

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: August 9, 2016  
TIME: 6:00 p.m.  
PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor  
Michael Carter, Councilmember Place 1  
Wanda Reyes-Rice, Councilmember Place 2  
Frank Davalos, Jr., Councilmember Place 3  
Leti Keplinger, Mayor ProTem  
Gary Meschi, Councilmember Place 5  
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Beaty, Citizen  
Richard Lane, Citizen  
Chris De Gobeo, Citizen  
Silke De Gobeo, Citizen  
A.J. Garcia, Mercedes, Texas  
Gene Rutland, 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 Mayor.
- 3. Roll Call/Excused Absences** – All present.
- 4. OPEN FORUM:**

Bill Beaty addressed the Council, expressing thanks for the Zumba classes that are held every morning during the week. He presented Mayor Houston with a letter with 33 signatures, congratulating Martha Campos for the great job that she does in leading the Zumba classes.

Silke De Gobeo addressed the Council, suggesting a waste pet cleaning station at Roloff Park. She stated that her and her husband will donate \$200 towards the purchase of the pet station.

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

A. **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2016 Regular Meeting. (City Secretary)

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2016 Regular Council Meeting, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

B. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-09** – Second Reading to consider adopting Ordinance Number 2016-09, amending the 2015-16 fiscal year budget. (City Manager)

**Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-09 amending the 2015-16 fiscal year budget, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

C. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-10** – First Reading – To consider the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-10, adopting the 2016-17 Fiscal Year budget. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-10, for the 2016-17 fiscal year budget. It was the consensus of the Council that a workshop meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 5:30 pm.**

D. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-11** – First Reading – To consider the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-11, adopting the 2016 ad valorem property tax rate. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-11, for the 2016 ad valorem property tax rate.**

E. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-12** – First Reading – To consider the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-12, authorizing and allowing, under the act governing the Texas Municipal Retirement System, restricted prior service credit to employees who are members of the system for service previously performed for various other public entities for which they have not received credited services; and establishing an effective date for the ordinance. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-12** concerning the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS).

**F. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-13** – First Reading – To consider the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-13, approving a negotiated resolution between the Town of Laguna Vista and Texas Gas Service regarding the company's April 28, 2016 cost of service adjustment filing, adopting new tariffs that reflect rate adjustments, providing for the recovery of the Town's and the TGS reasonable and necessary rate case expenses, and declaring effective date. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-13 concerning the Texas Gas Service rates.**

**G. PURPLE HEART MONUMENT** – Consideration and action to appropriate funds from the 2011 Certificates of Obligation to purchase a Purple Heart monument for the Veterans Memorial Park. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the purple heart monument. Council Member Meschi and his wife have offered to pay the full amount for the monument.**

**H. STONEGARDEN GRANT INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT** – To consider approving the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the County of Cameron and the Town of Laguna Vista for the Operation Stonegarden Grant. (Chief David)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Cameron County and the Town of Laguna Vista for the Operation Stonegarden Grant for \$8,750, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.**

**I. AUDITING SERVICES** – Consideration and approval to authorize the City Manager to contact audit firms and request proposal of qualifications for the 2015-16 fiscal year audit. (City Manager)

**No action was taken for auditing services.**

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

**Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Certificates of Obligation account has a balance of \$45,250. There was an expenditure of \$1,976 for replacement of the lights for the flags at Veterans Park.**

**K. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

i. Laguna Vista CARES – "Don't Drive Distracted" campaign

**Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Don't Drive Distracted banners and poster signs are out throughout the community. The Council Members received shirts with the Don't Drive Distracted logo on them. Rolando Vela wanted to clarify that all expenses for this promotion were done by sponsorship, no town funds were used.**

ii. Request for fire zone

**Rolando Vela informed the Council that a meeting will be held on August 31, 2016 with Cameron County concerning the emergency service district for the fire department. The goal is to get the fire zone closest areas to the town limits.**

iii. Sports Parks lease

**Rolando Vela stated that he will be attending the Cameron County Housing Authority meeting on August 24, 2016, the lease extension or sale of the property where the sports park is located will be an agenda item.**

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

**There was no executive session held.**

M. **OPEN SESSION** – Action, if any, on the items discussed in Executive Session.  
**No action was taken, no executive session was held.**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to adjourn meeting at 6:58 pm, Mayor Houston 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