

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

On the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special emergency session at 402 Park St., at the Kiva Hut, at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor  
Lolo Hernandez Mayor Pro-tem  
Rolando Rodriguez  
JoAdrian Vara  
Leonard Vasquez

Others present: Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

**#1.** There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

### **#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.**

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

### **#3. Consider, discuss and act on operational and logistical measures related to the City's preparedness and response to the State and City's local state of emergency declaration due to public health and safety emergency known as severe winter weather.**

Mayor informed the council one of the storage tanks has a leak and is affecting the water supply to the city. He also informed the council that the water supply received from San Patricio Municipal Water District has decreased due to the winter weather and leaks. Councilman Hernandez contacted the Food Bank to see if we can get bottled water to distribute to the community. The council discussed hiring or appointing someone to handle FEMA paperwork in regards to getting reimbursements due to the winter weather.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion for the Interim City Manager to search for an individual to work on a part time basis to have accountability on all the finances in regards to the severe weather crisis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Discussion continued among the council. Police department gave an update in regards to the recent theft cases that have occurred during the severe winter weather. Fire department let the council know that they are in need of an air compressor for the fire trucks. They also stated that the brush truck is still in need of repairs and is asking if they can get it repaired.

Councilman Hernandez left the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to that the brush truck be turned in to the mechanic and the repairs not to exceed \$15,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez

Nays: None

Absent: Hernandez

The motion carried.

### **#4. Discussion on improving communication between the City of Taft and its residents. (Councilman Vara)**

Councilman Vara addressed the council on this item. Council discussed different options to notify the public if the power or internet goes down.

**#5. Discussion on forming an Emergency Operating Center. (Councilman Vasquez)**

This item will be placed on the agenda as an action item on the next meeting.

**#6. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez

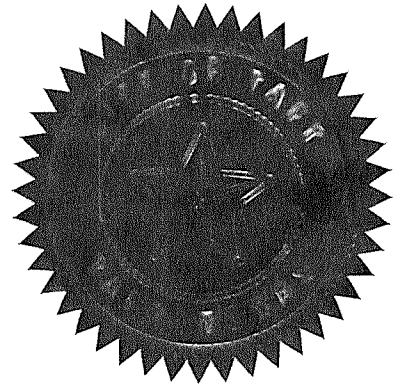
Nays: None

Absent: Hernandez

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

Randy Powell  
Randy Powell Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda  
Jennifer Pineda City Secretary