

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 13th day of August, 2019, 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
Felipe Rodriguez, III
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

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

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

Tauny Harlien, with CASA, wanted to inform the council that CASA will begin serving San Patricio County beginning September 1, 2019.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the April 9, 2019 regular meeting minutes, May 14, 2019 regular meeting minutes, May 19, 2019 special meeting minutes, and May 28, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the April 9, 2019, May 14, 2019, May 19, and May 28, 2019 regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

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 on the city's financial condition. She stated that the TQIC account was at \$71,351.41 and the streets account was at \$181,757.14. The collection of taxes for the city was at 91.55% for the deannexed area was at 81.20%.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a Joint Election contract between the City and San Patricio County Election Administrator for the County to conduct the City's General Election for Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to action to approve a Joint Election contract between the City and San Patricio County Election Administrator for the County to conduct the City's General Election for Tuesday, November 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1038, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas calling and ordering a general election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 for the purpose of electing one Mayor At-Large, one Alderman for

Ward One and one Alderman for Ward Two.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1038. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1039, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas calling and ordering a special elections to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 for the purpose of adopting a five dollar (\$5.00) monthly fee per utility residential account and a ten dollar (\$10.00) monthly fee per utility commercial account located within the city limits of the City of Taft, Texas, to provide for new streets, street repair, and street maintenance to be imposed for five years.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1039. The motion was seconded by Mayor Lopez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez, Vasquez

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No 1040, an ordinance of the city council of the Taft, Texas authorizing the erection of certain stop signs within the City of Taft, Texas to create four way stop intersections as recommended by the Chief of Police, directing the Chief of Police to erect such signs in accordance with existing ordinances and providing a fine for failure to obey such signs.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No 1040, an ordinance of the city council of the Taft, Texas authorizing the erection of certain stop signs within the City of Taft, Texas to create four way stop intersections as recommended by the Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No. 624 to approve the submission of the grant application for the Local Border Security Program to the Office of the Governor.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No. 624. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No. 625 a resolution of the City of Taft, Texas finding that AEP Texas Inc.'s requested increase to its electric transmission and distribution rates and charges within the city should be denied.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 625. The motion was

seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss and act upon approving a resolution sponsoring and submitting an application to the Texas Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School and Transportation Alternatives Program In support of the City of Taft's SRTS & Connectivity/Accessibility Sidewalk Project and authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents pertaining thereto.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No 626. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#13. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract for professional services between the City of Taft and LNV for street improvement project.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve a contract for professional services between the City of Taft and LNV for street improvement project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract for professional services between the City of Taft and Santos McBain Management and Planning for street improvement project.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#15. Consider, discuss and act to transfer the museum from the City of Taft to the Taft Blackland Museum.

After discussion there was no action on this item.

#16. Consider, discuss and take action on Ordinance No. 856, an ordinance of the city council of the City of Taft, Texas providing for regular and special meetings and for deadlines for posting of agendas for city council meetings of the City of Taft, Texas.

After discussion there was no action on this item.

#17. Consider, discuss and take action on contracting with Bureau Veritas to provide services for building, electrical, and plumbing inspections

After discussion there was no action on this item.

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

Discussion took place on the reports provided to council.

#19. Adjournment.

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

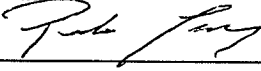
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

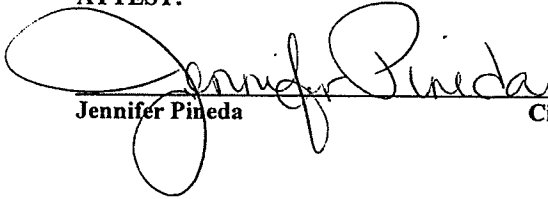


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary