

## MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 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 6:30 p.m.

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

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

**#3. Visitors.**

Mark Faulkner, 756 Fetick, stated that if the city is in the market for water meters his business located at 1110 HWY 181 carries many lines of meters and he can give quotes.

**#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the July 10, 2018 regular meeting minutes, July 24, 2018 regular meeting minutes, August 2, 2018 special meeting minutes, August 14, 2018 regular meeting minutes, August 23, 2018 special meeting minutes, August 28, 2018 regular meeting minutes, September 11, 2018 regular meeting minutes, September 17, 2018 special meeting minutes, October 9, 2018 regular meeting minutes, October 23, 2018 regular meeting minutes, November 13, 2018 regular meeting minutes, November 15, 2018 special meeting minutes, and December 11, 2018 regular meeting minutes.**

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, 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.

**#6. Consider and discuss new meter software for current badger meter system.**

Denise informed the council that the current system is about to expire and that we have had it for 14 years. Mayor suggested that we budget the costs into the next fiscal year's budget.

**#7. Meter presentation by Kamstrup to council.**

Item #7 was tabled.

**#8. Powerpoint presentation by Ashton Minor on Axon body-worn and in-car presentation.**

Ashton Minor did the Powerpoint presentation and answered questions from the council.

**#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract for engineering services with**

**LVN Engineering for the Sidewalk Removal and Replacement Project TXDot Project #0916-28-073.**

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to table item #9. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

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

**#10. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 612, a resolution of the city council of the City of Taft, Texas, expressing (a) support for the application of Taft Housing Development I, LP to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for 2019 competitive nine-percent housing tax credits (TEX GOV'T CODE §2306.6703(a)(4)) and for the rehabilitation of Cottonview Terrace, and existing apartment community aggregating 72-units, which are located in Taft, Texas; and (b) recognition of a commitment of funding assistance by the City of Taft to the project; and (c) recognition that the project contributes more than any other to the city's concerted revitalization efforts; and (d) authorizing such other actions necessary or convenient to carry out this resolution.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table item #10. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

**#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 613 a resolution regarding a finance contract for the purpose of procuring heavy equipment.**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No. 613. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

**#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract with Taft Little League for the use of the Taft Little League Park.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve item #12. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

**#13. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract with Friends of the Taft City Parks for the use of the Hidalgo Park.**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table item #13. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez  
Nays: None  
The motion carried.

**#14. Consider, discuss and act to approve the purchase of two new police vehicles.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table item #14. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

**#15. Consider, discuss and take action on approving the road rehabilitation of 900 blk of Tutt, Fetick, W. Escobedo, Algodon, and Darby.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve item #15. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

**#16. Discuss, consider and act to approve the City of Taft as a sponsor for the Fireworks Extravaganza. (Councilman Vasquez)**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve item #16. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

**#17. Discuss, consider and act, if necessary, to approve the employee job descriptions.**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table item #17. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

**#18. Discuss late fee assessments on all bills. (Councilman Rodriguez)**

Denise stated that sometimes the late fee is unavoidable due to the time frame that we receive the statements and answered questions from the council.

**#19. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a four-way stop at the intersection of Ave C. and Third St. (Councilwoman Riojas)**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve item #19. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:  
Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez  
Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#20. Consider, discuss and act on water service line responsibility at the Taft Housing Authority properties.**

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to table item #20. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#21. Consider, discuss and act on amending 2018/2019 budget for the 2.5% cost of living for the police budget.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to pass item #21. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#22. Discuss overtime for those employees who are on call. (Councilman Hernandez)**

Councilman Hernandez asked questions on how the overtime process works. Denise answered the councilmember's questions.

**#23. Discuss compensation for employees who have obtained certifications. (Councilman Hernandez)**

Councilman Hernandez explained this item and was inquiring if employees receive certification pay.

**#24. Discuss when are we going to implement the 2.5% raise to all employees. (Councilman Hernandez)**

Denise answered Councilman Hernandez's questions on this item.

**#25. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to Section 551.074 Government Code, Vernon's Civil Statutes of Texas, the City Council may go into executive session to discuss personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of an officer or employee, to wit: City Manager Denise Hitt.**

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**#26. Reconvene into Regular Session and consider action, if necessary, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.**

There was no action taken.

**#27. Adjournment.**

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

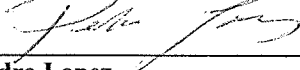
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

**CITY OF TAFT**

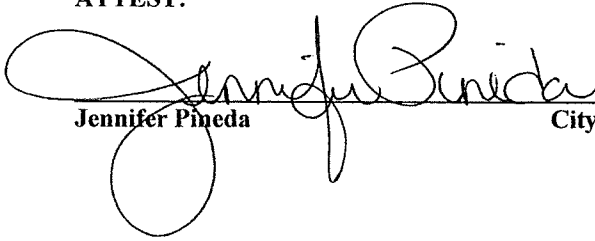
  
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**Pedro Lopez**

**Mayor**



**ATTEST:**

  
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**Jennifer Pineda**

**City Secretary**