

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 13th day of March, 2018, 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	Joined in by Skype (6:30 p.m. – 7:53 p.m.)
Leonard Vasquez	Mayor Pro-tem	
Felipe Rodriguez, III		
Donnie Riojas		
Lolo Hernandez		

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

#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. VISITORS.

Melanie Hickey, 3110 CR 2849, asked that the council consider deeding a piece of land for a new library.

#4. Plaque presentation to Rolando Rodriguez.

This item was moved to the next meeting.

#5. Plaque presentation to Commissioner Richard Ott.

This item was moved to the March meeting.

#6. Plaque presentation to Randy Rachal.

This item was moved to the March meeting.

#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 city's financial condition. In the revenues the TQIC fund has \$46,906.32 and the street fund has \$89,768.77. The debt balance has been paid off to Republic. The initial balance was \$165,000 and it was paid off in three and a half years.

#8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the November 14, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes, December 5, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, December 15, 2017, Special Meeting minutes, January 9, 2018, Regular Meeting minutes, and February 13, 2018, Regular Meeting minutes.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#9. Consider, discuss and take action to appoint Diana Vela Pittman to the Library Board.

Velma Poenish, Chairperson, stated that the board has a resignation and would like the council to

consider appointing Ms. Pittman. She meets all the criteria to be a board member.

Councilwoman Hernandez made a motion to appoint Diana Vela Pittman to the Library Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to appoint Clay Davenport to the Taft Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

Denise stated that Judith Fonville has stepped down and the board would like to appoint Clay Davenport.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to take action to appoint Clay Davenport to the Taft EDC. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action to authorize an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 regarding services for road rehabilitation.

Denise stated that this is an annual agreement that we renew every year.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to authorize an inter-local agreement with San Patricio County Pct. 2 regarding services for road rehabilitation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

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

Denise explained it is the same contract as last year that needs to be renewed.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

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

Denise stated that no alcohol is allowed in any of the parks and the committee is asking for a one day waiver so people can bring in their own beer and wine. She stated that there will be police staff to make sure there is no abuse and no glass bottles would be permitted.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve a onetime 1 day waiver to Ordinance 779 to the Fireworks Extravaganza Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and take action to approve or reject the received insurance offer for hurricane damage.

Denise explained that the total repair amount was \$328376.92 and anything that the insurance does not cover can be submitted to Fema.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the received insurance offer for hurricane damage. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#15. Discuss deeding a piece of property for a future library.

Denise explained that the board is asking for an acre for a new library. She also provided a map of the proposed area for the future library. Council discussed this further and would like to see how this would affect the budget in the future.

#16. Consider, discuss and take action to approve allowing the city to receive bids for the sale of a 1999 Chevy Tahoe, 2 mules, and a dump truck.

Denise explained that if approved the city will advertise and receive sealed bids.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve allowing the city to receive bids on the items provided. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#17. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an amendment to the personnel policy to approve the payment of comp time accrued during a declared event.

Denise explained that the folks from Fema requested to add this to the policy.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve an amendment to the personnel policy to approve the payment of comp time accrued during a declared event. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

#18. City manager's report on: Sidewalk project update; Firework extravaganza update; Fema; Demolition of house on Davis Rd.; Quote for Police Department roof; Flowers planted by National Honor Society; Texas Workforce grant.

Sidewalk project – project is almost complete. There are just some minor revisions that need to be made.

Fireworks Extravaganza – there will be 2 bands that will perform and will also have some adult tournaments. There will be food trucks and other vendors. It is an all-day event ending with a firework display.

Fema – Category A and Category B have been worked on. Category A got kicked back but has been resubmitted. Category B had to show some time cards. Currently working on Category C.

Demolition on house on Davis Rd. – project should be complete sometime next week . The family is helping pay some of the roll offs.

Quote for Police Department roof – the roof leaks badly. The quote to repair the roof is \$14,387 and a/c work would be \$11,800.

Flowers planted by National Honor Society – NHS did an awesome job planting the flowers in front of city hall. They were needing community service hours and were accompanied by Mr. Bosquez.

Texas Workforce grant – Texana started working yesterday and has 2084 hours to help with permits and Fema paperwork.

#19. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to Section 551.074 Government Code, Vernon's Civil Statutes of Texas, the City Council may go into executive session to discuss personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of an officer or employee, to wit: City Manager Denise Hitt.

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

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

The council entered into executive session at 7:12 p.m.

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

Council reconvened into regular session at 7:52 p.m.

There was no action taken on this item.

#21. 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, Mayor, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT

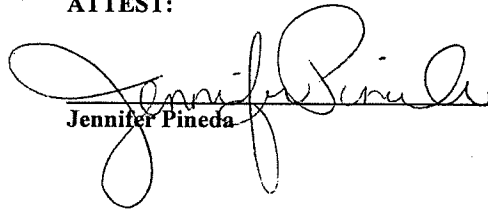


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:



Jennifer Pineda City Secretary