

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §
TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA §

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: July 14, 2015
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Wanda Reyes-Rice – Mayor Pro-Tem
Frank Davalos, Jr., - Councilmember Place 3
Gary Meschi, Councilmember Place 5
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

Rolando Vela, City Manager
Ricardo Morado, City Attorney
Tony David, Police Chief
Julio Olguin, Police Sgt.
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Carter – Councilmember Place 1
Leti Keplinger, Councilmember Place 4

ALSO PRESENT: Norris Fletcher, Citizen
Richard Lane, Citizen
Julie Breedlove, Citizen
David Christopher, Citizen
Marc Davis, Citizen
Victor Worrell, Citizen
Robert Rodriguez, Boys & Girls Club
Heather Scott, Boys & Girls Club
Martha McClain, Citizen
Robert L. Guerra, Royston Rayzor Attorneys
Ron Murchison, Citizen
Daniella Murchison, Citizen
Ivy Murchison, Citizen

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Meschi.

3. Roll Call/Excused Absences – Council Members Carter and Keplinger were absent.

Council Member Davalos made a motion to excuse Council Members Carter and Keplinger from tonight’s meeting on July 14, 2015, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

4. OPEN FORUM: None

5. PROCLAMATION – A proclamation recognizing Daniella Lynn Murchison.

Mayor Houston presented a proclamation to Daniella Lynn Murchison in recognition of her achievements in her athletic competitions.

6. NEW BUSINESS: Discussion, consideration and possible action on each of the following items:

A. MINUTES – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Mayor Houston made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2015 Regular Meeting, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

B. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015–15 – Second Reading – To approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2015-15, amending the 2014-15 fiscal year budget. (City Manager)

Council Member Rice made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2015-15, amending the 2014-15 fiscal year budget, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

C. FISCAL YEAR 2015-16 PROPOSED BUDGET – Submittal of the working proposed 2015-16 operating budget. (City Manager)

No action was taken on the 2015-16 proposed budget.

D. OCTOBER 2015 MEETING – To schedule the Town Council workshop with the Laguna Vista Recreational Association and, if need be, reschedule the October 2015 Town Council Regular Meeting. (Mayor Houston)

Mayor Houston made a motion to schedule the Town Council workshop with the Laguna Vista Recreational Association (LVRA) on Monday, October 26, 2015 at 6 pm, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

E. 2011 CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION – Update on the 2011 Certificates of Obligation. (City Manager)

Rolando Vela reported that the Certificates of Obligation has a balance of \$49,249.16, with no activity to report.

F. 3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – Presentation on the 3rd Quarter Financial Performance Report (April 2015 – June 2015). (City Manager)

Rolando Vela briefly reviewed the fund balances for the different town accounts. Balances sheets and budget comparisons were distributed for review.

G. MUNICIPAL JUDGES – Discussion and possible action to authorize City Manager to advertise for Municipal Judge and Alternate Municipal Judge. (City Manager)

Council Member Rice made a motion to reappoint and keep the current municipal judges, William Pope and Bennie Ochoa and not advertise for the positions, Mayor Houston seconded the motion.

Council Members Meschi, Smith and Davalos opposed motion. Motion did not pass.

Council Member Nadine Smith made a motion to advertise for the positions of municipal judge and alternate judge, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion.

Council Member Rice and Mayor Houston opposed motion. All other voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

H. BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF LAGUNA MADRE – Discussion of request by Boys and Girls Club of Laguna Madre for funding. (Mayor Houston)

Robert Rodriguez and Heather Scott addressed the Council concerning the request for funding for the Boys and Girls Club of Laguna Madre. They are requesting \$5,000 for the current fiscal year of 2014-15. The organization will not have sufficient funds to continue the program during the summer months, without funding. The City of South Padre Island and Port Isabel have also be approached for funding.

Mayor Houston made a motion to enter into an agreement for six (6) months from the signed agreement date, with the Boys and Girls Club of Laguna Madre with service contract to provide Education and Career Development, Arts & Crafts, Sports, Fitness and Recreation, and

Character & Leadership Building, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

I. EXCUSED ABSENCES – Request to excuse Council Member Gary Meschi for the Town Council meetings of August and September 2015. (Mayor Houston)
Council Member Davalos made a motion to excuse Council Member Meschi for the Town Council meetings of August and September 2015, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

J. STREET IMPROVEMENTS – To award a contract for Street Improvements to Ebony Lane as part of TxCDBG Project Number 7214271. (City Manager)
Council Member Davalos made a motion to award the contract for the Street Improvements to Ebony Lane as part of the TxCDBG Project Number 7214271, for \$168,086.00, to G & T Paving, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

K. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

i. Laguna Vista Cares Clean-up Campaign

Rolando Vela informed the Council that articles came out in the Valley Morning Star and Port Isabel Press concerning the clean-up campaign. Channel 4 and 23 also ran the story this week. Staff is working on the vacant lots and updating ordinances pertaining to nuisances.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION – There will be an Executive Session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, pursuant to Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney regarding ETJ Litigation with Brownsville.



Brownsville ETJ

Council Member Davalos made a motion to go into executive session, at 7:26 pm, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, pursuant to Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney regarding ETJ Litigation with Brownsville, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Town Council came out of executive session at 7:47 pm.

M. OPEN SESSION – Action, if any, on the items discussed in Executive Session.
No action was taken as a result of executive session.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Davalos made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:48 pm, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

Alma Deckard, City Secretary