

## MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

On the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024, 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
Councilman Rodriguez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

Others Present: Ryan Smith, Thomas Gwosdz, others present listed on sign in sheet.

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

### 4. PRAYER

Councilman Rodriguez recited the prayer.

### 5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no Citizen Comments.

### 6. CONSENT AGENDA

City Secretary Report- Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting on 09/17/2024

Councilman Keeney made a motion to amend and approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on 09/17/2024 to reflect the following changes: 1) Change "Special" to "Regular" and 2) Add "r" to City Manager on Item #7. Councilman Rodriguez seconded the motion.

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
Councilman Rodriguez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Mayor Vasquez	<input type="checkbox"/> for	<input type="checkbox"/> against	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> abstain	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

The motion carried.

7. **Executive Session-** City Council will meet in Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:
- Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint or charge against officer or employee
    - City Secretary
    - Finance Director
  - Texas Government Code § 551.071, consultation with attorney on matter involving pending or contemplated litigation or other matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Thomas A. Gwosdz, City Attorney

Councilman Keeney moved to move into Executive Session, 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
Councilman Rodriguez	<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 Council moved into Executive Session at 6:35 P.M.

8. Open Session- City Council will meet in Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:
  - a. Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint or charge against officer or employee
    - i. City Secretary
    - ii. Finance Director

Councilman Keeney motioned to move into Open Session, 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
Councilman Rodriguez	<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 Council moved back into Open Session at 7:28 P.M.

Councilman Keeney made a motion to accept the City Secretary application of Jessica Gonzalez, effective upon her two weeks' notice from her current job, with a 3 moth probation and evaluation in 6 months. Councilman Rodriguez seconded the motion.

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
Councilman Rodriguez	<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 was carried.

Councilman Keeney motioned to accept the resignation of Finance Director, LeeAnn Goben in lieu of termination for misappropriation of public government funds and to give Ms. Goben until the end of November to return the misappropriated funds to the City. Councilman Molina seconded the motion.

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
Councilman Rodriguez	<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 was carried.

b. Texas Government Code § 551.071, consultation with attorney on matter involving pending or contemplated litigation or other matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Thomas A. Gwosdz, City Attorney

No action taken.

**9. COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Councilman Molina stated that he would like to that the Police Department for their quick action from last night. City Manager Ryan Smith and Mayor Vasquez reminded the public about National Night Out and that set up will be at 5:30 P.M. with the event taking place between 6:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**10. ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR PLACEMENT ON FUTURE AGENDAS.**

Councilman Rodriguez stated that he would like to see the audit be placed on the next agenda.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST AND/OR UPCOMING EVENTS.**

City Manager Smith announced the City Wide Clean Up on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. He also announced the event "Halloween on the Green" will be on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**12. ADJOURN**

Councilman Garza motioned to adjourn the City council meeting, seconded by Councilman Keeney.

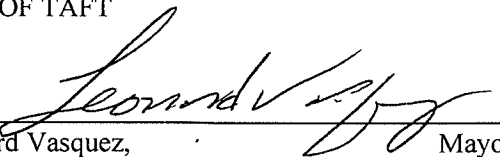
The following votes were polled:

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
Councilman Rodriguez	<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

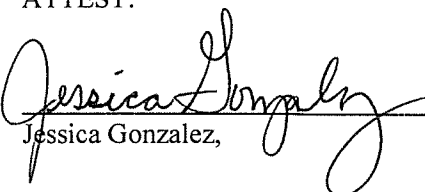
The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Passed and Approved this 19 day of November, 2021.

CITY OF TAFT

  
 Leonard Vasquez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
 Jessica Gonzalez, City Secretary