

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: September 13, 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  
Tony David, Police Chief  
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: All Present

ALSO PRESENT: Bob Rice, Brownsville, Texas  
Chris Green, Citizen  
Alejandro Pena, Mardel Souza Inc.  
Silke De Gobeo, Citizen  
Richard Lane, Citizen  
Victor Worrell, Citizen  
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 Bob Rice.
- 3. Roll Call/Excused Absences** – All present.
- 4. OPEN FORUM:**

Silke De Gobeo addressed the Council concerning the short term rental ordinance. She stated that the rumor is that the litigation has been settled and that the property owners at 620 Beach will be allowed to rent their property for short term rentals. If this is so, than the citizens on Beach Blvd need to be notified, because as a realtor I need to know what to tell potential buyers. Is short term rental allowed or not?

For ceremonial purposes, Charles Mattingly was sworn in as the municipal judge by Mayor Houston. He has been serving as judge since April 2016 and was sworn in at city hall.

**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 August 9, 2016 Workshop Meeting.
- b) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2016 Regular Meeting.
- c) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2016 Workshop Meeting.
- d) **IT CONTRACT** – Consideration and action to approve the 2016-17 IT contract with Leonel Garza, Jr. (City Manager)
- e) **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-12** – Second Reading – To approve the second 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)
- f) **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-13** – Second Reading – To approve the second 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)

**Council Member Meschi made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as follows: (a) approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2016**

**Council Workshop Meeting, (b) approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2016 Regular Council Meeting, (c) approval of the minutes from the August 16, 2016 Council Workshop Meeting, (d) approval of the 2016-17 fiscal year IT Contract with Leonel Garza, (e) adoption of the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-12 authorizing the Texas Municipal Retirement System, the restricted prior service credit to employees, (f) adoption of the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-13 approving the Texas Gas Service cost of service adjustment, Council Member Keplinger 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. RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-15** – Consideration and action to approve Resolution Number 2016-15 to adopt the Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation and Active Tourism Plan, as part of the Town of Laguna Vista Comprehensive Plan. (City Manager)

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2016-13 to adopt the Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation and Active Tourism Plan, as part of the Town of Laguna Vista Comprehensive Plan, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**B. RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-14** – Consideration and action to approve Resolution Number 2016-14 to endorse and support the development of a Hike and Bike Trail through the Bahia Grande Unit of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. (City Manager)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2016-14 to endorse and support the development of a Hike and Bike Trail through the Bahia Grande Unit of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**C. SOLAR LIGHT PROJECT** – Presentation by Alex Pena with American Made Solar and Wind on solar light improvements to Roloff Park and Town buildings. (City Manager)

**Council Member Rice made a motion to contract with Alex Pena from American Made Solar and Wind to move ahead with pricing for solar lights for the town accounts, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**D. BOLLARD MONUMENT** – Consideration and action on proposal by Dr. Bob Rice to set up a monument at the Veterans Memorial Park with bollards from the Ranger, Constellation, and USS Independence (CV-62) aircraft carriers. (City Manager)

**Mayor Houston made a motion to approve three bollards from the Ranger Constellation and USS Independence (CV-62) aircraft carriers to be placed in Veterans Park, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**E. PURPLE HEART MONUMENT** – Consideration and action to approve the location of the Purple Heart monument at the Veterans Memorial Park. (City Manager)

**No action was taken on the location of the Purple Heart monument, will consider at the next Council meeting.**

**F. RESOLUTION CDC-2016-01** – Consideration and action to approve Resolution CDC-2016-01 adopting the 2016-17 fiscal year budget. (City Manager)

**Council Member Carter made a motion to approve Resolution Number CDC-2016-01 adopting the 2016-17 fiscal year budget for \$57,000, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**G. LIBRARY IRRIGATION SYSTEM AND SODDING** – Consideration and action on approval of project by the CDC Board to install an irrigation system and sodding improvements to the public library premises. (City Manager)

**Council Member Meschi made a motion to approve the project by the CDC Board to install an irrigation system and sodding improvements to the public library premises for \$31,095, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**H. AUDITING CONTRACT** – Consideration and action to approve the contract by Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP to conduct the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. (City Manager)

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the contract with Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP to conduct the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, not to exceed \$16,000, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**I. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-10** – Second Reading – To approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-10, adopting the 2016-17 Fiscal Year budget. (City Manager)

**Council Member Rice made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-10, adopting the 2016-17 fiscal year budget for \$1,675,897, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**J. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-11** – Second Reading – to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-11, adopting the 2016 ad valorem property tax rate. (City Manager)

**Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2016-11, adopting the 2016 ad valorem property tax rate of \$0.344124, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

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

**Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Certificates of Obligation has an available balance of \$45,260. There was no activity during the month.**

**L. ENGINEERING SERVICES** – Consideration and action to authorize the City Manager to seek statements of qualifications for engineering services for TCDP Grant Number 7216279. (City Manager)

**Council Member Smith made a motion to authorize the City Manager to seek statements of qualifications for engineering services for the TCDP Grant Number 7216279, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**M. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

i. *Laguna Vista Live: Music by the Bay* event

Rolando Vela stated that the Music by the Bay is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2016 from 6:00 – 10:00 pm.

ii. Veterans Day Ceremony

Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Veterans Day Ceremony is set for Friday, November 11, 2016 at 5:30 pm.

iii. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Rolando Vela stated that he has communicated with the City of Port Isabel and South Padre Island so there is no conflict with Christmas events. We have scheduled the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony for Thursday, December 1, 2016 beginning at 6:00 pm.

Rolando Vela mentioned that the National Night Out is set for Tuesday, October 4, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:44 pm, Council Member Keplinger 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