

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 3rd day of February, 2022, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a regular session at 402 Park St., at the Kiva Hut, at 7:45 p.m. with the following members present:

Randy Powell	Mayor
Rolando Rodriguez	Mayor Pro-tem
Lolo Hernandez	Councilman
JoAdrian Vara	Councilman
Leonard Vasquez	Councilman

Others present: Melissa Gonzalez, City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, David Aken, City Attorney and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Executive Session:

1. **Deliberate the Evaluation and Duties of a Public Officer, including Members of the Taft Police Department and Taft City Manager Tex. Gov't Code § 551.074).**
2. **Deliberate the Duties, the Discipline, Reassignment, Promotion, Termination, Duties, of the Taft City Manager (Tex. Gov't Code § 551.074).**

City Manager Gonzalez requested matters concerning her be discussed or deliberated in open session.

Mayor Powell addressed the city council with alleged complaints against City Manager Gonzalez. He stated that prior City Managers have created a liability that have produced lawsuits against the city and expressed that he felt that the city was currently in that position. City Manager Gonzalez expressed her concerns that she had not been afforded the opportunity to know what the complaints were and that she was not given due process. She further explained that she has done her job, given her personal time and money to this community.

The following citizens addressed the council:

Andrew Perez addressed the city council with his concerns on the City Manager not being given the opportunity to know what the complaints were, the Mayor improving the sidewalk in front of his business and that he should step down.

Felipe Rodriguez III also made his comments known that he supported the City Manager and that the Mayor should just let the City Manager know what the complaints were.

Robert Mendoza addressed the council in asking how many complaints there were and why the Mayor singled out only one particular complaint.

Pedro Lopez explained to the council the difference between the Mayor's duties and City Manager form of government.

Mayor Powell stated that he would give the complaints to the City Manager to allow due process and that it would be addressed at the next meeting where he would bring in witnesses. No further action was taken.

#5. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Vara to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

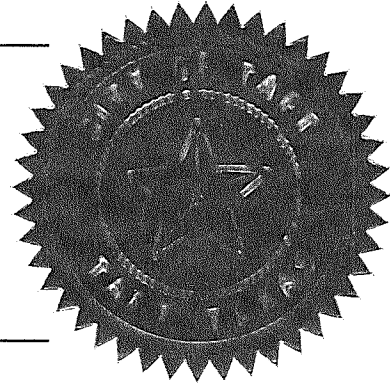
Ayes: Mayor Powell, Councilmen Vara, Vasquez, Hernandez and Rodriguez.

Nays: none

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

Randy Powell
Randy Powell Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda
Jennifer Pineda City Secretary