

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: June 12, 2018
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
Victor Worrell, Councilmember Place 5
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rolando Gonzalez, Councilmember Place 4

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Wilson, Citizen
Melinda . . ., Citizen
Joe Vega, Cameron County Parks
David Garza, Cameron County Commissioner
Jeanne Oehler, Visitor
Cassandra Caldwell, North Carolina
Corrine Jeter, Citizen
Martha McClain, Citizen
Linda Vela, Visitor
Irma Vela, Visitor

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 Gary Stone.

3. **Roll Call/Excused Absences** – Council Member Gonzalez was absent.

Council Member Smith made a motion to excuse Council Member Gonzalez from the meeting of June 12, 2018, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- 3A **PROCLAMATION** – A proclamation recognizing Rolando Vela as Ironman. (Mayor Houston)
Mayor presented Rolando Vela with a proclamation recognizing his accomplishment as Ironman.

4. **OPEN FORUM**

Stephanie Wilson addressed the Council explaining that she had just returned from a trip to Minnesota, along with Rolando Vela, visiting a company with playground equipment for physically challenged kids. She suggested that the Eco Center try to facilitate some of the playground equipment for special needs kids. When the school district brings kids to the park, any kids in wheelchairs do not get the opportunity to use the equipment, they can only sit and watch other kids playing. She asked that the Council consider the special needs equipment.

Council Member Carter arrived for meeting at 6:17 pm.

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 May 8, 2018 Special Council Meeting.
- b) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2018 Regular Council Meeting.

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as follows; (a) approval of the minutes from the May 8, 2018 Special Council Meeting, (b) approval of the minutes from the May 8, 2018 Regular Council Meeting, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

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

- A. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** - Consider approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Laguna Vista and County of Cameron regarding constructing the South Texas Eco-Tourism Center within Town-owned 23-acres on Highway 100. (City Manager)

Council Member Howard made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as read by Town Attorney Ricardo Morado, regarding constructing the South Texas Eco-Tourism Visitor Center, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- B. EDA PUBLIC WORKS GRANT** - Consider approval to submit Economic Development Administration Public Works grant application for the development of water and sewer utility infrastructure. (City Manager)

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve the submittal of the Economic Development Administration Public Works grant application for the development of water and sewer utility infrastructure, for \$800,000, with Cameron County providing a match of \$200,000 for the grant, Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

- C. ROLOFF PARK SPECIAL USE PERMIT** – Consideration and possible action to consider a request from Dr. Jeannie A. Oehler for use of Roloff Park on the third Saturday of each month for veterinary services. (City Manager)

Mayor Houston made a motion to approve the Roloff Park Special Use Permit for Dr. Jeannie Oehler for use of Roloff Park, for six months, until December 2018, on the second Saturday of each month, from 1 – 3 pm, for veterinary services, and to allow flexibility for demand of services, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members, Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

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

Mayor Houston made a motion to appoint Council Member Davalos as Mayor Pro Tem pursuant to the Home Rule Charter, Section 2.03(b), Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- E. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2018-18** – First Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2018-18, an Ordinance Defining Noise Nuisances, Specifying Certain Acts or Failures to Act Constituting a Nuisance; Establishing a Procedure for the Abatement of these Nuisances and Providing Penalties for Violation of its Provisions. (City Manager)

Rolando Vela stated that Section 6 will be eliminated. This ordinance will cover only noise issues.

Council Member Carter asked if a metric meter will be used to determine the violation.

Council Member Smith stated that the draft mentions weekdays and Sundays but not Saturdays.

Council Member Worrell suggested simplifying it with the meter use.

Rolando Vela stated that he and the Town Attorney will revise for the second reading.

No action was taken on first reading of Ordinance Number 2018-18.

- F. RESOLUTION NUMBER CDC2018-01** – To approve Resolution Number CDC2018-01 amending the 2017-18 CDC fiscal year budget. (City Manager)

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve Resolution Number CDC2018-01 amending the 2017-18 CDC fiscal year budget, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- G. RESOLUTION NUMBER 2018-19** – To approve Resolution Number 2018-19 approving cooperation with the cities served by AEP to review AEP Texas Inc’s request approval of adjustment to its energy cost recovery factor. (City Manager)

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2018-19 approving cooperation with the cities served by AEP to review AEP Texas Inc’s request approval of adjustment to its energy cost recovery factor, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- H. LAFITTE’S WELL** – Consider and action to approve the recommendation of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) to fund improvements to Lafitte’s Well in the amount of \$3,290. (City Manager)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) to fund improvements to Lafitte’s Well in the amount of \$3,290, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- I. **FIREWORK DISPLAY** – Consider and action to approve the recommendation of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) to fund the firework display in the amount of \$5,700. (City Manager)

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) to fund the firework display in the amount of \$5,700, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- J. **REPLATTING** – Consideration and action to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the replatting of Original Townsite, Morris Circle, Lots D and E. (City Manager)

Council Member Howard made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the replatting of Original Townsite, Morris Circle, Lots D and E, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- K. **REPLATTING** – Consideration and action to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the replatting of South Padre Island Golf, Parcel 19B, Lots 3 – 24. (City Manager)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the replatting of South Padre Island Golf Club, Parcel 19B, Lots 3 – 24, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Member Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve. Council Member Carter abstained from voting. Motion carried.

- L. **SUBDIVISION PLAT** – Consideration and action to approve the preliminary subdivision plat of the South Padre Island Golf Club, Parcel 16D. (City Manager)

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve the preliminary subdivision plat of the South Padre Island Golf Club, Parcel 16D, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve. Council Member Carter abstained from voting. Motion carried.

M. ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS – Consideration and action to appoint residents to the following advisory boards: (City Manager)

i. Library Board (2)

Council Member Smith made a motion to appoint Pamela Meredith to the Library Board, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

ii. Board of Adjustments (1)

Council Member Howard made a motion to appoint Rafael Salazar to the Board of Adjustments, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

iii. CDC Board (1)

Council Member Worrell made a motion to appoint Sid Ramos to the C.D.C Board, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston and Council Members Carter, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve. Council Member Howard voted “nay.” Motion carried.

N. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

i. UTRGV Health Clinic

Rolando Vela stated that the Health Clinic has been opened for about a month. We are scheduling the ribbon cutting ceremony and reception in the last two weeks in July.

ii. Independence Day

Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 30, 2018. We will have the Fun Run at 7 AM and Parade and Celebration from 5:00 – 10:00 pm. The Bongo Dogs will be playing and we will have the fireworks show.

O. 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 legal issues pertaining to:

-  Brownsville ETJ Litigation
-  Marina Lease

Council Member Smith made a motion to go into executive session at 7:44 pm, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, pursuant to Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney regarding legal issues pertaining to Brownsville ETJ Litigation and Marina Lease, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Town Council came out of executive session at 8:05 pm.

P. OPEN SESSION – Consideration and possible action, if any on the item discussed in Executive Session.

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Smith made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:06 pm, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

Alma Deckard, City Secretary