

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA BOARD OF ALDERMEN

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2009

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor  
Richard Hinojosa, Mayor Protem  
Rita Garcia, Alderwoman  
Ken Irwin, Alderman  
Steve Muschenheim, Alderman  
William Schnier, Alderman

Julian Pena, US Census  
Janice Cassidy, Town Attorney  
Rolando Vela, City Manager  
Pura Mireles, Library Director  
Robert McGinnis, Police Chief  
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge and Invocation was lead by Alderwoman Garcia.

3. Roll Call – All present

March 2010 and some will be hand delivered. It takes 10 minutes to complete the 7 question form. The US Census will employ 1.2 million people to complete the census 2010 project.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/PROCLAMATION

- o COLIN MINKLER – A proclamation recognizing Colin Minkler for earning the Eagle Scout.

Mayor presented Colin Minkler with a proclamation for his accomplishment of earning the Eagle Scout.

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: All matters listed under this item are considered to be routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately.

- a) MINUTES - Consideration and action to approve minutes from the October 13, 2009 Regular Board of Aldermen Meeting.
- b) TCDP CURRENT OBLIGATIONS – Consideration and potential action to approve the Texas Community Development Program Project 728220 current obligations as of October 30, 2009, for \$112,603.76.

Alderman Irwin made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as follows, (a) approval of the minutes from the October 13, 2009 meeting, (b) approval of the Texas Community Development Program Project 728220 current obligations for \$112,603.76, motion was seconded by Alderman Hinojosa. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION NUMBER 2009-24 – Consideration and potential action to approve Resolution Number 2009-24 affirming and supporting a partnership for the 2010 Census.

Alderman Schnier made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2009-24 affirming and supporting a partnership for the 2010 Census, motion was seconded by Alderman Garcia. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- C.** RECYCLING SERVICES – Consideration and potential action to amend the current agreement with Allied Waste to offer residential recycling services to the Laguna Vista's residents twice a month.

Alderman Irwin made a motion to amend the current agreement with Allied Waste to offer residential recycling services to the Laguna Vista's residents twice a month, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- D.** BOARD AND COMMISSION HANDBOOK – Consideration and potential action to update the Town of Laguna Vista Board and Commission Handbook.

Alderman Schnier made a motion to approve the Board and Commission Handbook as presented with the following revisions; (a) add the town logo to the front page and page 6 of the handbook, (b) Page 10 – Section 6.6, remove Sgt. At Arms, (c) Page 11 – Section 7.1 – Introduction, last sentence, should read, "The Board of Aldermen will review and revise this governance policy, rules and procedures as needed, and at a minimum, every two years.", (d) Page 12 – 7.4.3 – change to Mayor as presiding officer, (e) Page 12 – Section 7.4.4 – change to Mayor as Spokesperson, (f) Page 12 – Section 7.5.1 – Regular Meetings, should state, "The board shall meet regularly when prescribed by ordinance, but no less frequently than once, on the second Tuesday of each month and the regular meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m., at the city hall, 122 Fernandez Street, Laguna Vista, Texas, unless postponed or canceled for valid reason(s); "when the city manager anticipates more than 30 citizens attending either a regularly-scheduled or a special meeting, of the Board of Aldermen, he/she shall poll the Board asking each member for a simple 'yes' or 'no' to the question, 'are you in favor of moving the next meeting to 'xxxxx' location due to an anticipated audience of more than 30 people?"; Page 28 – Section 13.4.3 – Insurance-Indemnification, add a specific amount of one million dollars for the errors and omissions coverage for the Board and commission members, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- E.** SMART GROWTH COMMITTEE – Discussion, consideration, and potential action on the formation of a smart growth committee.

- F.** SMART GROWTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Discussion, consideration, and

- G.** Resolution Number 2009-32 – Consideration and potential action to approve Resolution Number 2009-32 Urging the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) to select Alternative 3C as the preferred alignment for the second Access Causeway.

Alderman Hinojosa made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2009-32 urging the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (CCRMA) to select Alternative 3C as the preferred alignment for the second Access Causeway, motion was seconded by Alderman Irwin. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- H.** C.D.C. BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Discussion, consideration, and potential action on appointing residents to the Laguna Vista Commercial Development Corporation (CDC).

Alderwoman Garcia made a motion to appoint Alderman Ken Irwin, Alderman Richard Hinojosa and Ed Rivera to the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation (CDC), motion was seconded by Alderman Hinojosa. Alderman Muschenheim opposed motion. Alderman Schnier abstained. Motion carried.

- I.** PARKS & RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Discussion, consideration, and potential action on appointing residents to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Alderwoman Garcia made a motion to appoint Gabby Muschenheim, Kevin Stanton, Nancy Ostos, Jim Guillem, and Leticia Olgetree to the Parks & Recreation Board, motion was seconded by alderman Irwin. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- J.** LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Discussion, consideration, and potential action on appointing residents to the Library Board.

Alderman Hinojosa made a motion to appoint Lenore King and Janet Irwin to the Laguna Vista Library Board, motion was seconded by Alderwoman Garcia. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- K.** PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION – Discussion, consideration, and

**L. CITY MANAGER’S REPORTS**

1) Helipad

Mr. Vela informed the board that he has a meeting scheduled next week with the Harlingen EMS. He is working with a local realtor for sponsorship of the 60 sq ft pad.

2) Entrance Sign/Town Signs

Mr. Vela stated that construction of the entrance sign and the Palm Blvd sign has begun.

3) “Yard of the Month” Program

Mr. Vela stated that he has ordered the sign for “yard of the month” and hopes to get a committee together as soon as possible.

4) Laguna Vista Live: Music by the Bay

Mr. Vela informed the board and audience that Laguna Vista Live – Music by the Bay will be held Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 7 – 10 pm.

5) Watersedge Apartments

Mr. Vela stated that he spoke to Attorney Mendez and has learned that David Suissa will be the contractor for Watersedge improvements. David Suissa has requested that the alley behind the apartments be vacated by the city for use of a parking lot.

6) Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Vela stated that he is in process of revising the current agreement and will bring to the board at the December 2009 meeting.

**M. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – There will be an executive session as authorized by the Open Meetings Act, pursuant to Section 551.071; consultation with Town Attorney to seek advice in legal matters in which the duty of Counsel pursuant to the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas conflicts with Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et seq. authorizes a governmental body to consult with its attorney in an executive session to seek his or her advice on legal matters pending or contemplated litigation.

● JIM PIGG vs. TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA

Alderman Hinojosa made a motion to go into executive session, at 7:46 pm, motion was seconded by Alderman Irwin. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**Alderman Irwin made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:15 p.m., second by Alderman Hinojosa. All voted “aye” to adjourn, motion carried.**

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Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

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Alma Deckard, City Secretary