

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 10th day of January, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a regular session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, Interim City Manager, and Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

Errol Summerlin, of Portland, Texas, would like the council to adopt a resolution to oppose the location of Exxon.

Melanie Schmidt, of Taft, Texas, would like the council to adopt a resolution to discourage Exxon to build on proposed site.

Donna Rosson, of Sinton, Texas, would like the council to oppose the location of Exxon.

Ray De Los Santos, Jr, of SMMP, addressed the council on behalf of the Taft EDC concerning San Patricio Day in Austin, Texas.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2014.

Raul Hernandez, City of Taft external auditor, presented the annual financial report to the council.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action upon appointing a member of the City Council to serve as the City's Mayor Pro Tem for a term of one year pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 22.037.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to appoint Leonard Vasquez to serve as the City's Mayor Pro Tem for a term of one year pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 22.037. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the September 9, 2015 Special Meeting minutes, the September 15, 2015 Special Meeting minutes, and the September 18, 2015 Special Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the September 9, 2015 Special Meeting minutes, the September 15, 2015 Special Meeting minutes, and the September 18, 2015 Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Discuss, consider and act upon replacing Mr. Manuel Banda from the Taft Quality Improvement Corporation Board of Directors.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to replace Mr. Manuel Banda from the TQIC. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Discuss, consider and act upon appointing an individual to the Taft Quality Improvement Corporation Board of Directors.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to appoint Larry Thormaehlen to serve on the TQIC board of directors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to accept and/or deny sealed bids for medical supplies.

Denise let the council know that there was only 1 bidder. Mayor opened the bid and read it out loud.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to accept the bid from AirMed David De Los Santos in the amount of \$750 for medical supplies to the City of Taft. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to designate a design and professional engineering provider for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) 2015 project no. 0916-28-068.

Denise explained the sidewalk project from College St. to City Hall and that the city only received one bid. Mayor opened the bid and read it out loud.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to designate LNV as the design and professional engineering provider. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. 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 gave the update to the council on the city's current financial condition.

#12. Discuss and consider future street repairs.

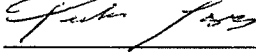
Mayor discussed different scenarios for street repairs and suggested having a town hall meeting after the Austin trip.

#13. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

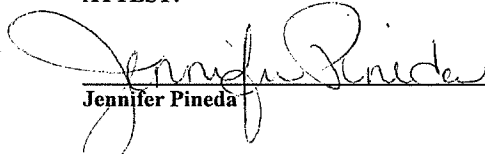


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 24th day of January, 2017, 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	
Rolando Rodriguez		
Donnie Riojas		
Lolo Hernandez		Absent

Others present: Denise Hitt, Interim 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.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Public hearing to discuss construction of a new 200,000 gallon ground storage water tank in the City of Taft.

Mayor Pro Tem opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Denise informed the public the purpose of the project.

Lisa Kelly of SMMP stated that the city would need to have matching funds in the amount between \$40,000 and \$45,000. She also stated that the grant application would be due on February 9, 2017.

Mayor Pro Tem closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution 594 a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution 594 authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund and signed off by Mayor Pedro Lopez. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor, Hernandez

The motion carried.

#6. Discuss, consider and act for funding for Councilman Rodriguez to go to Austin, Texas in regards to San Patricio County day to be held on February 15, 2017, travel February 14, 2017, and return February 15, 2017. Partial funding in regards to lodging, gas and per diem to and from Austin, Texas. (Councilman Rodriguez).

Councilman Rodriguez expressed his interest to attend the meetings in Austin, Texas.

There was no motion made.

#7. Discuss status and latest developments in regards to the placement of individual for the position of city manager for the City of Taft.(Councilman Rodriguez).

Councilman Rodriguez asked to see what the status of this item was.

Jennifer explained to the council that she has been in contact with the Mayor and legal counsel and gave an update with what the Mayor would like to happen at the next meeting.

#8. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Riojas, Mayor

The motion carried.

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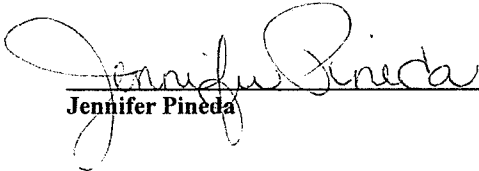


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 16th day of February, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special 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
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, Interim City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, Klaus Mansion, Police Chief, 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.

Guadalupe Martinez, 424 Second St, stated that the material used to fill pot holes on Ave B and Second St. needs black top. He showed wire that was pulled from the material put down. He also stated that he did appreciate the caliche that has been put down.

#4. Consider, discuss and act to approve a contract with Nevell for information technology services for Police Department, Library, City Hall and Accounts Payable.

Richard Garcia with Nevell stated that he did an I.T. assessment and found that the server is outdated. He stated that this agreement would be a lease with an option to upgrade every 3 years. If council approves, his team can start on March 6th.

Councilwoman Hernandez made a motion to approve a contract with Nevell for information technology services. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#5. Consider, discuss and take action on the use of the Kiva Hut by the Congregation of Churches.

Pastor Cliff explained that this would consist of opening up the Kiva Hut to the homeless on cold nights in only mostly extreme conditions.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to continue dialogue with the Congregation of Churches in regards to the Kiva Hut being used for future possible event with the homeless. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the October 13, 2015, Special Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the October 13, 2015, Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. 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 gave the update to the council on the city's financial condition.

#8. Conduct a public hearing related to daytime and nighttime curfew hours for juveniles.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Jennifer gave a background on the ordinance.

Angie Gomez – concerned about kids coming in and out of the city limits during curfew hours.

Dianne Garcia – suggested that the council speak to county officials and get communication going about enforcing curfew in the county area.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 966, an ordinance Readopting Ordinance No. 924 Establishing Juvenile Nighttime and Daytime Curfew Hours within the City of Taft; Providing Definitions, Establishing Parental Responsibility, Defenses to Prosecution, Enforcement Procedures, and Penalties for Violation; Providing a Severability Clause, Effective Date and Expiration Date to Comply with.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 966 with the changes on Section 2 night time hours to state from Sunday through Thursday from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and Friday and Saturday from 12:01 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 595, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the application for grant funding with the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for the transition to a National Incident-Based Reporting System.

Chief Mansion addressed the council and gave a brief background.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution 595, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the application for grant funding with the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for the transition to a National Incident-Based Reporting System. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 596, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the application for grant funding with the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for body-worn cameras for the police department.

Chief Mansion addressed this item with the council.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No 596, a resolution of the City

Council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the application for grant funding with the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor for body-worn cameras for the police department.. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 967, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Taft, Texas establishing a voluntary contribution program and authorizing the City of Taft to collect and distribute voluntary contributions in conformance with state law; establishing procedures for the voluntary contribution program; repealing conflicting ordinances or minute orders of the city; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Denise gave a brief explanation for the bill. Jennifer gave a presentation on how the contribution would work.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 967, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Taft, Texas establishing a voluntary contribution program and authorizing the City of Taft to collect and distribute voluntary contributions in conformance with state law; establishing procedures for the voluntary contribution program; repealing conflicting ordinances or minute orders of the city; and providing for severability and an effective date. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

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

Dense went over the contract with the council. Taft Little League President Ida Martinez addressed the council on their request for a contract.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve a contract with Taft Little League for the use of the Taft Park from February 20, 2017 to June 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and take action on approving the staff to rent equipment for road repair.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#15. Consider, discuss and take action to authorize Mayor Pedro Lopez / Interim City Manager Denise Hitt to renew an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 for the rehabilitation of city streets for the 2017 calendar year.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to authorize Mayor Pedro Lopez and the Taft City Manager to renew an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 for the rehabilitation of city streets for the 2017 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#16. Consider, discuss and take action to authorize Mayor Pedro Lopez / Interim City Manager Denise Hitt to renew an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 1 for the rehabilitation of city streets for the 2017 calendar year.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#17. 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 the following: Discuss and Review Applications submitted for the position of city manager for the City of Taft, Texas.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Riojas

The motion carried.

The council entered into executive session at 8:39 p.m.

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

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to meet Denise Hitt, Lamar Schultz, and Bobby Harrod to be interviewed on March 4th or March 11th beginning at 9 a.m. for the position of city manager. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#19. Adjournment.

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

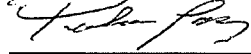
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

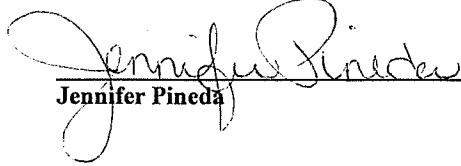


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 4th day of March, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 501 Green Ave, at the City Hall, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. 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 the following: Interview two (2) finalists for the position of city manager for the City of Taft.

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

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

The council entered into executive session at 9:03 a.m.

#4. Reconvene into Regular Session and consider action, if necessary, to appoint a city manager for the City of Taft.

The council reconvened at 11:39 a.m.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to appoint Denise Hitt as the city manager for the City of Taft. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#5. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

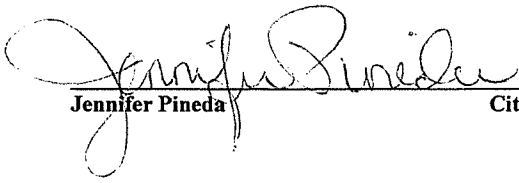


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:


Jennifer Pineda City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 14th day of March, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez	
Donnie Riojas	
Lolo Hernandez	

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, and Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director.

#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.

Mary Griffin, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, informed the council that the Chamber received funding for an led sign.

#4. Report on the activities and future plans of the San Patricio County EDC by Foster Edwards, Executive Director.

Foster Edwards gave an update on their annual report and annual budget. He also stated that the San Patricio County EDC's objectives are recruitment, retention, information and business friendly.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action on the use of the Hidalgo Park by the Congregation of Churches.

Cheryl Brockman, Congregation of Churches member, asked for permission to utilize the Hidalgo Park to serve meals to the homeless beginning in June 2017.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve use of the Hidalgo Park by the Congregation of Churches. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the November 12, 2015, Special Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Hernandez made a motion to approve the November 12, 2015, Special Meeting minutes.. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. 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 financial condition of the city.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve up to \$25,000 for the repair of the Taft Fire Department 1996 KME Kovak pumper and rescue truck.

Denise let the council know the repairs that has been done.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve up to \$25,000 for the repair of the Taft Fire Department 1996 KME Kovak pumper and rescue truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 597 – Concerted Revitalization Plan.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve Resolution No 597. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#10. Consider, discuss and take action on approving the staff to rent equipment for road repair.

Denise advised the crews will start zipping Ave A and Ave B and this equipment will help further the job.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the staff to rent equipment for road repairs with a cap of \$30,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#11. Consider, discuss and act to choose a date for a town hall meeting.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to act to choose April 28, 2017 at 7 p.m for a town hall meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

#12. 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: discussion regarding the salary of City Manager Denise Hitt.

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

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

Council entered into executive session at 8:11 p.m.

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

Council reconvened into regular session at 8:33 p.m.

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


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

#14. Adjournment.

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

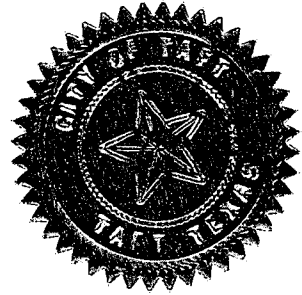
The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

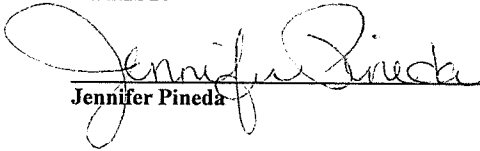


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 19th day of March, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager and Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. 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: discussion regarding the salary of City Manager Denise Hitt.

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

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

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

The council reconvened at 7:10 p.m.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to submit to the city attorney for a clarification on section 7.55 conflict of interest. There was no second. The motion died.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to go with the salary of \$60,000 to include the benefits. he motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#5. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

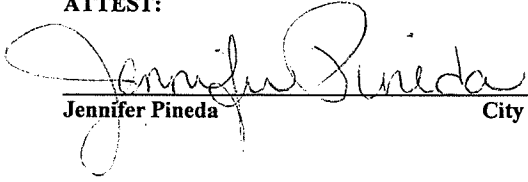


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 11th day of April, 2017, 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	
Rolando Rodriguez		
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 6:31 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the December 8, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes, December 22, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes, January 12, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, February 9, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, February 19, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, February 23, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, and February 28, 2016, Special Meeting minutes.

On the December 22, 2015 minutes item #5 should say "expenditure of funds" not "expenditure fo funds".

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the December 8, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes, December 22, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes, January 12, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, February 9, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, February 19, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, February 23, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, and February 28, 2016, Special Meeting minutes with the correction. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
Absent: Mayor
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, discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance No. 968 to provide for the City Manager's appointment, residency, term of office, absence or disability, power and duties, compensation, salary, disability and retirement benefits, other benefits, bond and annual performance evaluation.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 968. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 598 a resolution expressing the full support and continued cooperation for the partnerships, incentives, investments and job-creating strategies that will diversify the Coastal Bend economy, sustain the economic engines driving these communities, protect and enhance the quality of life and environment, instill community pride and solidarity of spirit and achieve career goals through expansion of academic and job opportunities.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to adopt Resolution No 598 a resolution expressing the full support

and continued cooperation for the partnerships, incentives, investments and job-creating strategies that will diversify the Coastal Bend economy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve or reject proposals for depository of municipal funds.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to reject the proposal for depository of municipal funds from Wells Fargo. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#9. Executive session:

- **Pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney to seek legal advice concerning the claim of James Easley for overtime pay .**
- **Pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A. Government Code , Section 551.074, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, dismissal, or termination of employment of the Chief of Police**
- **Pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.071, to consult with and seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding the Chief of Police's employment contract**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table to April 25, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

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

There was no action on this item.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to appoint Mary Alice Sandoval to the City of Taft EDC Board of Directors.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to appoint Mary Alice Sandoval to the City of Taft EDC Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve purchase of an Animal Control vehicle.

Denise informed the council that the animal control vehicle truck is between \$3,000 and \$5,000 to fix.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the purchase of an animal control vehicle. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

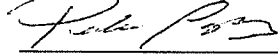
The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
Absent: Mayor
The motion carried.

#13. Adjournment.

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

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

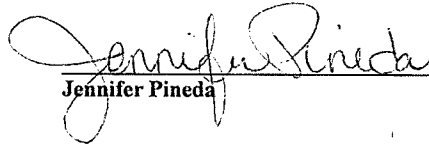
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 25th day of April, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez	
Donnie Riojas	Absent
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 Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Executive session:

1. **Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 to wit:**
 - a. **the claim of James Easley for overtime pay.**
 - b. **the Chief of Police's employment contract.**
2. **Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal and/or to hear a complaint or charge about Chief of Police Mansion. (Chief Mansion may request that this personnel matter be discussed and deliberated in open session.)**

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Riojas

The motion carried.

The council entered into executive session at 6:32 p.m.

Councilman Vasquez left the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

#5. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened into regular session at 7:09 p.m.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to for no action on item #1 (a) and (b). The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Riojas, Vasquez

The motion carried.

#6. Consider and discuss City Ordinance 957, an ordinance adopting a new city nuisance abatement ordinance to protect the public's health, safety and welfare.

Council suggested rewording this ordinance to accommodate the elderly and the sick and then bring it back to council for discussion and action.

#7. Consider and discuss the conditions at the Taft Memorial Park Cemetery.

Council suggested staff send out a notice to the owner to make them aware of resident's complaints and maybe try to set up a meeting to discuss this further.

#8. Consider and discuss future road repairs.


Denise let the council know that more material would be delivered within the next 2 days. Council discussed the possibility of hiring part time help to help further the work.

#9. Adjournment.

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

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

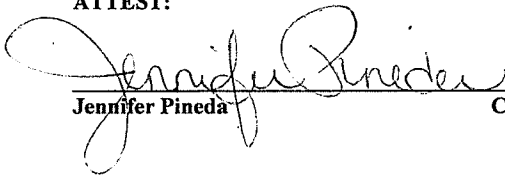
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 9th day of May, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
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.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

Lupe Martinez, of 424 Second St, stated he would like an update on Ave A and Ave B. and would like the public works crew to water the streets more often.

Sylvia Chapa, of 2225 Carolyn Drive of Corpus Christi, Texas, stated she filed a formal complaint against Donnie Sue Riojas and served to Mayor Lopez and stated that he serves on the board for the Taft Public Housing.

#4. Proclamation Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to table this item for the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. Consider and discuss forming a Welcome/Code Enforcement Committee to assist new residents.

Pastor Cliff addressed the council on this item. He stated he would like the council to consider a citizen committee to welcome new residents and inform them of city ordinances and also have the committee research grants for beautification projects.

#6. Consider and discuss waiving the permit fee for non-profit groups that build ramps for the handicapped.

Pastor Cliff informed the council that he would like the council to consider waiving the permit fee for non-profit groups building ramps for the handicapped. He stated that these organizations usually get the material and labor donated.

#7. Consider, discuss and act to approve an interlocal government contract and agreement with San Patricio County regarding services for Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1.

Denise informed the council that this is a standard agreement that is approved every year.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve an interlocal government contract and agreement with San Patricio County regarding services for Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

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

#8. Consider, discuss and act to approve Ordinance No. 969, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas, providing findings of fact; providing for the issuance and revocation of certificates of occupancy; providing certain fees; providing for appeal; requiring certain recordkeeping; providing penalty; disclaiming certain liability; providing severability, effective date, repeal of conflicts, and proper notice and meeting.

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

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

#9. Consider, discuss and act to approve Ordinance 970, an ordinance adopting a new city nuisance abatement ordinance to protect the public's health, safety and welfare; defining public nuisances; establishing a compliance process as provided by the Texas Health and Safety Code; providing for assessment of expenses and liens; defining prohibited acts; providing enforcement, penalties and remedies; adopting the authorized citizens collection station policies and fees and providing administrative provisions, providing for a severability clause and an effective date.

Denise informed the council that the days of operation would change from Tuesdays and Thursdays to Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 970. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#10. 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 first payment on the Zipper was made:

#11. Public hearing to discuss construction of shared-use paths that connect community destinations and provide safe routes for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The mayor opened the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.
Denise explained the shared use paths being considered.
Councilwoman Riojas stated she would like to see it also on Ave C from Hwy 181 to the housing authority.
The mayor closed the public hearing at 7:32 p.m.

#12. Consider and act to approve Resolution No 599 to approve submission of nomination form to the TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Program.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution No 599 to approve submission of nomination form to the TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Program. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#13. Consider, discuss, and act to establish Wednesday as the official day for sanitation pickup for all residential utility accounts beginning on June 1, 2017.

Denise explained that under the proposed scheduled there will be two trucks out picking up garbage at once.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to establish Wednesday as the official day for sanitation pickup for all residential utility accounts beginning on June 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

Before the vote Councilman Rodriguez stated that he would like to amend his motion to include a trial period of six months.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to withdraw his original motion and make a motion to establish Wednesday as the official day for sanitation pickup for all residential utility accounts beginning on June 1, 2017 for a six months trial basis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#14. Consider, discuss, and act to approve the financing of a 2016 Dodge Ram Pro at Taggart Motors, through emergency financing due to health and safety conditions within the city, with Prosperity Bank in the amount of \$14,850.00 with a 4-year financing agreement and giving the City Manager the authority to sign contract documents with Taggart Motors and Prosperity Bank.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the financing of a 2016 Dodge Ram Pro at Taggart Motors, through emergency financing due to health and safety conditions within the city, with Prosperity Bank in the amount of \$14,850.00 with a 4-year financing agreement and giving the City Manager the authority to sign contract documents with Taggart Motors and Prosperity Bank. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#15. Executive session:

1. **Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 to wit:**
 - **the claim of James Easley for overtime pay.**
2. **Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal and/or to hear a complaint or charge about Chief of Police**

Mansion. (Chief Mansion may request that this personnel matter be discussed and deliberated in open session.)

Councilman Hernandez 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.

The council entered into executive session at 7:45 p.m.

#16. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened into regular session at 8:24 p.m.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table item #1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to keep Mansion on administrative leave for 2 weeks. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

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 Hernandez.

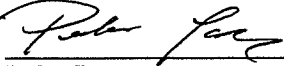
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

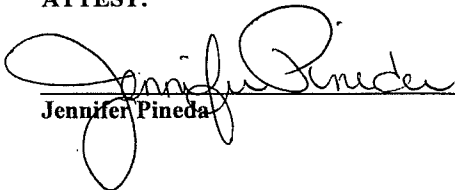
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

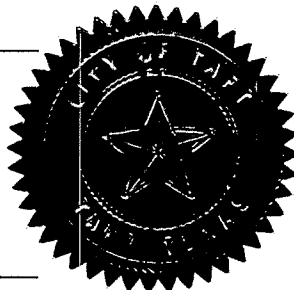
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 23rd day of May, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
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 6:31 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

Andrew Perez, 746 Tutt Ave, complained about issues on the street repairs. Stated that no action has been taken and also upset about the visitors item being possibly removed.

#4. Proclamation Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month.

President of the Latin Ladies Motorcycle Club Gypsie thanked the council for the proclamation.

Council read the proclamation out loud.

The council moved to Item #13.

#13. Consider and discuss removing the visitors item off any and all future agendas. (Councilman Rodriguez through Mayor Lopez)

Councilman Rodriguez stated that after what happened at the last council meeting he wrote a letter to the mayor. At this time he read the letter out loud.

After discussion the council moved back to Item #5.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the March 8, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, March 22, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, April 12, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, May 2, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, May 10, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, and May 31, 2016, Special Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the March 8, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, March 22, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, April 12, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, May 2, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, May 10, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, and May 31, 2016, Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a four way stop at the corner of McIntyre and Park St.

Cheryl Brockman, from the Presbyterian Church, stated cars tend to hit high speeds from Gregory St. to College St. and a stop sign will help the problem.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve a four way stop at the corner of McIntyre and Park St. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to allow the Taft Volunteer Fire Department to purchase jaws of life.

Assistant Fire Chief Amy Garcia informed the council that the jaws of life are over 22 years old.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to allow the Taft Volunteer Fire Department to purchase jaws of life in the amount of \$26,164. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and act on Taft Housing Authority to waive the City's ad valorem taxes in accordance with the payment in lieu of taxes program.

Taft Housing Authority Board Member Dina Gonzales informed the council that the board would like to donate the money to the Boys and Girls Club.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion that the city's ad valorem taxes be waived in regards to the Taft Housing Authority in accordance with the payment in lieu of taxes program. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Lopez, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

Abstain: Riojas

The motion carried.

#9. Consider and discuss presentation from Public Works regarding (1) road repairs, (2) park maintenance, (3) mowing, (4) basic clean-up.

Joe Sandoval read the list of items that have had work done.

#10. Consider, discuss and act to approve Ordinance No. 969, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas, providing findings of fact; providing for the issuance and revocation of certificates of occupancy; providing certain fees; providing for appeal; requiring certain recordkeeping; providing penalty; disclaiming certain liability; providing severability, effective date, repeal of conflicts, and proper notice and meeting.

Jennifer pointed out the changes in the ordinance.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 969. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No. 600 a resolution of the City of Taft, Texas finding that AEP Texas Inc.'s application to amend its distribution cost

recovery factors to increase distribution rates within the city should be denied; finding that the city's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 600. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve or reject proposals for depository of municipal funds.

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

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

#14. Consider, discuss and act on J. Carrol Weaver providing road improvement services.

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

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

#15. Executive session:

1. **Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 to wit: a. the Chief of Police's employment contract.**
2. **Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal and/or to hear a complaint or charge about Chief of Police Mansion. (Chief Mansion may request that this personnel matter be discussed and deliberated in open session.)**
3. **Pursuant to Government Code Section 551.072, the City Council will meet in closed session to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, to wit: possible future sites for City Hall.**

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

The following votes were polled:

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

The council entered into executive session at 7:40 p.m.

#16. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

In regards to Item #1:
Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

In regards to Item #2:
Councilman Hernandez made a motion to extend to June 30th with administrative leave pay for Chief Mansion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

In regards to Item #3:
Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to begin research on the possibilities of utilizing the Wells Fargo as the city hall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

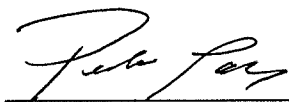
The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

#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.

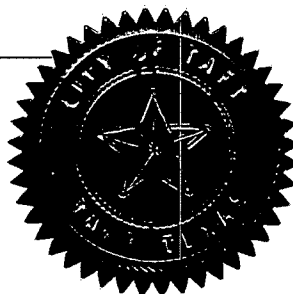
The following votes were polled:
Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Mayor, Vasquez, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

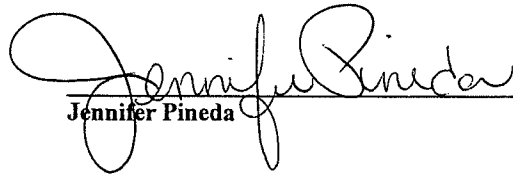


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer Pineda". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J".

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 13th day of June, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Griffin, Librarian, Ida Martinez, Utility Clerk, 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.

There were no visitors.

#4. Proclamation presented to the First United Methodist Church.

The council read the proclamation out loud and presented it to Pastor Cliff Krcha.

#5. Certificate of Appreciation presentation to Esmeralda Gonzales.

Council read the certificate of appreciation out loud and presented it to Esmeralda Gonzales.

#6. Mary Griffin, Librarian, to address the Council on behalf of the upcoming 90th Birthday Celebration for the Taft Public Library and the electronic digital sign to be installed on the corner of Hwy 181 and Green Ave.

Mary informed the council on the upcoming 90th birthday celebration and updated them on the digital sign.

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

Council discussed the city doing a thorough cleaning and fixing up before turning it over to the Little League.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve a contract with Taft Little League for the use of the Taft Little League Park until December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the June 14, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, June 18, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, and June 24, 2016, Special Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the June 14, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, June 18, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, and June 24, 2016, Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve or reject proposals for depository of municipal funds.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider and act upon selecting financing for the City's windstorm insurance and authorizing the execution of documents related thereto.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to select the City's windstorm insurance with Victor O Schinner and Company, Inc. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider and discuss update regarding the city's financial condition as it relates to bonded debt, past dues, recurring payments, revenues and expenditures.

Mary updated the council on the city's financial condition and answered questions that the council had.

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to amend the budget for FY 2016-2017.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table this item to reflect at the next council meeting to be held on June 27th to reflect the attached detailed where the money will be moved from what departments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#13. Executive session:

Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 to wit:

- **the claim of James Easley for overtime pay.**

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

The council entered executive session at 7:19 p.m.

#14. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion for no action. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#15. 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, Lopez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

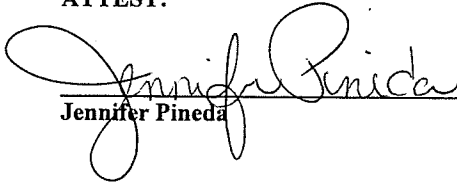
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 23rd day of June, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez Absent
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 9:14 a.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Executive session:

Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal and/or to hear a complaint or charge about Chief of Police Mansion.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

Council entered into executive session at 9:16 a.m.

Councilman Rodriguez entered the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

#4. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to reactivate Chief Mansion and rescind the contract. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

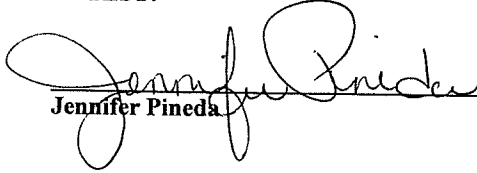


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 11th day of July, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
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 6:31 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

At this time Mayor moved to Item #9.

#9. 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 of the city's current financial condition. Mayor asked questions and calculated how much we would be in the positive at the end of the year.

Mayor went back to Item #3.

#3. Visitors.

Ruben Lopez, 733 Retama, stated that he received a certified letter in regards to a code violation involving his travel trailer. He plugged in the travel trailer to get the refrigerator started for a camping trip. He stated that he thinks the ordinance should be revisited and given a 72 hr. window before sending out a certified letter.

Guadalupe Martinez, 424 Second St, thanked the council for paving Ave A and Ave B through a letter written by Mr. Martinez and read aloud by Councilwoman Riojas.

Ray Moreno, Jr, 108 Juarez, stated he was trying to build a small carport and his project was stopped. He stated that he feels the process to go before the planning and zoning committee seems to be long and would like to know if there is any way to speed up the process.

#4. Recognition of the Taft Little League Minor Softball Division Team.

The council read the proclamation out loud and resented certificates and the proclamation to the team members and coaches.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the hosting of a Color Run in the City of Taft on August 11, 2017.

LeeAnn Goben addressed the council on this item and gave specifics of the route.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the hosting of a Color Run in the City of Taft on August 11, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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 No 601 a resolution by the city council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing a contract for bank depository services between the City of Taft and Prosperity Bank.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No 601 for bank services between the City of Taft and Prosperity Bank. 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 or reject bids for the sale of 2 surplus ambulances.

There was only 1 bid received and mayor read it out loud.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the bid by Hidalgo County Emergency Services in the amount of \$10000 for the sale of 2 surplus ambulances. 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 and act upon selecting financing for the City's windstorm insurance and authorizing the execution of documents related thereto.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the financing for the City's windstorm insurance with Afco Premium Credit LLC. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10 Consider, discuss and take action to amend the budget for FY 2016-2017.

Mary Alice discussed the amendments with the council.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to amend the budget for FY 2016-2017 in the amount of \$65,532.05. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: None

Nays: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

The motion carried.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table Item #10. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve current and new members to the Pride of Taft.

Denise stated that there are ten members are needed and gave the council a list of interested

persons to be on the board. The names on the list were Sylvia Rodriguez, Dena Gonzales, Patricia Martinez, Felipe Rodriguez, Jason Martinez, Linda Cisneros, and Denise Hitt. Joe Sandoval was also on the list but as a non-voting member.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the current and new members to the Pride of Taft. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

#12. Consider, discuss and take action on funding for: (a) TML registration fee for convention to be held in October 2017 in Houston and (b) if budget permits, funding for hotel and travel to and from Houston, TX respectively. (Councilman Rodriguez).

Councilman Rodriguez stated that he would like to see what the council could do to allow council members to attend the convention.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to allow Ronnie to attend. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

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

#13. Executive session: Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Taft City Council will consult in closed session with its attorney(s) to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 to wit:
a. legal issues involving the city's financial audit agreement with Raul Hernandez & Company, P. C.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table this item to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#14. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

There was no action on this item.

#15. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

Pedro Lopez

Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 8th day of August, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, 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.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

Ofelia Pena, 402 E. Elm, stated she owned a lot on Gregory St and wanted permission to be able to park a trailer and lawn mower on the lot. The lot does not have an improved surface.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the July 12, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, August 9, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, August 23, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, August 27, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, September 6, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, September 10, Special Meeting minutes, September 13, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, September 27, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, October 11, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, October 29, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, November 18, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes, December 13, 2016, Special Meeting minutes, and December 27, 2016, Special Meeting minutes.

There was a correction to item #14 on the July 12, 2016 minutes. It states that Councilman Hernandez voted and he was absent.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the minutes that were presented in item #4. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. Public Hearing: Application for a variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a carport on the driveway 19 feet from the street at 108 Juarez St, Taft, TX., with legal description LT 6 BLK 8 TAFT – 1ST Hidalgo.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:41 p.m.

Ray Moreno stated that he was asking for permission to place a carport on the driveway he has at 108 Juarez. He stated that the carport would be in line with his neighbor's fence. He also stated that it is not going to be enclosed.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:52 p.m.

#6. Discuss and take action on whether to approve a variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a carport on the driveway 19 feet from the street at 108 Juarez St, Taft, TX., with legal description LT 6 BLK 8 TAFT – 1ST Hidalgo.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve a variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a carport on the driveway 19 feet from the street at 108 Juarez St, Taft, TX.,

with legal description LT 6 BLK 8 TAFT – 1ST Hidalgo. 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 a Joint Election contract between the City and San Patricio County Election Administrator for the County to conduct the City's General Election for Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve a Joint Election contract between the City and San Patricio County for November 7th. 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. 971, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas calling and ordering a general election to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 for the purpose of electing one Mayor At-Large, one Alderman for Ward One and one Alderman for Ward Two; authorizing the execution of a joint election contract with San Patricio County for election services; establishing Saturday, July 22, 2017, as the first day to file for a place on the official ballot and Monday, August 21, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. central standard time as being the last day to file for a place on the ballot; directing the San Patricio County Election Administrator and/or City Secretary to prepare the official ballot form; adopting a voting system for use in the general election on November 7, 2017, and for early voting by personal appearance beginning October 23, 2017 and ending November 3, 2017, which includes two twelve-hour days of voting as required by state law; ordering publication and posting of notice for the general election; appointing an early voting clerk; providing for early voting dates, times, and polling places; providing for early voting by mail; providing for appointment of a presiding judge, alternate presiding judge and clerks; creating an early voting ballot board; providing for the general election day polling places; providing for canvassing of the general election results; providing a repealing and severability clause; providing an effective date; and ordaining other related matters.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 971. 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 approve Ordinance No. 972, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas calling and ordering a special election to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 for the purpose of the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Taft at the rate of one-quarter of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets; authorizing the execution of a joint election contract with San Patricio County for election services; directing the San Patricio County Election Administrator and/or City Secretary to prepare the official ballot form; adopting a voting system for use in the special election on November 7, 2017, and for early voting by personal appearance beginning October 23, 2017 and ending November 3, 2017, which includes two twelve-hour days of voting as required by state law; ordering publication and posting of notice for the special election; appointing an early voting clerk; providing for early voting dates, times, and polling places; providing for early voting by mail; providing for appointment of a presiding judge, alternate presiding judge and clerks; creating an early voting ballot board; providing for the special election day polling places; providing for

canvassing of the special election results; providing a repealing and severability clause; providing an effective date; and ordaining other related matters.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 972. 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 Ordinance No 973, an ordinance electing for the city to make current service and prior service contributions to the city's account in the benefit accumulation fund of the Texas Municipal Retirement System at the actuarially determined rate of total employee compensation.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 973. 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 Ordinance No. 974, an ordinance of the City of Taft revising community center rates and rules and providing an effective date.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table this item. 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 975, an ordinance of the City of Taft repealing Ordinance No. 895, adopting a revised city personnel policy; abolishing previously adopted provisions in conflict therewith; providing for severability and an effective date.

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

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

#13. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

Pedro Lopez
Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda
Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 18th day of August, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor Absent
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, Joe Sandoval, Public Works Director, Mary Griffin, Librarian, Chief Mansion, Chief of Police, Carmel Herrera, Municipal Court Judge, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Consider, discuss and presentation on the City's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

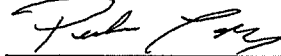
Denise started off by explaining the first two pages of explanations. Council discussed animal control/code enforcer department with Chief Mansion. Denise explained the increase to fund 20-5300 is due to the need to fix the ground storage tank. Judge Herrera and Denise spoke to the council on the decision to hold court every other month and the impact it has on the budget. Chief Mansion stated he would like to see money budgeted for cars and overtime.

#4. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Hernandez 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.

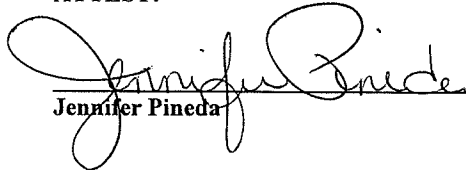
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 22nd day of August, 2017, 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	Absent
Rolando Rodriguez		
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 6:39 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2015.

Raul Hernandez addressed the council and stated that this audit is an unqualified audit. He went over some highlights and answered questions from the council.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2015. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez, Mayor

The motion carried.

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

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez, Mayor

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an engagement letter from S. Noel Snedeker, II, CPA.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve an engagement letter from S. Noel Snedeker, II, CPA. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez, Mayor

The motion carried.

Council went on to item #8.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the purchase of tires for the Taft Volunteer Fire Department brush truck.

Assistant Fire Chief Amy Garcia gave an update on the conditions of the tires and need for new tires.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the purchase of tires for the Taft Volunteer Fire Department brush truck from Ro-Jos at the cost of \$5,329.80. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez, Mayor

The motion carried.

Council went back to item #7.

#7. 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 current financial condition. She stated that the percentage collected in city taxes was 90.69% and the deannexed area was 78.08%. Mary Alice also stated that the debt to Allied Waste would be paid off in either February or March 2018. She answered questions from the council.

Councilman Vasquez entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve to pay a portion of Part B Medicare for those employees choosing to move to Medicare Benefits.

Denise explained that come employees would be going to Medicare and off of the city insurance. She stated that if the council chooses to pay for the Part B Medicare it would cost about \$140 a month.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve to pay a portion of Part B Medicare for those employees choosing to move to Medicare Benefits in the amount of \$140. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

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 976, an ordinance repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 952; prescribing rules, regulations, rates and fees and application process for water, sewer and garbage service; providing penalties for non-payment of utility bills; providing for disconnection of service for non-payment and related fees; establishing fees for unauthorized use of water; establishing penalties for tampering with or damage to city equipment; identifying rates and fees for water and sewer services, taps, permits and inspections; providing additional rules and regulations, severance, repeal of conflicting ordinances, and an effective date.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No 976, an ordinance repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 952. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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 Ordinance No. 977, an ordinance amending Ordinance 884, and establishing revised rates for certain building permit and inspection fees and charges; listing fees to be levied for building, electrical and plumbing permits and inspections; repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith; providing a savings and severability clause; providing for penalties for violation; providing for a publication clause and providing for an effective date.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to table this item #11 to give council time to review this and place on next city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#12. Executive session: Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Taft will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 this chapter, to include the following matters: Discussion regarding a demand letter presented on behalf of Chief Mansion.

The council entered into executive session at 8:00 p.m.

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

The council reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

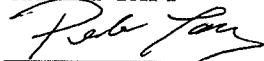
There was no action on this item.

#14. Adjournment.

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

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

CITY OF TAFT

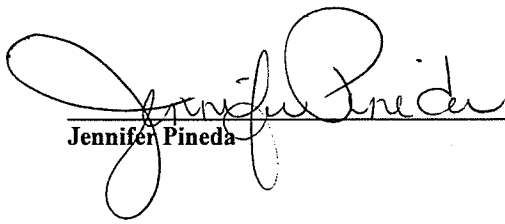


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:


Jennifer Pineda City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

On the 29th day of August, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special emergency session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
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 6:01 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Consider and act upon the proposed tax rate and take record vote.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to adopt proposed tax rate of \$0.813376. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#4. Update from AEP representative on storm damage to electricity.

AEP representative Dennis O'Dell stated that it is going to be a process and that their goal is to be at 95% by Saturday. He also stated that it could be six to eight weeks before we are at 100%.

#5. Consider, discuss and act on emergency purchases or decisions.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve a curfew from 10 p.m.- 6 a.m. for 2 weeks with a condition of being able to renew. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to waive permit fees for residential and commercial for eight weeks for hurricane reasons with the city managers approval after eight weeks. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve to waive vendor fees until Sunday. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#6. Adjournment.

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

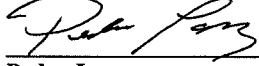
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

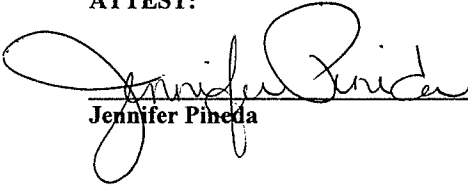


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

On the 30th day of August, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special emergency session at 501 Green Ave, at the City Hall, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez	Mayor	
Leonard Vasquez	Mayor Pro-tem	Absent
Rolando Rodriguez		
Donnie Riojas		
Lolo Hernandez		

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, Joe Sandoval, Public Works Director, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Consider and act upon the proposed tax rate for the City of Taft Deannexed SW and take record vote.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the rate for this fiscal year of 0.375790 for the deannexed area. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez

The motion carried.

#4. Consider, discuss and act on emergency purchases or decisions.

Joe explained that one pump burned out and needs to be replaced. Mayor asked if there was any way that gauges could be added for monitoring the water level.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to enable the staff to purchase the items as indicated for the pump at the quote of \$11,705 plus \$1200 for any other gauges that may be needed. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Vasquez

The motion carried.

Councilman Vasquez came in at 6:25 p.m.

Council continued to discuss the current status on hurricane recovery and donated supplies given to the community.

#5. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Lopez, Riojas Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

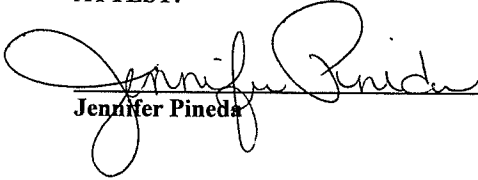


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 11th day of September, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
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 7:00 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2016.

Raul Hernandez stated that the audit was an unqualified audit and stated that the council needs to consider increasing revenues to not have a deficit. He touched on a few highlights of the audit.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2016. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#5. 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. for year ending September 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#6. Hear update regarding conditions and expenditures during and after hurricane Harvey.

Denise gave out a spread sheet to the council of the damage and the hours spent for the storm. She explained the spreadsheet to the council. Mayor commended the community for coming together during the time of need.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action upon engaging legal counsel to represent the City of Taft regarding property damage or claims resulting from hurricane Harvey.

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

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

#8. Hear update regarding the outcome of Disaster Assistance Enrollment Stations.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table this item. 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 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 gave the council the balance amounts for the TQIC fund, Street fund, and the city taxes collected for the city and deannexed area. She also gave the council the amount of the current debt.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to purchase a mosquito sprayer.

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

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

#11. Consider, discuss and presentation on the City's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

The council discussed the municipal court budget, fees for legal services, and the fire department budget.

#12. Executive session: Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Taft will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a 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 this chapter, to include the following matters: Discussion regarding a demand letter presented on behalf of Chief Mansion.

Councilman Vasquez 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.

The council entered into executive session at 9:02 p.m.

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

The council reconvened at 9:24 p.m.

There was no action taken.

#14. 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, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

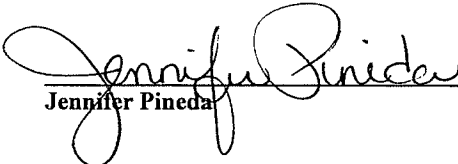


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 17th day of September, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor Absent
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, Mary Griffin, Librarian, Joe Sandoval, Public Works Director, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Consider, discuss and presentation on the City's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18.

Denise explained that \$21,000 was added to the fire department budget and added \$7,500 to the parks capital outlay. There was also an increase in the enterprise funds of \$5.00 raise in rates. Further discussion was held on the budget.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action to amend the budget for FY 2016-2017.

Denise discussed the amendments. Mary Alice gave a detail of the amendments.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve to amend the budget as presented by Mary Alice. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#5. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

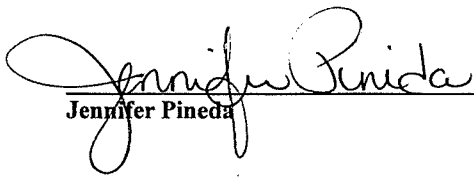


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Jennifer Pineda in cursive script.

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 26th day of September, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Griffin, Librarian, Joe Sandoval, Public Works Director, Chief Klaus Mansion, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

There were no visitors.

#4. Conduct a public hearing to hear comments for and against the City's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, which begins October 1, 2017 and ends September 30, 2018.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:34 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

#5. Consider, discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance No. 978, an ordinance to approve the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, which begins October 1, 2017 and ends September 30, 2018.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 978, an ordinance to approve the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, which begins October 1, 2017 and ends September 30, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#6. Consider, discuss and act to adopt Ordinance No. 979 to:

- (1) **Approve and levy an ad valorem total tax rate of \$0.813376 for the use and support of the City for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation on all property within the corporate City limits;**
- (2) **Approve, levy and apportion ad valorem taxes for the maintenance and operations (M&O) of the City at a tax rate of \$0.556548 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation on all taxable property within the corporate City limits;**
- (3) **Approve, levy and apportion ad valorem taxes for the debt service (I&S) of the City at a tax rate of \$0.256828 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation on all taxable property within the corporate City limits; and**
- (4) **Approve, levy and apportion ad valorem taxes for the debt service (I&S) of the City at a tax rate of \$0.375790 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation on all taxable property within the Deannexed Southwest Taft area.**

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 979. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the January 10, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, January 24, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, February 16, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, March 4, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, March 14, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, March 19, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, April 11, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, and April 25, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes.

There was a correction to the January 10, 2017 minutes correcting that Councilman Riojas was not absent.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the January 10, 2017, January 24, 2017, February 16, 2017, March 4, 2017, March 14, 2017, March 19, 2017, April 11, 2017, and April 25, 2017 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Hear update regarding the outcome of Disaster Assistance Enrollment Stations.

Mary Griffin addressed the council on this item. She let the council know that there were a total of 172 applications that were submitted by residents.

#9. Discuss Hurricane Harvey.

Denise let the council know that this item was added in case the council had any questions in regards to where we are in the process. Council discussed a thank you advertisement in the newspaper and asked questions on how cleanup efforts are going.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action regarding City Manager's waiver of the 9/15 late fee on all customer accounts.

Denise explained her decision to waive the penalty fee.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table item number ten. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and act to accept a grant through the Coastal Bend Community Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 for portable radios for the Taft Police Department.

Chief Mansion gave a brief background and is asking the council to accept the \$5000. It will be used to purchase two hand held radios.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to accept a grant through the Coastal Bend Community Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 for portable radios for the Taft Police Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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 975, an ordinance of the City of Taft repealing Ordinance No. 895, adopting a revised city personnel policy; abolishing previously adopted provisions in conflict therewith; providing for severability and an effective date.

Denise explained the old policy needed to be updated as per the city attorney.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No 975. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#13. Consider, discuss and act to amend the Taft Municipal Court prosecutor contract.

Denise explained the reason for the amendment is due to the change in the court schedule.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to amend the Taft Municipal Court prosecutor contract as presented to us today. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

14. 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, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez
Nays: None
The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 10th day of October, 2017, 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
Rolando Rodriguez
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director, Mary Griffin, Librarian, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Visitors.

Denise Hitt, 8825 CR 1560, Taft, Texas, informed the council that she reached out to different local offices to see how to help the people living at the Rincon Point Apartments and help them relocate.

Florence Nelson, FEMA Equal Rights Advisor, informed the council on her position with FEMA. She stated that she is responsible to making sure applicants civil rights are not violated when applying for assistance.

Tamiko Exford, FEMA External Affairs Division, informed the council that if any individual is needing help with the application or appeal process she would be willing to help.

#4. Public Hearing regarding the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program grant for a Downtown Revitalization grant request of \$250,000 for the purchase and installation of entryway signage, historic lamps and lighting in the City of Taft.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

Denise explained the project. Mayor read the area, grant request, and local match out loud. There were no other comments.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:44 p.m.

#5. Presentation on health insurance benefit options by the City's broker of record Will Heavin.

Will Heavin gave the council a comparison between different insurances. His recommendation is to stay with the Humana plan.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to select an insurance carrier for employee medical, life, dental, vision, and supplemental insurance.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to renew with Humana and change over to Principal Financial Group for life insurance for the insurance carrier for employee medical, life, dental, vision, and supplemental insurance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Abstain: Riojas

The motion carried.

#7. Consider and act upon request from the Taft Chamber of Commerce for the use of city property and approval of parade in support of the 2017 Taft Christmas Festival to be held on Saturday, December 2, 2017.

Chamber president Ricardo Trevino requested the use of the park and surrounding area for the Christmas festival and parade.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to honor the request from the Taft Chamber of Commerce for the use of city property and approval of parade in support of the 2017 Taft Christmas Festival to be held beginning on Friday, December 1st and on Saturday, December 2, 2017. 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 a request from the Pride of Taft for a waiver or fee reduction for a one day food vendor permit.

Pride of Taft president Felipe Rodriguez addressed the council on this item.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve a request from the Pride of Taft for a waiver or fee reduction for a one day food vendor permit. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9. 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 addressed the council on this item. She gave the council the balances for the TQIC, Streets, and Taxes accounts. She also stated that the debt to Republic should be paid off in February or March.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to purchase a mosquito sprayer.

Denise explained that the current mosquito sprayer is no longer working and the city borrowed a mosquito sprayer from Woodsboro. The council received two options for purchase. Joe Sandoval informed the council that option B was no longer available.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the purchase a mosquito sprayer under option A in the amount of \$8,795. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to advertise for request for qualifications for engineering services for Hurricane Harvey Recovery Assessment and Restoration Development.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to advertise for request for qualifications for engineering services for Hurricane Harvey Recovery Assessment and Restoration Development. The motion

was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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 980, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing the city manager to make decisions during times of disasters, natural or manmade.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No 980. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#13. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 977, an ordinance amending Ordinance 884, and establishing revised rates for certain building permit and inspection fees and charges; listing fees to be levied for building, electrical and plumbing permits and inspections; repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith; providing a savings and severability clause; providing for penalties for violation; providing for a publication clause and providing for an effective date.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 977, an ordinance amending Ordinance 884, and establishing revised rates for certain building permit and inspection fees and charges; listing fees to be levied for building, electrical and plumbing permits and inspections; repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith; providing a savings and severability clause; providing for penalties for violation; providing for a publication clause and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.


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

14. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Hernandez 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.

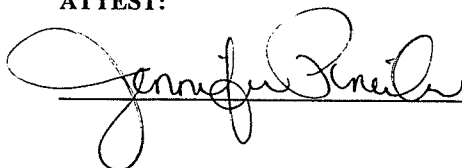
CITY OF TAFT


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:


Jennifer Smith

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 14th day of November, 2017, 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	
Rolando Rodriguez		Absent
Donnie Riojas		
Lolo Hernandez		

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, and Mary Alice Sandoval, Finance Director.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Consider and take action to approve Ordinance No. 981, an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas to canvass the returns and declare the results of the General Election held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 for the purpose of electing one Mayor at Large, one Alderman for Ward One and one Alderman for Ward Two for a term of two years.

Mayor Lopez read Ordinance No. 981 out loud to canvass the votes on the election.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 981. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#4. Consider and take action to approve Ordinance No. 982 an ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas to canvass the returns and declare the results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 for the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in City of Taft at the rate of one-fourth of one percent sales and use tax to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

Mayor Lopez read Ordinance No. 982 out loud to canvass the votes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 982. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Rodriguez

The motion carried.

#5. Swearing In and Oath of Office of newly elected officials.

Judge Carmel Herrera swore in Mayor Pedro Lopez, Alderman Felipe Rodriguez III, and Alderwoman Donnie Sue Riojas.

#6. VISITORS.

Guadalupe Martinez, of 424 Second St., handed the Mayor a written complaint to read out loud regarding car repairs at 518 Field Ave.

Lolo Hernandez, of 732 McIntyre, asked the council and audience to volunteer to prepare Thanksgiving baskets on Friday, November 17th.

#7. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the May 9, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, May 23, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, June 13, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, June 23, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, July 11, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, August 8, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, August 18, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, August 22, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, August 29, 2017, Special Emergency Meeting minutes, and August 30, 2017, Special Emergency Meeting minutes.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve all the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#8. Public Hearing: Application for a setback variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a carport on the driveway at 448 Abazola St, Taft, Tx, with legal description LT 12 BLK 6 TAFT – 2ND HIDALGO 0.115 ACRES.

Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Denise addressed Mayor and council that Mr. Hinojosa is requesting a variance to replace his carport at the previous location.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that he wants to build his car port as it was and up to city codes.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

#9. Discuss and take action on whether to approve a setback variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a carport on the driveway at 448 Abazola St, Taft, Tx, with legal description LT 12 BLK 6 TAFT – 2ND HIDALGO 0.115 ACRES.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve a zero setback variance to allow the placement of a carport on the driveway at 448 Abazola St, Taft, Tx, with legal description LT 12 BLK 6 TAFT – 2ND HIDALGO 0.115 ACRES. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action upon casting City of Taft's votes for persons to serve on the San Patricio Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Each council member voted on their sheet and then all votes were totaled.

John Curlee – 7 votes

Dr. Anne Matula – 3 votes

Dalia Sanchez – 10 votes

Billie Jo Tennill – 0 votes

Jan M. Whiteley – 5 votes

Bill T. Wilson – 1 vote

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to accept the ballot as voted by the council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

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

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the name changing of agent of record from Heavin & Associates to Heavin, Otto & Leavitt Insurance Services, Inc.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the name changing of agent of record from Heavin & Associates to Heavin, Otto & Leavitt Insurance Services, Inc. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

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

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the City of Taft to pay a portion of the employee's contribution to their health insurance.

Mr. Heavin addressed the cost increase the employees would encounter in covering their families.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Item #12. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#13. 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 Mayor and council on the city's financial condition. The revenues for the TQIC account is \$29,652.78 and for the street fund it is \$47,878.11. The current debt to Republic is \$14,042.57.

#14. Consider, discuss, and take action to make Wednesday as the official day for sanitation pickup for all residential utility accounts permanently.

Denise advised the council that this was approved on a six months trial basis.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve to make Wednesday as the official day for sanitation pickup for all residential utility accounts. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

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

#15. Discuss installing restrooms at the Taft Memorial Park.

Denise addressed the council on this item. Mayor and council would like a plan and breakdown on costs to include all parks.

#16. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve a project to add sidewalks on the east side of Green Avenue.

Denise addressed the council on a possible sidewalk project for consideration.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve a project to add sidewalks on the east side of Green Avenue from College to Park. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#17. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the use of funds from the Taft Economic Development Corporation for a sidewalk project on the east side of Green Avenue.

Denise explained to the Mayor and council that the Taft EDC will contribute \$15,000. The total cost of the project would be \$37,000.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the use of funds from the Taft Economic Development Corporation for a sidewalk project on the east side of Green Avenue in the amount of \$15,000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#18. City manager's report: FEMA Update; Insurance coverage for hurricane damage; sidewalk project update.

Denise reported that the sidewalk project would be from Park to Hwy 181.

Denise did not have much information on the insurance coverage for hurricane damage. She is waiting on the adjusters report. The adjusters have been in town looking at all the damage to city buildings and taking pictures.

Denise stated that schedule A is almost complete for FEMA review. Schedule A is for the debris removal that the city did the days following the storm. She stated that she has been working with a FEMA representative and it is a very slow process.

#19. Consider, discuss, and take action on a retention incentive for city employees.

Denise addressed Mayor and council on this item and stated that employees haven't been given a raise in 3 years. She explained that in this budget there are extra funds left over from money allocated in the salaries line item.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve a retention incentive for city employees. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#20. Adjournment.

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

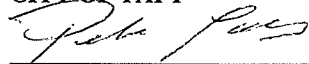
The following votes were polled:

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

Nays: None

The motion carried.

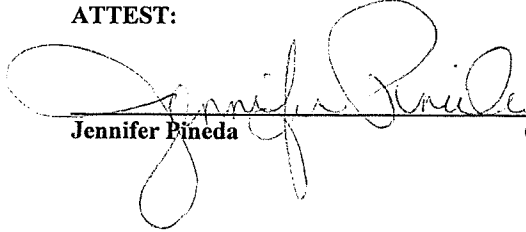
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 5th day of December, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 7:00 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 7:00 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

Erika Hernandez, of 424 Industrial, stated that she has an issue with a police officer and wants to put in a complaint.

The council jumped to item #9.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance No. 983 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 January 1, 2018.

Denise explained that this is an annual ritual.

Mike Reeves, with Republic, explained that this is an annual increase that is a pass through and the rates are going up 5.04%. If the council is willing to consider an early extension then Republic will waive the increase.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to table item #9. 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 went back to item #8.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No 604 a resolution of the City of Taft suspending the December 21, 2017 effective date of CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas South Texas Division requested rate change to permit the city time to study the request and to establish reasonable rates.

Tom Champagne explained that if the resolution is approved it would suspend the rate change for 90 days.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No 604. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

The council went back to item #4.

#4. Consider, discuss and take action upon appointing a member of the City Council to serve as the City's Mayor Pro Tem for a term of one year pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 22.037.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to nominate Leonard Vasquez. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, 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 finance condition. The revenues for TQIC are \$35,767.37 and the revenues for the street fund are \$46,896.94. Dalia Sanchez's office has collected 16.38% of the taxes for the city and 11.71% of the taxes in the deannexed area. The current debt to Republic is \$10,538.50

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No. 602 a resolution of the City of Taft, Texas casting votes for the San Patricio County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Denise explained that the appraisal district gave us the wrong figure on the amount of votes the city had. The city was supposed to have a total of 31 votes.

The council voted and the totals were as follows:

John Curlee – 8 votes

Dr. Anne Matula – 6 votes

Dalia Sanchez – 17 votes

Billie Jo Tennill – 0 votes

Jan M. Whiteley – 0 votes

Bill T. Wilson – 0 vote

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution No. 602. 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 No. 603 a resolution of the city council of the City of Taft, Texas, expressing support for the application of Taft Affordable Housing Partnership, Inc. to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for four-percent housing tax credits and tax exempt bond financing for the rehabilitation of Cottonview Terrace, an aggregate of 74 apartment units on four sites located in Taft, Texas.

Councilwoman Riojas explained the resolution to the council.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 603. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Hernandez

Nays: None

Abstain: Riojas

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and act upon adjusting water rates to reflect and incorporate rate increases from the San Patricio Municipal Water District.

Denise explained that the rate from San Patricio Municipal Water District would be taking effect on January 1, 2018.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to move on the increase from the San Patricio Municipal Water District. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and act to approve an interlocal agreement with San Patricio County Environmental Health Department regarding regulating food establishments.

Denise explained that this is just an annual renewal.

Councilman Vasquez made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement with San Patricio County Environmental Health Department regarding regulating food establishments. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve Resolution No. 605 a resolution of the city council of the City of Taft, Texas authorizing a project of the Taft Economic Development Corporation; and, providing and effective date. (First Reading).

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution 605. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#13. Consider, discuss and take action upon the City of Taft 2018 Holiday Schedule.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the 2018 Holiday Schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and take action on hosting a Fourth of July Fireworks Extravaganza.

Denise stated that Councilman Vasquez approached her and the Pride of Taft about having fireworks on July 1st. She stated that he already has bands scheduled.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to move on the city hosting a Fourth of July Fireworks Extravaganza with the requirement of researching all the liabilities and legal advice. The motion

was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#15. Consider, discuss and take action to allow use of fireworks within the city limits by the Fireworks Extravaganza committee.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to allow the use of fireworks within the city limits by the Fireworks Extravaganza committee at the Taft Little League on July 1, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#16. Status update on 518 Field Ave.

Jennifer gave an update to the council on this item. She showed them pictures of before and after with the progress that has been made.

#17. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the City of Taft to pay the difference in cost of the employee's contribution to their employee/spouse or employee/child health insurance.

Denise explained that the motion was not made correctly.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve the City of Taft to pay the difference in cost of the employee's contribution to their employee/spouse or employee/child health insurance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#18. Consider, discuss and take action on possible agreement with trustees holding the Charter for the Boys Scouts and Cub Scouts for the use of the Scout Hut located on Park Street in Taft, Texas.

After some discussion Councilman Vasquez made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#19. Consider, discuss and take action to approve or deny Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for Hurricane Harvey Recovery Assessment and Restoration.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to review the rfqs presented to us at the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vasquez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#20. Executive Session: Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal and/or to hear a complaint or charge of John D. Cornish.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

The council entered into executive session at 8:52 p.m.

#21. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened into regular session at 9:30 p.m.

There was no action on this item.

#22. Adjournment.

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

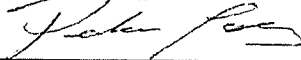
The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Vasquez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

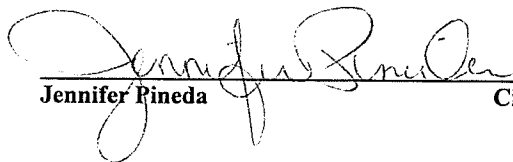
CITY OF TAFT



Pedro Lopez

Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary



MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

On the 15th day of December, 2017, the City Council of Taft, Texas, convened in a special session at 402 Park St, at the Kiva Hut, at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Pedro "Pete" Lopez Mayor
Leonard Vasquez Mayor Pro-tem
Felipe Rodriguez, III Absent
Donnie Riojas
Lolo Hernandez

Others present: Denise Hitt, City Manager, and Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary.

#1. There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Riojas led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

#3. Executive session: Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Taft will consult in closed session with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or 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 this chapter, to include the following matters:

a. Process pursuant to the adopted ordinances of the City of Taft for filling the vacancy of Chief of the Taft Police Department.

Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, the City of Taft will meet in closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

a. The vacant position of Chief of the Taft Police Department

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

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

The council entered into executive session at 6:06 p.m.

#4. Reconvene into Regular Session for deliberation, consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

The council reconvened into regular session.

There was no action taken on this item.

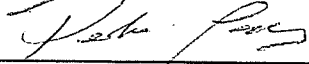
#5. Adjournment.

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

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

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

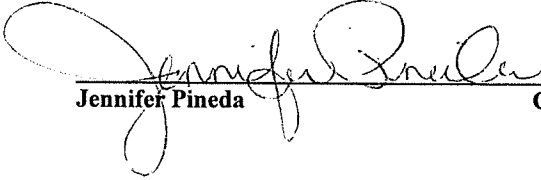


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary