

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING

On the 17th day of January, 2023, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special meeting at 402 Park Street, Kiva Hut, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM CHECK

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Powell.

Randy Powell Mayor
Rolando Rodriguez Mayor Pro-Tem
Leonard Vasquez
Chris Keeney
Alonso Molina

Others Present: Sid Arismendez, Interim City Manager; Molly Topper, Finance Director/City Secretary/HR Director; Epi Ysassi, Interim City Attorney; (see attached list for guests present)

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriguez led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

3. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPOINTMENT TO TQIC BOARD

Councilman Rodriguez announced the resignation of the following members: Herman Rodriguez, Larry Thormaehlen, Robert Mendoza (deceased), Jerry Nino, Arnulfo Banda, and Frank Garcia. The following persons were nominated to replace them: Manuel Espinoza, Manuel Banda, Jerry Perkins, Summer Garcia, David Trevino and Robbin McCarty. Ronnie Rodriguez is to remain on the Board. Jerry Perkins and Robbin McCarty agreed to serve if appointed. The others will be contacted for interest of serving on the Board.

Mayor Powell motioned, seconded by Councilman Keeney, to appoint the following: Manuel Espinoza, Manuel Banda, Jerry Perkins, Summer Garcia, David Trevino and Robbin McCarty.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina
Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried

4. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON LITTLE LEAGUE CONTRACT FOR 2023 SEASON

After review of the existing agreement between the City of Taft and the Taft Little League, Council recommended some changes and directed City Attorney and City Manager to revise the Agreement. Councilman Keeney motioned, seconded by Councilman Molina to table this item for review during the next regular meeting to be held on January 24, 2023.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina
Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried

5. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON COUNCILMEN INTERESTED IN ATTENDING SAN PATRICIO COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DAY AT THE CAPITOL ON FEBRUARY 22, 2023.

Mayor Powell motioned, seconded by Councilman Rodriguez, that the following members attend the San Patricio County Legislative Day at the Capitol on February 22, 2023: Councilman Leonard Vasquez, Mayor Pro-Tem Rolando Rodriguez, Councilman Al Molina, Interim City Manager Sid Arismendez and Finance Director/City Secretary Molly Topper.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina

Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried

6. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON COUNCILMEMBER’S POLICY FOR REQUESTING INFORMATION

After discussion and consideration, Councilman Keeney motioned, seconded by Councilman Rodriguez, to table this item and authorize the Interim City Attorney, Epi Ysassi, to draft a policy for requesting information by the City Council, as well as, provide a workshop at 6:00 next Tuesday the 24th of January before our regularly scheduled meeting where we will discuss said draft.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina
Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried

7. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON AMENDING ORDINANCE 968, PROVIDING FOR THE CITY MANAGER’S DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Mayor Powell opened the discussion and invited recommendations for changes to the current ordinance. After discussion, Mayor Powell motioned, seconded by Councilman Rodriguez, to adopt Ordinance No. 1102 amending Ordinance No. 968, as stated with the provision for city manager duties and qualifications.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina
Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried.

8. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON SETTING RATE OF PAY FOR INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY, EPI YSASSI

Councilman Rodriguez motioned, seconded by Mayor Powell, to set a rate of pay at \$3500.00 per month for the Interim City Attorney, Epi Ysassi.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Keeney, Powell, Rodriguez, Molina
Noes: None
Absent: None
The motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Rodriguez, motioned, seconded by Councilman Vasquez, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Keeney, Rodriguez, Molina, Powell
Noes: None
Absent: Vasquez
The motion carried

CITY OF TAFT

Randy Powell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Molly Topper, City Secretary