the check valve on the distribution pump. We can allow the water to gravity flow and by pass through pump and into the distribution system and slowly filling up the mains. Perhaps not get up enough to not leak in a house. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said he would rather see the pumps turned on in the morning so we don't flood a house. Councilman Rabren said that there were some citizens that did not receive the message put out last night to the citizens. He said that we should communicate to everyone to close all their water lines. City Manager Collard said in the last message sent out that we asked the citizens to conserve the water. We didn't make the point of making sure your faucets were closed. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh asked for the message to be sent to him and he will share it. City Manager Collard said we need to notify the citizens also of boiling the water before consuming. Normally you have three day period to take samples and get tested. We don't know when the lab is going to be open to send samples to. We should get the system up and then come Monday if everything is still copasetic and great then we can start our sampling process. Councilman Rabren said we could have air pockets and trash in our system. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said we could also have a leak in our system somewhere. City Manager Collard said all the water pressure in the pipes keep all the gunky stuff pressed against the walls of the pipe and when you turn the water off it tends to release and then when the new water comes in it will not look very pretty. Councilwoman Logsdon asked if we could get bottle water to give out. City Manager Collard explained that he and the Mayor had been in touch with the Emergency Operations Center and they are working on it. There is an issue that all the trucks are at a warehouse in San Antonio and because of icy roads they won't get on the road. Councilman Rabren said if the electricity issue hadn't happened we would be in good shape.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said he feels like the well is at the top of the list to be put back into production and talking to Fire Chief Stahl, they would get their water for the Fire Dept. from the well and not through BWA. That would keep the water running through the well. Mayor Shugart said the motor is still there but control panels are gone.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said he would like a message sent tonight and tomorrow morning letting citizens know that we would start working on getting the water pressured up and to close all the valves. City Manager Collard said if people could just start looking for leaks in ditches and houses. We need to ask people to report any leak to city hall. The water in the ground storage tank is going at a pretty good clip and should be full in twelve hours.

City Secretary Williams asked if we are charging late fees and doing cut offs this month. Mayor Pro-Tem said no to late fees and shut offs. City Manager said we had already talked about not changing anything until we have our workshop.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said County Commissioner Linder is trying to get a truck load of water. He will find out all the details tomorrow.

D. Consideration/Action for Mayor to declare a local state of disaster.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh to declare a local state of disaster for 30 days. A second was made by Councilman Rabren. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Adjourn Special Emergency Meeting.

Mayor Shugart adjourned Special Emergency Meeting at 5:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

Roger Shugart, Mayor

Sheila Williams, City Secretary