MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING TOWN OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

The BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the Town of South Padre Island, Texas held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at Club Padre, 5800 Padre Boulevard, South Padre Island, Texas. Mayor Robert N. Pinkerton, Jr. called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present: Aldermen JoAnn Evans, Kirk Mills, Courtney Hayden, Phillip Money, with Tara Rios-Ybarra arriving at 4:15 p.m.

Town staff members present were Town Attorney Paul Cunningham, City Manager Dewey Cashwell, Police Chief Robert Rodriguez, Public Works Director Scott Fry, Public Works Supervisor Ray Moya, Health Inspector Victor Baldovinos, Public Information Coordinator Jason Moody, Executive Services Coordinator/Customer Relations Manager Minerva Lopez and Assistant City Secretary Susan Hill.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE.

III. PRESENTATION OF THE BEACH FLAG SYSTEM BY CHIEF PETER DAVIS, GALVESTON BEACH PATROL

City Manager Dewey Cashwell introduced Chief Peter Davis from Galveston Island Beach Patrol, who was accompanied with Tony Prior, Operations Supervisor and Sean Miguez, Training Supervisor.

Chief Davis stated that Galveston Island Beach Patrol's Mission Statement was to protect visitors on the beaches at Galveston Island; and public education. He explained that they make sure education is high on the forefront because it is a big part of what they do. A lot of their energy and time goes to preventing accidents, instead of responding to them.

At this time, Galveston Island Beach Patrol covers 33 miles of beach, 70 miles of waterfront and operates under a budget of approximately 1.6 million. When Chief Davis first began this program, they had only 17 life guards. Last year they had 110 life guards and 120 Jr. Lifeguards, stating this program has evolved over a long period of time.

Chief Davis addressed the Flag System that Galveston currently uses. He explained that there are four (4) colors they post, which are:

Green – Calm Yellow – Caution Red – Rough Purple – Venemous Marine Life

Along with the Flag System, signs are posted addressing what the colors represent and is written in English and Spanish. Hotels/motels can buy into the Flag System for \$500.00 which consists of signs, installation of signs, and flags. The hotel will then take responsibility for changing the flags. When there is a change in water condition (flag color change), hotels, motels and businesses are alerted. This information can also be obtained via the website. In addition, on red flag days, jet ski, parasail, Banana boat rentals are prohibited. Chief Davis also explained that there are City Ordinances that are

specifically designed for the protection of visitors on the beach and waterfront, as well as, enforcement of violations. Also mentioned was the placement of more flags and signs in the high density and danger areas.

IV. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Pinkerton adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

SUSAN HILL, ASST. CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED

ROBERT N. PINKERTON, JR., MAYOR