

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: November 14, 2017
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Michael Carter, Mayor Pro Tem
Johvonne Howard, Councilmember Place 2
Frank Davalos, Jr., Councilmember Place 3
Rolando Gonzalez, Councilmember Place 4
Victor Worrell, Councilmember Place 5
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

Rolando Vela, City Manager
Ricardo Morado, City Attorney
Ricky Gonzalez, Police Lt.
Zachary Tamayo, Fire Chief
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: All Present

ALSO PRESENT: Janie Petty, Citizen
Lisa Harbin, Citizen
David Lohse, Citizen
Jerry Harbin, Citizen
Berte Cavazos,
Rick Moreno, Cameron Appraisal District
Richard Lane, Citizen
Rosalie Weisfeld, American Heart Association
Rusty Justice, Citizen
Felicia Justice, Citizen
Silke de Gobeo, Citizen
Maile Worrell, Citizen
Martha McClain, Citizen
Gabriella Bocanegra, Citizen
P.D. Swink, 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 Pastor Steven Hyde.
3. **Roll Call/Excused Absences** – All Members Present.
4. **OATH OF OFFICE** – Oath of Office for Municipal Judge Luis R. Hernandez and Alternate Judge Bennie Ochoa III.

Mayor Houston swore in newly appointed Municipal Judge Luis R. Hernandez and Alternate Municipal Judge Bennie Ochoa III.

5. **OPEN FORUM:**

Lisa Harbin addressed the Council, reading an article from the Port Isabel Press from September 30, 1971 concerning the donation of land from the Roloff Family, including the marina area. She also read a letter that David Lohse wrote to Richard A. Roloff, who was mayor of Laguna Vista in the 1960s, concerning the marina lease situation with the renewal.

David Lohse addressed the Council and read a reply letter, via email, from Richard Roloff to the letter he mailed to him. He stated that the Roloff Family intended for the LVRA to run and maintain the marina. In the May 2017 Election we elected Council Members that are pro LVRA, anyone not in favor of LVRA did not get elected. The Town Council needs to approve the lease for the LVRA to continue to maintain the marina.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion, consideration and possible action on each of the following items:
 - A. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017 - 30** – To approve Resolution Number 2017-30 to canvass the results of the Laguna Vista Special Election of November 7, 2017. (City Secretary)
Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2017-30 to canvass the results of the Laguna Vista Special Election of November 7, 2017, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.
 - B. **OATH OF OFFICE** – Administration of Oath of incoming Elected Official. (City Secretary)
Mayor Houston swore in Victor Worrell to the position of Council Member Place 5.
Council Member Worrell resigned as member from the Laguna Vista Recreational Association and turned over his key to David Lohse.

- C. **CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT** – Presentation from the Cameron Appraisal District concerning the renovation of the CAD headquarters. (Mayor Houston)

Rick Moreno from the Cameron Appraisal District addressed the Council, explained that the Texas Property Tax Code, Section 6.051 requires that 75% of entities approve any renovation to the Appraisal District headquarters. The current CAD building is 15,000 sq. ft. and was built in 1983. They have increased staff by 30 employees and in some case share desks. The CAD has been saving funds since 2013 and has \$800,000 for the renovation project that is estimated at \$650,000. Taxing units will not be required to provide any additional funds for this project. This is the most cost effective solution, demolition the building and rebuilding would cost approximately \$5,800,000. The new addition will add about 2,000 sq. ft. to the existing building.

- D. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017-34** – To approve Resolution Number 2017-34 approving the proposal by the Cameron Appraisal District for the renovation of the Appraisal District Headquarters. (Mayor Houston)

Mayor Houston made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2017-34 approving the proposal by the Cameron Appraisal District for the renovation of the Appraisal District Headquarters, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried unanimously.

- E. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 2017-31** – First Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2017-31 repealing Ordinance Number 2016-05 and adopt the current Building ICC Codes. (City Secretary)

No action was taken on the first reading of Ordinance Number 2017-31.

- F. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017-32** – To approve Resolution Number 2017-32 appointing the official newspaper for Town publications for the 2016-17 fiscal year. (City Secretary)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to reject Resolution Number 2017-32 appointing the official newspaper for Town publications, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- G. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017-33** – To approve Resolution Number 2017-33 casting a vote for the Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors Position 9. (City Manager)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2017-33 casting a vote, for Ricardo Morado for the Cameron Appraisal

District Board of Directors Position 9, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried unanimously.

H. MINUTES – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2017 Regular Meeting. (City Secretary)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2017 Regular Meeting, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, and Smith voted “aye” to approve. Council Member Worrell abstained from voting, motion carried.

I. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2017-26 – Second Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2017-26, an Ordinance adopting "Smoking Regulations" for the Town of Laguna Vista, Texas, prohibiting smoking of tobacco products and electronic smoking materials in certain areas within the Town limits; prohibiting smoking on Town premises and other property; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; providing a savings clause; providing for an effective date and publication; providing a severability clause; providing for a penalty; and providing for proper notice and meeting. (City Manager)

Council Member Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2017-26 adopting smoking regulations for the Town of Laguna Vista, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion.

Council Member Worrell made a motion to amend Ordinance 2017-26, Section 7, number 1, to strike out the sentence “provided, however, that not more than twenty-five (25) percent of rooms rented to guests in a hotel or motel may be so designated,” Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Member Carter, and Worrell voted “aye” to approve. Mayor Houston, Council Members Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, and Smith voted “nay” to approve, motion failed.

Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve the main motion, motion carried.

J. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2017-28 – Second Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2017-28 amending the 2017-18 budget. (City Manager)
Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2017-28 amending the 2017-18 budget, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- K. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2017-29** – Second Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2017-29 adopting unanimous settlement agreement, setting rates and establishing tariffs for the gas service by Texas Gas Service Company. (City Manager)

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2017-29 adopting unanimous settlement agreement, setting rates and establishing tariffs for the gas service by Texas Gas Service Company, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- L. FIREWORKS** – Consideration and action to include a fireworks display at the Town’s 2018 Independence Day Celebration. (City Manager)

Council Member Gonzalez made a motion to authorize city hall staff to proceed into having a fireworks display for the 2018 Independence Day Celebration, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Member Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

M. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- i. Laguna Vista 5k/10k Run

Rolando Vela stated that the first 5k/10k run was a great success. It was a cold day, but everyone enjoyed the run and are asking when the next one is scheduled.

- ii. Boo Bash by the Bay

Rolando Vela stated that we had a Charlie Brown Movie in the park on October 28, 2017. We also had a Halloween pet costume contest and a kids costume contest.

- iii. Veterans Day Ceremony

Rolando Vela stated that the Veterans Day Ceremony, which include the unveiling of the Aircraft carriers was a very important ceremony. People from San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Dallas and the entire valley came down for the ceremony. It was an excellent event.

- iv. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Tree Lighting Ceremony is set for Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 5:30 pm. We are expecting many kid’s groups performing. Rolando Vela stated that he is hoping that the Mariachi from the high school will be available to perform.

- v. Roloff Park Tree Decorating Contest

Rolando Vela announced that the trees in Roloff Park are available for a tree decorating contest. The deadline to sign up for the contest is November 27, 2017 and winners will be announced at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 30, 2017.


vi. Christmas House Decorating Contest

Rolando Vela stated that we are also having the House Decorating contest. The deadline to sign up is December 8, 2017, and judging will be done on December 9, 2017. The winners will be announced at the December 12, 2017 Council meeting.

N. **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 §551.074 to deliberate the evaluation of a Public Officer or Employee,

 City Manager – Rolando Vela

and Section §551.071; consultation with City Attorney regarding legal issues pertaining to:

 Marina Lease

 American Tower Company

Council Member Smith made a motion to go into executive session at 7:20 pm, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, pursuant to Section §551.074 to deliberate the evaluation of a Public Officer or Employee; City Manager – Rolando Vela and Section §551.071; consultation with City Attorney regarding legal issues pertaining to; Marina Lease and American Tower Company, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Member Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Town Council came out of executive session at 8:31 pm.

O. **OPEN SESSION** – Action, if any, on the items discussed in Executive Session. Mayor Houston made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to proceed, as instructed in executive session, with the amendments to the Home Rule Charter, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez and Worrell voted “aye” to approve. Council Member Smith abstained from voting, motion carried.

P. **L.V.R.A. LEASE** – Consideration and possible action on approval of a lease agreement with the L.V.R.A. to lease the marina property.

No action was taken on the L.V.R.A. Lease.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Davalos made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:35 pm, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

Alma Deckard, City Secretary