

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 14th day of January, 2020, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a regular session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem arrived @ 6:50 p.m.
Rolando Rodriguez
JoAdrian Vara
Lolo Hernandez

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

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

Jesus Trevino wanted to know what is water bill was for the same time last year and wants know why he gets charged \$47.00 for two toters.

Mr. Alonzo Arce wants to be on the agenda for the water bill and wants to know why does he need to fill an open records request.

Mrs. Elsa Cantu thanked the council for the meter change.

#4. 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 went over the revenues and expenditures with the council.

#5. Consider, discuss and possible action to amend the City of Taft 2020 Holiday Schedule.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to amend the City of Taft 2020 Holiday Schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez

The motion carried.

#6. Discussion with Bureau Veritas to provide clarification on building, electrical, and plumbing inspections. (Mayor Lopez).

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Consider, discuss and possible action to approve an ordinance regarding contractor registration; providing for and adopting a fee schedule; providing for severability, repealer, and an effective date.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table. The motion was seconded by Councilman

Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and possible action to appoint Mr. Randy Powell to the Taft Economic Development Corporation board of directors.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to appoint Mr. Randy Powell to the Taft Economic Development Corporation board of directors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vara.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and possible action to appoint Robert Mendoza to the Taft Quality Improvement Corporation board of directors.

Councilman Vara made a motion to appoint Robert Mendoza to the Taft Quality Improvement Corporation board of directors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and possible action on the Hidalgo Center repairs. (Councilman Vara)

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to have the scope of work brought to city hall by Monday, January 20, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and possible action on curfew for use of kids playgrounds due to vandalism. (Councilman Vasquez)

Councilman Vara made a motion to make an ordinance for changing the curfew from 6 am to 9 pm for all parks. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#12. Discuss, consider and possible action to approve a resolution of the city council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the Taft Fireworks Extravaganza; authorizing the in-kind and financial support and sponsorship of the event by the city; and establishing an effective date. (Councilman Vasquez)

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table until we get final report from last year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vara.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#13. Felipe Rodriguez, President of Pride of Taft, to brief the council of their mission, future plans, and ongoing projects. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Felipe Rodriguez addressed the council and explained what projects they are currently working on.

#14. Discuss the City of Taft website, updates, and responsibilities. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Brandon Cornish addressed the council on this item and updated them on the improvements to the website.

#15. Consider, discuss and possible action to create a Planning & Zoning commission. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve create an ordinance to create the Planning & Zoning commission and for each council member to volunteer an individual to serve. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#16. Discuss with City of Taft legal counsel on the city ETJ and future actions to be considered. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Legal counsel will email the council information on the legislative changes in regards to annexation.

#17. Consider, discuss and possible action regarding the search committee to review any and all applicants for the city manager position. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Mayor explained what has been done so far. Jennifer clarified that she is the only person with access to the applications.

#18. Consider, discuss and possible action to approve a resolution supporting the development and implementation of a comprehensive industrial master plan for San Patricio County, Texas. (Mayor Lopez)

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to disapprove a resolution supporting the development and implementation of a comprehensive industrial master plan for San Patricio County unless the City of Taft has a place at the table and are able to speak with the other cities involved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#19. Consider, discuss and possible action to amend Ordinance No. 999, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas regulating the use of golf carts on a public roadway. (Mayor Lopez)

Councilman Vara made a motion to add utvs as long as it has the same checklist as a golf cart. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez,
Nays: Hernandez
The motion carried.

#20. Consider, discuss and possible action on the four day work week. (Mayor Lopez)

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to employees of the City of Taft change their schedule on Monday, January 20, 2020 to work 5 8s and to allow public works crew to work from 7 am to 4 pm with one individual to work 8 am to 5 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

#21. Discuss the Taft Economic Development Corporation, Taft Quality Improvement Corporation, Pride of Taft, and Taft Housing Authority. (Mayor Lopez)

Council received an update from the Taft EDC, Pride of Taft, and Taft Housing Authority.

#22. Consider, discuss and possible action to approve changes to the maintenance agreement with Kyocera Document Solutions Southwest, LLC.

Councilman Vara made a motion to disagree with the changes to the maintenance agreement and look towards another vendor if necessary. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

#23. Consider, discuss and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 1050, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas establishing a revised rate schedule for water and wastewater services in the City of Taft, Texas.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to table. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

#24. Consider, discuss and possible action to authorize an extension of paid administrative leave for Animal Control Officer Denney.

Councilman Vara made a motion to extend it another month. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Vara, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: Rodriguez
The motion carried.

#25. Discuss monthly reports for animal control, code enforcement, and public works.

Chief Cornish explained the animal control and the code enforcement reports. Joe Sandoval explained the public works report.

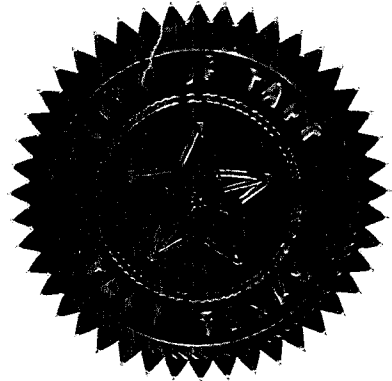
#26. City Council Requests and Announcements:

Councilman Vara would like an update on the Hidalgo center.
Councilman Rodriguez would like a briefing on the police department.

#27. 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, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.



CITY OF TAFT

Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary