

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On the 12th day of June, 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 Absent
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 6:32 p.m.

#2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#3. Visitors.

Mr. Marshall Holybee updated the council on the Firework Extravaganza.

Rob Tully from GCVC informed the council that he will be retiring at the end of June and introduced Paul Gillfoial.

#4. Recognition of Councilman Leonard Vasquez.

Fr. Pete Stanley spoke about the award that Councilman Vasquez received from the Corpus Christi Diocese. Denise also said a few words.

#5. Mayoral Proclamation designating June 14, 2018 as National Flag Day.

Council read the proclamation out loud and presented it to the Holy Family Society and Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas.

#6. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2017.

The city's CPA of record Raul Hernandez stated that the city was doing great on expenditures but needs to see about increasing revenues. He reviewed some of the highlights of the audit with the council.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rodriguez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

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 city financials.

#8. Public Hearing: Application for variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a portable structure to remain on the premises where placed at 896 McIntyre Ave, Taft, Tx, with legal description BLK 1 (300X320) TAFT-F G GABRIEL S/D.

Opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Rick Freemon explained what the portable structure will be used for.

Dianne Garcia stated that she is against it due to the rodent problems and the visual of the building.

Closed the public hearing at 7:57 p.m.

#9. Discuss and take action on whether to approve a variance request which, if approved, would allow the placement of a portable structure to remain on the premises where placed at 896 McIntyre Ave, Taft, Tx, with legal description BLK 1 (300X320) TAFT-F G GABRIEL S/D.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the variance with the following conditions: building is tied down, reviewed and approved by the fire marshal, review and reevaluate in 12 months with a plan of action and control the trash issue The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and take action to select a plan and carrier for the City of Taft's annual windstorm insurance coverage.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve the carrier for the City of Taft's annual windstorm insurance coverage with Mt. Hawley Insurance Co option 1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and take action upon selecting financing for the City's windstorm insurance and authorizing the execution of documents related thereto.

This item was tabled.

#12. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution No. 607 to approve the submission of the grant application for the Local Border Security Program to the Office of the Governor.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 607 to approve the submission of the grant application for the Local Border Security Program. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#13. Consider and discuss Resolution 608 a resolution superseding Resolution 329 allowing for the continuance of health insurance benefits for retirees until they become eligible for Medicare.

Councilman Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution 608 a resolution superseding Resolution 329. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and take action to approve repairs to the Taft Volunteer fire truck in the amount of \$5,605.86.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve repairs to the Taft Volunteer fire truck in the amount of \$5,605.86. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Riojas.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#15. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Resolution 609 a resolution of the City of Taft approving cooperation with the cities served by AEP to review AEP Texas Inc.'s requested approval of an adjustment to its energy efficiency cost recovery factor; hiring legal and consulting services to negotiate with the company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; 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 legal counsel.

Councilwoman Riojas made a motion to approve Resolution 609. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hernandez.

The following votes were polled:

Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

#16. Adjournment.

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

The following votes were polled:


Ayes: Vasquez, Rodriguez, Riojas, Hernandez

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor

The motion carried.

CITY OF TAFT


Pedro Lopez

Mayor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Pineda

Jennifer Pineda

City Secretary