

## MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 28<sup>th</sup> 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  
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 6:31 p.m.

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

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

### **#3. Visitors.**

Maria Garcia, 219 W Escobedo, stated that there was burning in the county but the smoke was blowing into her house in the city.

### **#4. Closed/Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.071 consultation with the City Attorney and outside legal counsel to seek legal advice regarding: Civil Action No.: 2:19-CV-58, Marcus E. Adams vs. The City of Taft, Texas, et al, In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division, Honorable Hilda Tagle.**

Councilman Vara made a motion to enter into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Council entered into executive session at 6:37 p.m.

### **#5. Reconvene into regular session.**

Council reconvened at 6:52 p.m.

### **#6. Discussion with Bureau Veritas to provide clarification on building, electrical, and plumbing inspections.**

Mr. Gregory Hallmark apologized for not being at the last meeting and answered questions that the council had.

### **#7. Discuss, consider and act 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 Vara made a motion to table the item. 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 take action to terminate the financial advisory services contract with Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to authorize the staff to send a 30 day notice. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve to engage Tijerina Galvan Lawrence LLC as the city's financial advisor.**

Councilman Vara made a motion to approve to engage Tijerina Galvan Lawrence LLC as the city's financial advisor. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#10. Workshop Item: Staff update on existing condition of streets, any planned improvement projects, and the funding options available.**

Robert Tijerina informed the council of some options available for funding sources.

**#11. Staff update on current Hurricane Harvey related projects in need of repair. (Councilman Vara)**

Council directed staff to do a weekly report for these project.

**#12. Update on the police department operations. (Councilman Rodriguez)**

This item was tabled for the next council meeting.

**#13. City Council Requests and Announcements.**

Councilman Vara wants the water park on the next agenda.

Mayor would like to have a traffic study in the City of Taft.

Councilman Rodriguez wanted to discuss having a forensic audit on the next agenda.

**#14. Adjournment.**

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

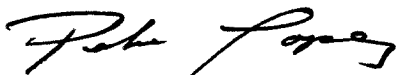
The following votes were polled:

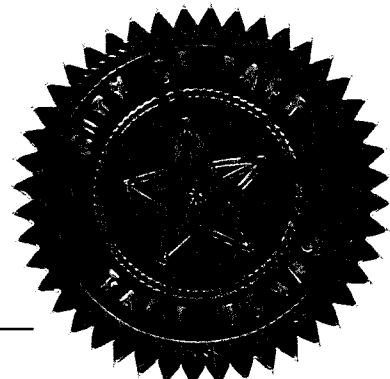
Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

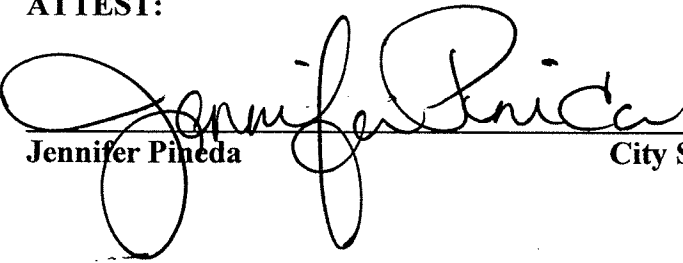




**Pedro Lopez**

**Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
Jennifer Pineda City Secretary