

## MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 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 Absent  
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem  
Felipe Rodriguez, III  
Donnie Riojas  
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Alice, 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.**

Sheriff Oscar Rivera just wanted to introduce himself to the council.

**#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 updated the council on the city's financial condition. She stated that the TQIC account was at \$56,282.98 and the streets account was at \$155,161.23. The collection of taxes for the city was at 89.61% for the deannexed area was at 76.97%.

**#5. Consider, discuss and take action on fee increase from PayChex.**

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

**#6. Consider, discuss and act to advertise to go out for bid for a city auditor.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to advertise to go out for bid for a city auditor if we are not under contract. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

**#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an interlocal government contract and agreement with San Patricio County regarding services for Road and Bridge, Pct. 1.**

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve an interlocal government contract and agreement with San Patricio County regarding services for Road and Bridge, Pct. 1. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

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

**#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a onetime 1 day waiver to Ordinance 779 to the Fireworks Extravaganza Committee to allow alcohol to be brought in by the attendees of the Fireworks Extravaganza.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve a onetime 1 day waiver to Ordinance 779 to the Fireworks Extravaganza Committee to allow alcohol to be brought in by the attendees of the Fireworks Extravaganza at the Taft Recreational Park on June 29th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

**#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve raising the rate for plumbing/gas inspection fees from \$75.00 to \$82.00.**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve raising the rate for plumbing/gas inspection fees from \$75.00 to \$82.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

**#10. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1034, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Taft amending the City of Taft code of ordinances appendix A3.001c single-family residential construction plan review and inspection; establishing an effective date; and dealing with related matters.**

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1034, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Taft amending the City of Taft code of ordinances appendix A3.001c single-family residential construction plan review and inspection. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

**#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an ordinance repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 976; prescribing rules, regulations, rates and fees and application process for water, sewer and garbage service.**

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

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

Absent: Mayor  
The motion carried.

**#12. Discuss current truck route ordinance.**

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

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

**#13. Discussion and possible action to replace all yield signs with stop signs in the city limits.**

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to replace all yield signs with regular stop signs in the city limits according to the phases discussed beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, and October 1<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

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

Discussion took place on the reports provided to council.

**#15. 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.**

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

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

The council entered into executive session at 8:08 p.m.

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

The council reconvened into open session at 8:55 p.m.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to increase the city manager's salary to \$73,000 effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

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

**#17. Adjournment.**

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.



**CITY OF TAFT**

**Pedro Lopez**

**Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**Jennifer Rineda**

**City Secretary**