

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 9th day of June, 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	Absent (joined at 7:23 p.m.)

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 Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitor comments.

#4. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the March 18, 2020 emergency meeting minutes and March 20, 2020 emergency meeting minutes.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the March 18, 2020 emergency meeting minutes and March 20, 2020 emergency meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez

The motion carried.

#5. 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.

#6. Update and discussion from Mr. Jeff Snowden with Capex on the water rate study.

This item was tabled.

#7. Briefing and discussion from the Taft Economic Development Corporation. (Councilman Rodriguez)

Ray De Los Santos, SMMP, updated the council on the projects of the Taft EDC.

#8. Discuss, consider and act to approve the final plat drawings for Taft Acres with the legal description of ABST 268 George Clark Survey, Packing House Ave & Industrial, Taft, Texas 78390.

Mayor made a motion to disapprove the final plat due to not complying with Ordinance 544. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Abstain: Rodriguez
Absent: Vasquez
The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1057, an ordinance amending Ordinance 1048, and establishing revised rates for certain building permit and inspection fees and charges.

Councilman Vara made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1057, an ordinance amending Ordinance 1048, and establishing revised rates for certain building permit and inspection fees and charges. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to authorize an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 regarding services for road rehabilitation for the Texas General Land Office Grant.

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

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

#11. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve request for qualifications for grant administration services to administer a Texas General Land Office Grant Contract #20-065-097-C269.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Santos McBain Management and Planning for grant administration services to administer a Texas General Land Office Grant Contract #20-065-097-C269. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#12. Consider, discuss, and take action to amend Resolution 635 by approving Resolution 636 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 Hernandez made a motion to table item #12. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

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

**#13. Discussion of the possibility of hosting the Boll Weevil Festival in the future.
(Councilman Vara)**

Councilman Vara spoke to the council and explained that he was trying to find ways to bring people back to Taft by hosting more festivals.

#14. Discussion on the use of the City of Taft shooting range by the Taft Volunteer Fire Department for training purposes.

Councilman Vasquez spoke to the council on this item and staff was directed to look into the liability if this event were to take place.

#15. Discuss monthly updates for animal control, code enforcement, police department, and public works.

Chief Cornish updated council on the animal control, code enforcement, and police department reports. Joe Sandoval updated the council on the public works report.

#16. 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.

Mayor Lopez spoke to the council about Ordinance 1058.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance 1058. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vara, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#17. City Council Requests and Announcements.

Councilman Vara would like to add discussion of the city park trees and address business complaints procedures.

Councilman Rodriguez would like to have a court briefing and have legal draft wording that a quorum of the council may attend the meetings of other city organizations.

Mayor would like to have the Capex water study.

#18. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez 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.

Pedro Lopez

Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary