

**STATE OF TEXAS**

**COUNTY OF BRAZORIA**

**CITY OF BRAZORIA**

The City of Brazoria convened in a Regular Meeting and Budget Workshop on August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with the following to-witt:

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

City Personnel Present:

Mike Collard	City Manager
Sheila Williams	City Secretary
Jacqueline Moore	Investigator
R.C. Stevenson	City Attorney
Duane Stahl	Fire Chief

Others Present:

Marcus Rabren	Citizen
Danny Keen	Citizen
Jesse Knight	Citizen
Becky Vernor	Citizen
Gary Vernor	Citizen
Roy Buchanan	Citizen
Angelia Flores	Citizen
Dustin Weisinger	Citizen
Greg Smith	Citizen

A. Call to order Regular Meeting.

Mayor Shugart called to order the Regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

B. Invocation to be given by Pastor Greg Smith of First Baptist Church, Brazoria and the pledge to the American and Texas flags by all.

Invocation was given by Pastor Greg Smith of First Baptist Church Brazoria and the pledge to the American and Texas flags was led by Councilman Quinty.

C. Consideration/Action to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

Motion was made by Councilman Kersh to approve minutes of the following meetings, Regular Meeting, July 13, 2021, Budget Workshop, July 20, 2021, Special Meeting and Budget Workshop, July 27, 2021. A second was made by Councilwoman Logsdon. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Citizens Communication.

Gary Vernor of 307 Ave F explained his sewer system in Garden Acres when they have big rains won't let them flush the toilet. He explained he pays a sewer bill each month but they can't use it so he has a part time service. When the crews were running PVC to the main he could see the main had cracks and roots growing into the main. He was told it would be fixed. He is still waiting after many years for it to be fixed.

Chase Burgin explained he wanted to introduce himself to everyone and that he is running for JP Position 4, Place 2. He started the Brazoria County Young Republicans and is a social worker. He can see some changes coming to the community and he feels he can make a difference.

Bill Lott announced the passing of Tommy Badders whom was a former Mayor.

E. Consideration/Action to hear report from Michael Darlow with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott L.L.P.

Michael Darlow with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott L.L.P. presented the report for Property Tax collections, Warrant Collections and Bad Debt in Utilities collections. He showed the historical collections along with the current. Last year the total in property taxes not collected were \$39,340.00. He had it broke down by zip code and location.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh thanked Mr. Darlow for the work they do with the city and county.

F. Consideration/Action to approve for Angelina Flores at 206 E. Smith Street various variances and moving two houses on property. Discuss closing easement on property at 206 E. Smith Street Brazoria, TX.

Ms. Flores presented the plan for moving in two houses on the property she owns. She had asked to close an easement but has been told it was an easement with sewer lines running through. City Manager Collard explained she would need it to be re-platted and wind stormed to be in compliance. She would need a variance on one of the houses to be in compliance. She would have to follow the International Building Codes to be in compliance. Mr. Roy Buchanan said he thought she would be grandfathered. City Manager Collard explained not with the new houses being moved in.

Councilwoman Logsdon made a motion to give Preliminary approval depending upon Re-Plat and windstorm and to comply with other inspections required. A second was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Consideration/Action to propose a tax rate to be adopted at a future meeting and schedule public hearing for tax rate and budget on September 7, 2021.

City Manager Collard presented the tax rate options for council to consider. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said he liked the one with no tax increase. He wanted the city to slow down on spending. Councilwoman Logsdon said she hears about problems with sewer or drainage at every council meeting. She feels we need a plan in place and think about the people that want to flush their commodes. We need to take baby steps and that takes money. Gary Vernor said we need to start somewhere. The city didn't plan on what they did in Garden Acres on one side because now that water comes in his back yard. He thinks the city needs to go into the back of Magnolia Gardens and dig a bar ditch big enough to hide an elephant in. They have been there for 40 years and this is the first time they have had these problems. Mayor Pro-Tem explained the City Manager and Mayor got the city approved for a 4.3 million grant for drainage but don't know when we will get the funds. City Manager Collard said the Wastewater grant is 3.2 million and it is dedicated to the wastewater treatment plant. Jesse Knight said he feels people will pay more in taxes if they get something for their money. City Manager Collard said he is trying to fix all the issues he has heard about since he has been here. The way to fix these problems is to have some money to do something with. When he first got here we were trying to fill out the application for the 3.2 million grant. We had nothing on the shelf to apply with, we had to jump through hoops. If this money doesn't do anything more than allow us to have a plan on the shelf so when next year we get a grant offered, then we can slip it right in and be quick on the draw and not miss out, then it is worth it. Mayor Pro-Tem said he could have to fundraisers in the City of Brazoria and make 80 grand. We have a lot of retirees on fixed incomes in our city and we are not the only city with drainage and sewer problems. Motion was made by Councilwoman Logsdon to propose a tax rate of Voter Approval Tax Rate with unused Increment Rate of 0.727008. A second was made by Councilman Lott. Lott, Logsdon and Parker voted aye. Kersh and Quinty voted nay. Motion carried with 3 aye -2 nay.

H. Consideration/Action to consider United Pacific Rail Road request to extend City Street for access to new Brazoria side rail.

City Manager Collard explained Ms. Allen with the railroad presented a design for work on a side rail from Ohio Street to San Bernard River. They would like to extend Ohio Street so they would have an access road. They would need to make modifications for drainage. They would need to raise the manhole and they would install a security gate. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said they would need to get a plan to the drainage district for approval. City Manager Collard explained he is working to get help back on items the city would like.

I. Review of bills paid in July 2021.

Councilman Lott asked why we have to pay for an extra person doing chlorination in the water system. City Manager explained that TCEQ requires you to have two people with a license to do chlorination.

J. City Department Heads Report.

1. Court Department – report in packet
2. Police Department – Investigator Jacqueline Moore gave report in packet for Police and ACO.
3. Public Service Department – City Manager Collard explained the report in packet. Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh asked about fixing water leaks at citizen's homes. City Manager Collard explained they take them according to highest priority.
4. Fire Department – no report
5. BWA Report – Jesse Knight said they have the upgrades to the generators done. They are working on their 5 year Capital plan.
6. Brazoria Library – report in packet
7. City Secretary – Sheila Williams explained the gas bill from the Winter Freeze is Nearly paid off. We will finish paying the \$25,348.80 next month. She told about former Mayor Tommy Badders funeral plans. She explained we need to hire a new Billing Clerk and others in public works.

K. City Managers Report.

City Manager Collard explained the reports in packet on C/O's, Sales Tax, Brazoria County Economic Indicators, TCEQ report, TCEQ violations on water system report, Veterans Day Parade in Freeport.

L. Reports from Mayor, City Council and City Attorney.

Councilman Lott said the budget and taxes is confusing.  
Mayor Pro-Tem Kersh said he thinks we need to read the budget and come back later.  
City Manager Collard said he has some training that has to be done in the short term so when he schedules that then we can schedule the budget workshop. He would like to take a day off somewhere. He has spent a lot of extra days up here.

M. Adjourn Regular Meeting and Call to order Budget Workshop.

Mayor adjourned Regular Meeting at 8:02 and did not call to order a Budget Workshop.

N. Discussion on 20/21 and 21/22 Budget.

O. Adjourn Budget Workshop.

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Roger Shugart, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sheila Williams, City Secretary