

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 23rd day of April, 2021, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St., at the Kiva Hut, at 6:30 p.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 6:40 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitor comments.

#4. Proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

Councilman Rodriguez read the proclamation out loud.

#5. Proclamation proclaiming April 2021 Fair Housing Month.

Councilman Vara read the proclamation out loud.

#6. Consider and discuss update regarding the city's financial condition as it relates to bonded debt, past dues, recurring payments, revenues and expenditures.

Mary Alice updated the council on the financial condition and stated that TQIC had made the last payment on the Zipper.

#7. Consider, discuss, and act upon approving the COVID-19 Response Continuity of Government/Operations Plan created by Santos McBain.

Councilman Vara made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to authorize an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 regarding services for road rehabilitation.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to authorize an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 regarding services for road rehabilitation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9 Consider, discuss and take action to approve a license agreement with Taft Little League for the use of the Taft Little League Park.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to motion to table Item #9. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vara.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Public Hearing: Application for a zoning variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a mobile home outside of designated zones or a mobile home park and be placed on 209 Meyer Ave with legal description of John Gibbs Sur ABST 135 PT TR C in Taft, Tx.

Mr. Matthews stated that the mobile home would serve as a pharmacy and would only be on the property until January 31, 2022.

#11. Discuss and take action on whether to approve a rezoning request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a mobile home outside of designated zones or a mobile home park and be placed on 209 Meyer Ave with legal description of John Gibbs Sur ABST 135 PT TR C in Taft, Tx.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve a rezoning request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a mobile home outside of designated zones or a mobile home park and be placed on 209 Meyer Ave as a temporary building until they are operational. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Abstain: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve an expenditure in the amount of \$19,414.49 for repairs to the Taft Volunteer Fire Department 2006 Ford F550.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve an expenditure in the amount of \$19,414.49 for repairs to the Taft Volunteer Fire Department 2006 Ford F550. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor

The motion failed.

#13. Consider, discuss, and take action to reconsider hiring a firm or business to manage the submission of information needed for the severe winter weather storm.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to take no action to reconsider hiring a firm or business to manage the submission of information needed for the severe winter weather storm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#14. Discuss, consider and act to approve \$10,000 support for the Fireworks Extravaganza sponsorship for the Fourth of July event. (Councilmember Vasquez)

Councilman Vara made a motion to approve \$10,000 support for the Fireworks Extravaganza sponsorship for the Fourth of July event. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#15. Discussion on whether or not to remove the old concrete street markers. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Council discussed having a plan on removing the markers and moving them to a better place.

#16. Discuss status of the Kiva Hut and when will it be available to rent. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Council discussed that the work still needed are to finish the shower and the kitchen. They also discussed on meeting with the inspectors and health department.

#17. Discussion on the street lights that need repair. (Councilman Hernandez)

Mayor informed the council that the light that was out on Toland is the responsibility of TxDot and he would be contacting them.

#18. Discussion with Police Chief Trevino about the possibility of an impound lot with details and/or proposal. (Councilman Vara)

Chief Trevino gave an update on this item and Mayor wanted to make sure that the city attorney would be involved in reviewing the proposal.

#19. Discuss monthly reports for police department, animal control, code enforcement, and public works.

Chief Trevino gave an update for the police department, animal control and code enforcement. Joe Sandoval gave the update for public works.

#20. Discuss, consider and act on the operational and logistical measures related to the City's preparedness and response to the federal, state, and city's local state of emergency declarations due to a public health emergency known as Covid-19 pandemic.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to that Councilman Vara recommend documents regards to covid that adhere to policy for the City of Taft. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#21. City Council Requests and Announcements.

Councilman Hernandez just wanted to inform the public that on April 28th the first dose of vaccine would be administered at the Cottonview Terrace.

Councilman Vara wanted an update on the pool at the next meeting.

Councilman Rodriguez wanted to discuss the lighting at Hidalgo Park and the police chief at the next meeting.

#22. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

Randy Powell
Randy Powell Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda
Jennifer Pineda City Secretary