

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 24th day of September, 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, Matthew Longoria, City Attorney, 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.

There were no visitor comments.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a request from Larry Strickland to allow him to place a sign on the corner of Meyers and Hwy 181.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to table to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance No. 1043 to establish a revised rate schedule for solid waste collection, transportation, and disposal services in the City to reflect an increase in the consumer price index and landfill disposal increase to be effective October 1, 2019.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to take action to adopt Ordinance No. 1043. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution 627, a resolution regarding a finance contract with Government Capital Corporation for the purpose of procuring public work vehicle(s).

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to action to approve Resolution 627 with 5 annual payments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution 628, a resolution regarding a

finance contract with Government Capital Corporation for the purpose of procuring a fire truck.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution 628 at a 5 year term. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

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. 1044, an ordinance authorizing the city council of the City of Taft to act as the zoning board of adjustments; providing for changes, amendments, and repealing conflicting provisions of the city's code; providing for hearings and appeals of the zoning board of adjustments; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1044. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to amend Ordinance No 1004 Exhibit A Municipal Court Judicial Fees.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to amend Ordinance No 1004 Exhibit A Municipal Court Judicial Fees. 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 a contract for prosecutorial services with Roxann Cotroneo.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve a contract for prosecutorial services with Roxann Cotroneo with the contract that would fit our budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an engagement letter from Raul Hernandez & Company, P.C.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve an engagement letter from Raul Hernandez & Company, P.C. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No 1045, 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 1045. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez .

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#13. Discuss with attorney what is allowed during public comments item. (Mayor Pro-tem Vasquez)

City Attorney Matthew Longoria informed the council what is allowed during public comments.

#14. Discuss on having the city attorney at future meetings. (Mayor Pro-tem Vasquez)

City Attorney Matthew Longoria discussed this item with the council.

#15. Executive session: Texas Opening Meeting Act-Section 551.074. Personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear compliant against an officer or employee:

A. City Manager employment status

B. All past formal written complaints on City Manager, employee(s) for discussion, evaluation, and action.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Council entered into executive session at 7:12 p.m.

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

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to go into open session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

The council reconvened into regular session at 7:43 p.m.

There was no action taken on item A.

Mayor Lopez read Kayla Deeny's complaint out loud.

Mayor Lopez made a motion to dismiss for insubordination. Legal Counsel Matthew Longoria

stated that the motion cannot be done since it was not placed on the agenda.

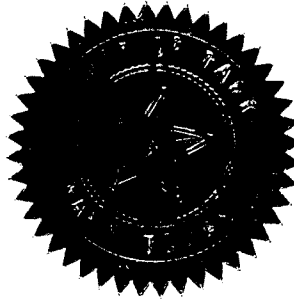
Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to take no action against the written complaint from the city employee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Riojas
Nays: Mayor, Hernandez
The motion carried.

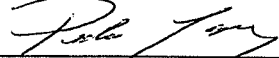
#17. Adjournment.

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

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

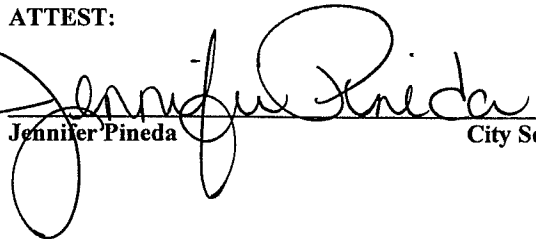


CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda City Secretary