

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: June 14, 2016

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor  
Michael Carter, Councilmember Place 1  
Frank Davalos, Jr., Councilmember Place 3  
Leti Keplinger, Councilmember Place 4  
Gary Meschi, Councilmember Place 5

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wanda Reyes-Rice, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

ALSO PRESENT: Walter Birdwell, Citizen  
Victor Worrell, Citizen  
Raul Gomez, Cameron County  
Joe Vega, Cameron County  
Richard Lane, Citizen  
Carol Schierenbeck, Citizen  
Owen Schierenbeck, Citizen  
Jim Hunter, Rancho Viejo  
Martha McClain, 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 Rice and Smith were absent.**

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to excuse Council Members Rice and Smith from tonight’s meeting, both are out of town, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**4. OPEN FORUM:**

Walter Birdwell addressed the Council stating that he noticed that Laguna Vista should be a member of the biking trail association. He encouraged the Council to approve the motion to intervene against the LNG filings.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

All matters listed under this item are considered to be routine by the Council and will be enacted for approval by one motion. There will not be a 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 the minutes from the April 12, 2016 Regular Meeting.

b) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2016 Special Meeting.

c) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2016 Regular Meeting.

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as follows: (a) approval of the minutes from the April 12, 2016 Regular Town Council meeting, (b) approval of the minutes from the April 26, 2016 Special Town Council meeting, (c) approval of the minutes from the May 10, 2016 Regular Town Council meeting, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

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

A. **MAYOR PRO TEM** – Consideration and action to appoint a Mayor Pro Tem pursuant to Section 2.03(b) of the Home Rule Charter. (City Manager)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to appoint Council Member Keplinger as mayor protem for a one year term, pursuant to the Home Rule Charter, Section 2.03(b), Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

B. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-07** – Consideration and approval of Resolution Number 2016-07 authorizing review of Texas Gas Service Company’s (“TGS”) cost of service

adjustment (“COSA”); approving of a joint review of TGS’ application along with other cities served by TGS; hiring legal and consulting services to negotiate with the company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; requiring TGS to reimburse all reasonable costs associated with cities’ efforts in this ratemaking effort; 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 the company and legal counsel. (City Manager)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2016-07 authorizing review of Texas Gas Service Company’s cost of service adjustment; approving of a joint review of TGS application, hiring legal consulting services to negotiate with the company and direct necessary litigation, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

C. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-08** – To approve Resolution Number 2016-08, authorizing the Police Chief to submit a grant application to the Texas Governor’s Office for the Operation Stone Guard Grant number 3187101 for the police department. (Chief David)

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2016-08, authorizing the Police Chief to submit a grant application to the Texas Governor’s Office for the Operation Stone Guard Grant number 3187101 for the police department, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

D. **LAND LEASE AGREEMENT** – Consideration and potential action on renewing the land lease agreement between the Town of Laguna Vista and the Verizon Wireless. (City Manager)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to move the Land Lease Agreement between the Town of Laguna Vista and the Verizon Wireless to executive session, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried. Council Member Carter arrived for meeting at 6:14 pm.**

E. **MOTION TO INTERVENE** – Consideration and potential action to authorize Staff to file with FERC a motion to intervene in the pending proceeding relating to Rio Grande LNG, LLC, Docket No. CP16-454-000, Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC, Docket No. CP16-455-000, and all subsequent liquefied natural gas facilities in the vicinity of Laguna Vista. (Mayor Houston)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to authorize Staff to file with FERC a motion to intervene in the pending proceeding relating to Rio Grande LNG, LLC, Docket No. CP16-454-000. Rio Bravo Pipeline Company, LLC, Docket No. CP16-455-000, and all subsequent liquefied natural gas facilities in the vicinity of Laguna Vista, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

F. **LIBRARY ENCLOSURE** – Consideration and potential action to construct an enclosure at the Library counter using funds from the Library Money Market Account. (City Manager)

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to put the Library enclosure item on the Community Development Corporation agenda for funding from the CDC, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion.**

**Council Member Carter amended the motion to approve the Library enclosure at the Library counter using funds from the Library Money Market Account, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. Council Member Davalos opposed motion. All others voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

G. **PUBLIC BOAT RAMP** – Consideration and potential action on the Town working with the County on the proposed public boat ramp on Highway 100. (Mayor Houston)  
**Mayor Houston made a motion to have the Town work with the County on the proposed public boat ramp on Highway 100 . . . there was no second. Motion died.**

H. **SPORTS PARK** – Consideration and potential action to instruct Town Staff to obtain cost estimates for park improvements at the Sports Park on Hibiscus. (Mayor Houston)  
**Mayor Houston made a motion to instruct Town Staff to obtain cost estimates for park improvements at the Sports Park on Hibiscus, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**Ricardo Morado advised Council to send notice the Cameron County Housing Authority, since they own the property where the sports park is located.**

I. **2011 CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION** – Update on the 2011 Certificates of Obligation. (City Manager)  
**Rolando Vela informed the Council that there is an available balance of \$47,205.01. There was no activity for the month.**

**J. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

i. Independence Day Celebration, July 2  
**Rolando Vela stated that the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration will be held Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Parade will begin at 5:30 pm, music in the park will be from 6 – 10 pm.**

ii. Summer Feeding Program  
**Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Summer Feeding Program is underway. There is only one location this year, at the library. They are serving breakfast and lunch, Monday through Friday.**

K. **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:

 **Town Marina and LVRA**

 **ETJ litigation**

 **Potential litigation regarding short term rental ordinance**

**Council Member Keplinger made a motion to go into executive session at 6:45 p.m., in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, pursuant to Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney regarding: Town Marina and LVRA, ETJ litigation and Potential litigation regarding short term rental ordinance, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**Town Council came out of executive session at 7:15 pm.**

L. **OPEN SESSION** – Action, if any, on the items discussed in Executive Session.

**Mayor Houston made a motion to instruct the Town Attorney as directed in executive session on the ETJ litigation, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to instruct the Town Attorney as directed in executive session on the short term rental litigation, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**Council Member Carter made a motion to direct the Staff and Town Attorney to proceed on the lease land Verizon agreement, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Keplinger made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:18 pm, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

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Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

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Alma Deckard, City Secretary