

LOUIS RIGBY
Mayor
JOHN ZEMANEK
Councilmember at Large A
DOTTIE KAMINSKI
Councilmember at Large B
DANNY EARP
Councilmember District 1
CHUCK ENGELKEN
Councilmember District 2



DARYL LEONARD
Councilmember District 3
KRISTIN MARTIN
Councilmember District 4
JAY MARTIN
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember District 5
MIKE CLAUSEN
Councilmember District 6

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SPECIAL AGENDA

Notice is hereby given of a Special Meeting of the La Porte City Council to be held March 24, 2016, beginning at 6:00 PM, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 W. Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items. All agenda items are subject to action.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION** - The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and formulate City Council and staff plans, operations, policies, and/or future projects, including the following:
 - (a) Discussion or other action regarding plans for the upcoming 125th Anniversary Celebration.
3. **COUNCIL COMMENTS** - Regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies - Councilmembers Clausen, J. Martin, K. Martin, Kaminski, Zemanek, Leonard, Engelken, Earp and Mayor Rigby.
4. **ADJOURN**

The City Council reserves the right to meet in a closed session on any agenda item should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of La Porte will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending public meetings. To better serve attendees, requests should be received 24 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact Patrice Fogarty, City Secretary, at 281.470.5019.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that a copy of the March 24, 2016, agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was posted on the City Hall bulletin board and website on March 16, 2016.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrice Fogarty".

Patrice Fogarty, City Secretary

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Agenda Date Requested: March 24, 2016 Appropriation
Requested By: T. Leach Source of Funds:
Department: Administration Account Number:
Report: Resolution: Ordinance: Amount Budgeted:
Other: Amount Requested:
Budgeted Item: YES NO

Attachments :

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

At the February 22, 2016, and March 14, 2016, meeting, City Council discussed plans for the upcoming 125th Anniversary Celebration. One of the components that may be included in the process is a planning committee. The committee can assist staff in identifying events that will be of interest to the community. As staff was discussing the specifics and logistics of the committee, it would be helpful to obtain Council direction/input on several additional policy questions that tie together with the concept of the committee.

The issues for discussion include:

- Overall Scope of the Anniversary Celebrations: This is perhaps one of the most important philosophical decisions related to the event, as the scale will determine what type of resources will ultimately be necessary to plan, staff, and work the event(s). During previous discussions, it has been discussed that there could be several smaller scale events leading up to a large-scale weekend concert event to commemorate the City's anniversary. Under this scenario, there would certainly be more opportunities for a committee to provide both input and assist in logistics of planning the event. However, should the City's scope/responsibility be narrowed to include just a single large scale event and then have a more grass-roots, community driven effort to host small events throughout the year, perhaps a committee for the purposes of planning component pieces of the event is not as necessary. Under any scenario, staff believes that it is important to obtain community input regarding the types of events and activities the community would like to see. Whether that is in the form of a formal committee or a more informal method, such as via social media, this is certainly an aspect of the planning that is critical to help plan a budget for the celebration.
- Scope of Committee Responsibilities: Previous anniversaries had a fairly robust volunteer effort with community members chairing and presumably organizing various facets of the celebrations. There's some components of the event that the City will handle by default, such as the purchase of all products, services; equipment and public safety requirements and deployment; logistics for other equipment necessary for planning an event (ie- barricades, portable restrooms, lighting, etc). As stated in the first bullet above, the scope and reach of the committee will depend on how "big" the vision is for the anniversary celebration.

- What is Our Primary Purpose (Who are we Trying to Reach?): Is the purpose of the anniversary celebration more to focus on hosting events for La Porte residents or are events intended to be larger in reach and more regional in nature? Traditionally, cost recovery has not been a primary consideration during the planning of special events. The philosophy behind this approach is that all City events should be accessible to any La Porte resident that would like to attend. If the primary focus of the event(s) is to host for primarily La Porte residents, staff would continue forward using the current philosophy of no-cost events for all. If the primary focus of events is to generate interest in La Porte from visitors outside the City, it would be useful to discuss Council's desire regarding gate fees, sponsorship efforts, and overall expectations on cost recovery. As was evident during the Jake concert event, the mechanics for a dual cost structure can be more difficult to both market and implement. Staff can make just about any configuration work; the philosophy just needs to be set now so logistics can be planned.

At this time, staff is prepared to take direction from the Council regarding these issues and begin moving forward based on that feedback.

Action Required of Council:

Provide input/direction regarding preferred approach to the 125th Anniversary Celebration.

Approved for City Council Agenda

Corby D. Alexander, City Manager

Date