

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

On the 12th day of December 2023, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened for a regular meeting at 230 Green Avenue, Taft, Texas, Taft City Hall at 6:30 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

There being a quorum, Mayor Vasquez called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. CALL ROLL AND ESTABLISH A QUORUM IS PRESENT

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

Others Present: Andrea Gomez, Kandi Hubert, Andrew Quittner, John Landreth

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Vasquez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PRAYER

Rev. Steve Boettcher led the prayer.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Susan Zimmerman from the Blackland Museum. Ms. Zimmerman wanted to thank and bring the council up to date on the museum. The roof is finished and the building has been stabilized. There is also new lighting, they received some grants from corporate sponsors and local organizations. Ms. Zimmerman has invited everyone to visit them, they are there every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am till 4pm.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. POLICE REPORT

Chief Landreth, reported the PD has 21 open cases. Previously crash reports had not been submitted. However, at this time 62 crash investigations have been handled properly. Currently the City of Taft has 4 patrol officers. There are 6 law enforcement officers including Sgt. Easley and Chief. The secretary is doing a good job, as are Animal Control and Code Enforcement. An example, animal Control assisted the County in a big animal cruelty case in Aransas Pass. Code Enforcement has been busy inspecting local infractions, it appears the city will be filing 8 or 9 liens.

B. CITY SECRETARY REPORT

Approval of the minutes for November 14, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

Councilman Keeney motioned to approve the minutes for November 14, 2023 Council meeting.
Seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

Mayor Pro-tem Keeney for against abstain absent
Mayor Vasquez for against abstain absent

The motion carried.

C. FINANCE REPORT

Kandi Hubert informed the Council there was no financial report at this time, the finance clerk had been out with an illness. Mayor Vasquez asked if we were close to figuring out where we were at on the budget, Kandi responded with no.

D. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Gabriel Morales, leaks on Harding and Packing House are repaired. Meters are being read for the upcoming billing. Mayor Vasquez asked Gabriel if all the water leaks that have happened on the roads can be reserviced. Gabriel stated he has a list, it's just as they fix more come up. Mayor Vasquez stated some have been there for months so we need to take care of those. Councilman Garza asked if he figured out the issues with the handheld readers and what became of that. Gabriel stated it was the cables, he purchased 2 so there would be a spare. Councilman Keeney asked how Gabriel was doing on manpower. Gabriel responded with he could use a little more.

E. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Kandi Hubert reported, there were donated Christmas Trees that the Police Department had given away. We have had illness at City Hall that has been unbelievable, we ran City Hall with 3 people last week. If we are a little late in some of the things that have been requested, please be patient. One of our ladies had 2 deaths in her family and there has been covid and flu.

7. PRESENTATION BY SETH GREEN WITH PEACOCK REQUESTING A WORKSPACE EASEMENT.

Seth Green appeared before council for a temporary work space easement to enable them to string tension wires. They are requesting 2-acre site at the intersection of Murray and 631. The project is scheduled for the end of February. Mr. Green stated that Peacock will commence and finish the project in February.

8. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING PEACOCKS WORKSPACE EASEMENT REQUEST.

Councilman Keeney motioned that they approve the Peacocks work easement. Seconded by Councilman Garza.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina for against abstain absent
Councilman Garza for against abstain absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney for against abstain absent
Mayor Vasquez for against abstain absent

The motion carried.

9. PRESENTATION BY CALEB BURSON REGARDING METERS FOR THE CITY'S WATER SUPPLY.

Caleb Burson presented on behalf of Badger meter. He showed the council what the previous City Manager had authorized. He stated that it would eliminate the employees having to drive down the street to collect the meter reading. The meter readings would come through a cellular network, the office would read them remotely and all the residents would be able to access a smart phone app. and look at their

water usage to see what time they used the water and set different alerts for them. After he spoke to the public works director, he didn't think it was the best idea to just replace the electronics on the meter because they are about 15 years old, the public works director suggested going ahead and replacing the entire meter. Once cost-effective way would be to replace the meters as they malfunction.

Kandi stated to the Council, they need to look at all the option and talk to the public works director and get his opinion. Councilman Keeney asked what the amount was paid for the software service, Caleb stated it was about \$15,000 about 10 years ago.

Councilman Garza asked if the port is maintained through Badger or the city, Caleb stated it's serviced by Badger. Caleb stated the parts are all warrantied for a 20-year period and they process all the returns. Councilman Garza asked if a decision is made what is the time frame to complete the job. Caleb stated it would probably take a little less than 6 months.

10. PRESENTATION BY PERFORMANCE SERVICES REGARDING WATER METER REPLACEMENT OPTIONS.

Councilman Molina made a motion to table item number 10 – 11 and 12. Seconded by Councilman Garza.

11. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING METER REPLACEMENT.

Councilman Molina made a motion to table item number 10 – 11 and 12. Seconded by Councilman Garza.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried; the item is tabled.

12. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING PERFORMANCE SERVICES CONTRACT.

Councilman Molina made a motion to table item number 10 – 11 and 12. Seconded by Councilman Garza.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried; the item is tabled.

13. PRESENTATION BY HECTOR CASTANEDA WITH ARDURRA REGARDING RETAMA BRIDGE.

Hector Castaneda with Ardurra stated the public works director called him about the bridge and he went to meet with him. It was found that the bridge had been extended 6 ft. on both sides in 2004. It is unknown how it was extended, but is this portion that is unstable. There is a proposal from structural engineers to do an assessment report on how to repair the extensions. Councilman Garza asked, is the issue where the addition presence. Hector responded yes, the aprons would have to be replaced.

14. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING RETAMA BRIDGE.

Councilman Keeney motioned to send Retama Bridge out for bids, seconded by Councilman Garza.

The following Votes were polled:

- Councilman Molina for against abstain absent
- Councilman Garza for against abstain absent
- Mayor Pro-tem Keeney for against abstain absent
- Mayor Vasquez for against abstain absent

The motion carried.

15. PRESENTATION BY JUSTIN MEYER WITH TRAYLOR REGARDING GRANTS.

Justin Meyer presented on behalf of Traylor and associates, a grant administration and management firm in Texas. After city management changed, he contacted Ms. Kandi because there is currently a project and application in with the city that they were hired to do. The goal and idea of this agenda item is to talk about current projects the city has and upcoming grant opportunities. Currently the Texas General Land office did a CDBG mitigation method of distribution fund. The city received a little bit over 3.2 million dollars. During that process they worked with Ardurra. The application has been submitted, once it goes to contract, they will be able to move forward at the project kick off meeting then they will start the actual design plans. Kandi reached out the other day, the city received a request about the Texas Department Agriculture grant through the 21-22 funding period. Unfortunately, we weren't hired it was another firm. The city was in the process of inputting an application with another firm in the 23-24 cycle, so that is being released right now, a deadline was missed with the previous city manager. Another upcoming opportunity is the 25-26 cycle, the procurement is starting now. They are asking cities and counties to start being proactive now. Since the city did not get the application in for the 23-24 cycle, it puts Taft at the top of the list.

Justin Meyer stated another reason he came down is another grant opportunity, it's called the Texas Resilient Communities Program. That is more of a planning program for the city. With these funds the city can request up to \$300,000 it pays for your planner, your admin with a 0% match as well. Those some great opportunities out right now. Also, Texas Water Development Board is releasing about \$97 million dollars through Flood Infostructure Fund.

Those are some of the applications currently open or will be opening soon.

16. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARING JUSTIN MEYER'S PRESENTATION.

Councilman Keeney motioned to allow the City Manager to go out for bids for the grants from Traylor, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

- Councilman Molina for against abstain absent
- Councilman Garza for against abstain absent
- Mayor Pro-tem Keeney for against abstain absent
- Mayor Vasquez for against abstain absent

The motion carried.

17. REQUEST BY MARCUS ADAMS TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE PAST AND FUTURE MATTERS.

Councilman Keeney stated, "Mr. Mayor I hope you realize that we are opening up a can of worms by letting a citizen on the agenda because if any of my constituents in the future request an audience with the council and asked to be placed on the agenda, I am going to be bound to do it. We will go ahead and hear from Mr. Adams but I believe that belongs under the citizen comment section."

Councilman Keeney stated he is never tired of hearing from Mr. Adams the only issue is if they do it for him, they have to do it for everybody.

Mr. Adams stated, "I'm glad you said that because the same goes for the voting process. You allowed the mayor to vote for 2 full years without a problem. But when it became Mr. Vasquez voting it became a problem."

Councilman Keeney stated he has no issue with the mayor voting on anything except for 1 issue. Mr. Adams asked what issue is that, Councilman Keeney responded the issue that we presented in the meeting.

Mayor Vasquez intervened and addressed Mr. Adams asking if there was any other item to discuss.

Mr. Adams stated, "We have a lot of things we need to worry about when it comes to the city than to worry about someone voting that's allowed to vote. And now we are behind on a lot of things that we need to be caught up on. Not only do we still need our lights in the city for the seniors, not only do we still need the roads fixed, now we have financial problems. All I'm saying is when budgets come out, please read them, digest them because a City Manager will give a budget at the last minute knowing we have to sign it. Demand the budget in advance and know what you're signing. We don't have time for these problems, we all need to grow up, get along and do this the right way. We all need to get along. Let's do what's right. We need to work on these water leaks, putting new property in the ground back the way it was when you fix the water leaks, we need vector control, we are forgetting a lot of things that we used to do. Everyone wants the same thing; we just ask a different way."

Councilman Keeney stated, "Mr. Adams your passion is intoxicating and I really wish more citizens would catch it."

Councilman Molina stated, "Mr. Adams you brought up a voting issue that you said was supposedly consistent in the past and when administration changed that changed. What also changed is when we looked at the last meeting, the city was insuring the Taft Housing Authority. So, do we stay doing the same thing or do we say that's not right? Mr. Adam's stated your absolutely right, I'm on the side of right."

18. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST BY ROBBIN TQIC TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE TAFT PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

Robbin McCarty with the quality improvement incorporation seeking approval to fund equipment for public works. Ms. McCarty then handed it over to the TQIC president Manuel Espinoza. Manuel Espinoza asked the Council for Permission to work with the Public Works supervisor to purchase needed equipment. The equipment they are looking at will be good and vital to the city. Gabriel Morales spoke on the equipment, a Bobcat with attachments. One of the attachments is a sweeper. The sweeper is connected to the bucket itself so there will be no rocks thrown everywhere. Mr. Espinoza asked the council for permission to go forward with the purchase of equipment, no funds will be coming out of the city's budget. Councilman Keeney asked if the equipment will be titled to the City of Taft not through TQIC, Ms. McCarty responded that is correct.

Kandi Hubert stated it is wonderful, they would have to have a public hearing before anything happens and then it's 60 days before it's funded. It's a win/win for the city.

Councilman Keeney motioned to approve TQIC's request to move forward on their purchase, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

19. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION TO APPOINT THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE.

Kandi Hubert stated the Municipal Judge's term runs concurrent with the mayor. It is time to either re-appoint the Judge we have or to appoint a different Judge. Mayor Vasquez stated that at the last meeting they had the City Manager appoint a Judge, but it is the Council's responsibility. Mayor Vasquez also stated that the previous City Manager was to negotiate with the Judge. Kandi Hubert stated she does know this Judge has come in and the city has increased its collections. Andrea Gomez stated that Ricardo Medina printed out a revenue report from July from her start date up until today. The report shows what the revenue was brought in by this Judge.

Councilman Keeney asked if anyone remembers what the revenue was from before, he then stated he remembered and it was 0. Andrea Gomez stated that Ricardo Medina is doing a really good job staying on top of the court. Chief Landreth stated, we finally have a working municipal court. Before we didn't and now, we do. Ricardo Medina presented his revenue reports to the council with detail and explanation on the reports. He also informed the council of the upcoming dockets scheduled.

Councilman Keeney motioned to appoint the current Municipal Judge to another term, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

20. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE.

Andrea Gomez stated this Holiday Schedule was mirrored from previous ones.

Councilman Garza motioned to approve the Holiday Schedule 2024, seconded by Mayor Vasquez.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

21. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION TO AMENED THE PERSONNEL POLICY CHAPTER PAID TIME OFF; ANNUAL LEAVE SECTION D.

Kandi Hubert stated that city has been short staffed in the past. The staff has had to work on Holidays or when they should have been home ill. The policy stated they can carry over 40 hours and can be paid for 40 hours, but nine tenths of these people are losing time because we can't let them off. To lose time because you're not allowed to leave doesn't seem right. I'm asking to allow, due to the circumstances, them to carry over the time off that they have. There have been times from the past where they had to work Holiday's when they were scheduled to be off and haven't been compensated.

Councilman Keeney stated, he doesn't think any of our people should be losing their time.

Chief Landreth, stated that whatever we have over the 40 hours we either have to sell or we lose and he doesn't think that is right. With 4 patrol men they can't afford to have his officers off. The same goes true with some of the city workers.

Councilman Garza motioned for the Policy to be changed, seconded by Councilman Keeney.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

22. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING EMPLOYEE RETENTION MONIES.

Kadi Hubert stated that it appears in the past that a retention bonus had been given to full time and part time employees and the decision should be made by the council. It is not in the personnel policy; however, it is in the budget and it has been passed. Some of the employees have asked when they were going to get their retention payment.

Councilman Keeney stated if it is done it does need to be for everyone, how many employees do we have. Kandi Hubert stated we should have about 30-35 employees.

Councilman Molina asked Kandi if this was in the budget. Ms. Hubert confirmed yes, you did put it in the budget. And I would like to see it in the personnel policy as well.

Councilman Keeney motion to proceed as per the budget with the caveat that all employees get the retention monies, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

23. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING LOCATION SELECTED FOR "GIVE ONE TAKE ONE LIBRARY".

Councilman Garza stated that Stephanie who donated the box reached out and asked where we would be placing the box. She did express interest in the city parks. Councilman Vasquez asked where would there be a safe place to put it, Chief Landreth stated the safest place would be in front of the Police Dept. It can be placed outside the PD for now and when the new library is built, we can then place it in front of the new library. Councilman Keeney also suggested to the council that they make some kind of formal

proclamation thanking Stephanie for all her work and participation in this. Councilman Garza stated she is also open to having her ladies set it up.

Councilman Garza motioned to place Give One Take One Library box outside the Police Dept. until the library is built, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

24. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND NECESSARY ACTION TO REPAIR/REPLACE PACKINGHOUSE RD AT KIRKPATRICK.

Mayor Leonard Vasquez expressed Packing House road is really damaged. Chief commented that the contractors stated they replaced it with pavement but nothing looks to be done. Gabriel Morales stated, they didn't dig on the road they dug on the side. That damage was done by the previous backhoe operator. He did provide an estimate to repair. The council asked Gabriel Morales to obtain bids for the repair or replacement of the Packinghouse Rd at Kirkpatrick.

Councilman Keeney motioned to allow the city to request bids on the packing house road, seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

25. CLOSED SESSION: The City Council will meet in Closed session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- *Section 551.071* (Advice of Counsel)
 - Attorney General Opinion
 - Possible litigation
 - Contract with Prosperity Bank
 - Contract with Attorney

Moved into Closed Session. TIME: 8:16 p.m.

Councilman Molina motioned to move into closed session, seconded by Councilman Keeney.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

26. OPEN SESSION: The City Council will reconvene in Open Session at which the matter(s) discussed in Closed Session may be considered:

- *Section 551.071 (Advice of Counsel)*
 - Attorney General Opinion
 - Possible litigation
 - Contract with Prosperity Bank
 - Contract with Attorney

Council reconvened from Executive Session. TIME: 8:58 p.m.

Councilman Keeney motioned to reconvene, seconded by Councilman Garza.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

- **Attorney General Opinion - No action taken on the Attorney General Opinion.**
- **Possible litigation - No action taken on Possible litigation.**
- **Contract with Prosperity Bank - Councilman Keeney motioned to allow the current City Manager to negotiate the current interest rate with our bank, seconded by Councilman Molina.**

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

- **Contract with Attorney – No action taken on the Contract with Attorney**

27. COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS: COMMENTS MAY BE MADE BY STAFF OR COUNCIL BUT NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.

Councilman Molina – Everyone here has done an excellent job.

Councilman Garza – He appreciates all that the staff does and feels like this council meeting was a productive one.

28. ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR PLACEMENT ON FUTURE AGENDAS.

Mayor Vasquez – none

Councilman Keeney – Would like to see placement of retention monies in the personnel policy.
Wants to see recycle bin locations in a community area, and wants to look to see what the code is for people parking vehicles on the grass.

Councilman Molina – Would like to place a proposal for forensic audit services.

City Manager – Rincon Water is going up on price, need to break even.

29. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST AND/OR UPCOMING EVENTS.

Mayor Vasquez – Next meeting is in January 2024.

Councilman Keeney – Merry Christmas.

Councilman Garza – None

Councilman Molina - None

30. ADJOURN

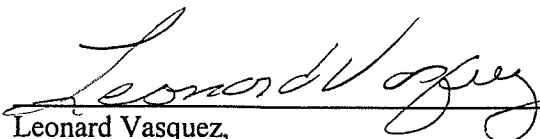
Councilman Keeney motioned to Adjourn, Seconded by Councilman Molina.

The following Votes were polled:

Councilman Molina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Councilman Garza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Pro-tem Keeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT


Leonard Vasquez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Andrea Gomez, City Secretary