

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

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

DATE: JANUARY 19, 2010

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Hall Building

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

Rolando Vela, City Manager
Pura Mireles, Library Director
Robert McGinnis, Police Chief
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Ken Irwin, Alderman

ALSO PRESENT: Ed Rivera, CDC President
Jim Enholm, Citizen
Mary Hartman, HR Charter Committee Chairman
John Karcanes, Citizen
Matthew McCann, Citizen
Justin Awtrey, Citizen
Richard Lane, Citizen
Bud Sherman, Citizen
Donna Sherman, Citizen
Sharon McCann, Citizen
Paul Villas, Citizen
Bill Beaty, Citizen

ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. Open Forum: None

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/PROCLAMATION

- o MATTHEW MCCANN – A proclamation recognizing Matthew McCann for earning the Eagle Scout.

Mayor Protem presented Matthew McCann with a proclamation in recognition of his Eagle Scout accomplishment.

6. 2008-09 AUDIT PRESENTATION – The 2008-09 Audit report presentation from Long Chilton CPA Firm.

Jon Erie from Long Chilton presented the 2008-09 audit report. Mr. Erie reviewed the findings of the auditors, there is a cash equivalent of \$693,344 in the town's coffers. The capital assets total \$3,095,390, with a total net of \$3,677,202. The Town ended the fiscal year with a surplus of approximately \$415,000 and a fund balance of \$686,014. Two large purchases were made during the fiscal year, one for the fire truck, and the tractor for public works. Mr. Erie indicated that the Town has a healthy reserve account to accommodate approximately six months of operating expense.

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 December 8, 2009 Regular Board of Aldermen Meeting.

b) C.D.C. CURRENT OBLIGATIONS – Consideration and action to approve the current obligations from the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation as of December 31, 2009, for \$15,215.52.

c) T.C.D.P. 728220 CURRENT OBLIGATIONS – Consideration and action to approve the current obligations from the Texas Community Development Program Project 728220, as of December 31, 2009, for \$95,816.58.

Alderwoman Garcia made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A.** 2008-09 AUDIT – Consideration and potential action to approve the 2008-09 audit report from Long Chilton, CPA.

Alderman Schnier made a motion to approve the 2008-09 audit report, presented from Long Chilton CPA Firm, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- B.** RESOLUTION NUMBER 2009-11 – Consideration and potential action to amend and correct Resolution Number 2009-11 to read, the “City Manager” as the grantee’s authorized official of the communication center equipment grant submitted, original resolution was approved at the May 26, 2009 Special Board of Aldermen meeting.

Alderswoman Garcia made a motion to approve the correction to Resolution Number 2009-11, and replace “the mayor” with, “the City Manager” as grantee’s authorized official, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- C.** RESOLUTION NUMBER 2010-01 – Consideration and potential action to approve Resolution Number 2010-01 authorizing the submission of a grant to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for VIDMIC Video Equipment.

Alderman Schnier made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2010-01 authorizing the submission of a grant to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for VIDMIC Video Equipment, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- D.** C.D.C. APPOINTMENTS – Consideration and potential action to appoint Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation two (2) members.

Alderswoman Garcia made a motion to appoint Rafael Salazar to fill a position in the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation for a two year term, motion was seconded by Alderman Hinojosa. Alderman Schnier and Alderman Muschenheim opposed motion. Motion died due to tie vote.

Alderman Schnier made a motion to table Item D – CDC Appointments until the next Aldermen Meeting, motion was seconded by Alderman Muschenheim. Alderswoman Garcia abstained from voting. All others voted “aye” to table, motion carried.

- E.** CDC UPDATE - Update by CDC Board President Ed Rivera on the Community Development Corporation (CDC).

Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation (CDC) President Ed Rivera

by the Town and the golf course. The golf course has plans for growth. The CDC should use funds available to leverage resources; signs and advertisements.

Alderman Schnier mentioned that the CDC funded the advertisement in The Guide to South Padre Island, which is distributed nationwide. He also mentioned that the South Padre Island staff helped with the graphics and layout of the ad, at no cost to the Town.

F. HOME RULE CHARTER UPDATE - Update by Charter Committee Chair Mary Hartman on the proposed charter for Laguna Vista.

Home Rule Charter Committee Chairman Mary Hartman provided an update with the status of the Charter. Sample charters from South Padre Island, Hutto, Kyle and Boerne are being used as a guide for the committee. The committee has completed the first draft, except for two sections that are pending research by the Town Attorney. The following sections, including the preamble have been reviewed, (1) Powers of the Town, (2) Town Council, (3) Town Manager, (4) Departments, Offices and Agencies, (5) Financial Management, (6) Elections, (7) General Provisions, (8) Charter Amendment, (9) General Provisions and Severability.

Alderman Muschenheim asked if she knew when they might complete the Charter. Mary Hartman stated that she preferred not to give a deadline date, because the committee wants to review this important document and not be rushed.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Water's Edge Apartments

Rolando Vela informed the board that the re-roofs at the Watersedge Apartment Complex are complete. They are beginning the interior repairs and landscaping is already underway. Manuel Flores is the engineer for the project.

b) Helipad

Rolando Vela stated that clearance has been received from both State and Federal Entities for the helipad. There are many local volunteers that will be assisting in this project.

c) Comprehensive Plan

Rolando Vela informed the board that the Comprehensive Plan is almost complete. He will be bringing an amended agreement to the board at the February 2010 meeting.

f) Entrance and Town Signs

Rolando Vela stated that the entrance sign is complete. The CDC funded \$30,000 for this project. The South Padre Island Golf Club contributed many hours with staff assistance that probably totaled \$10,000. Mr. Vela stated that a ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled and he hopes to have State and County officials attend.

g) Jogging/Walking Trail

Rolando Vela informed the board that the layout of the jogging walking trail is incorporating the marina area.

h) First Responder Vehicle

Rolando Vela stated that the first responder vehicle that the Board approved, will be delivered on Sunday.

i) EMS Report

Chief McGinnis expressed thanks to the community for the overwhelming response during the Christmas Toy Drive. Forty bicycles and over 800 toys were donated and \$1300 in cash was collected.

Chief McGinnis compiled an EMS Report comparison between the Los Fresnos Ambulance Service and the City of Port Isabel, as requested by Alderman Schnier. The Los Fresnos Ambulance responded to 172 calls in the 2007-08 fiscal year and 176 calls in the 2008-09 fiscal year. The travel time Torrey Pines Drive to Port Isabel EMS is 14 minutes and 8 miles. The travel time from the same distance to Los Fresnos EMS is 18.5 minutes and 15.5 miles. This is driving at a normal speed.

The pros for Los Fresnos EMS are; all radio communications for Laguna Vista go through the Los Fresnos communication center, they have 2 fully equipped ambulances. There is less traffic congestion, and the staff is well trained. The cons for Los Fresnos would be the distance from town, 2 ambulances are operated only during peak periods. The average response time has increased from 11 minutes in 2008 to 13 minutes in 2009.

The pros for the City of Port Isabel is the proximity to Town, 2 ambulances, staff is well trained. The cons for Port Isabel is radio communications goes to Los Fresnos and will have to be re-routed. Two ambulances are operated only during peak periods. Traffic congestion during peak periods. Also a drawback is Port Isabel serves as the back-up for South Padre Island, which may cause

the South Padre Island Golf Club. The entrance sign is for the community, not an advertisement for the golf course.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Muschenheim made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:35 p.m., second by Alderman Hinojosa. All voted “aye” to adjourn, motion carried.

Attest:

Richard Hinojosa, Mayor Protem

Alma Deckard, City Secretary