

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: October 14, 2014
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Michael Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem
Wanda Reyes-Rice – Councilmember Place 2
Frank Davalos, Jr., - Councilmember Place 3
Leti Keplinger, Councilmember Place 4
Gary Meschi, Councilmember Place 5
Richard Hinojosa, Councilmember Place 6

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: All present

ALSO PRESENT: Richard Lane, Citizen
Norris Fletcher, Citizen
Rita Garcia, Citizen
Rudy Garcia, Citizen
Arden Curts, Citizen
Jim Hunter, Brownsville, Texas
Robert Guerra, Jr., Brownsville, Texas

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. **PROCLAMATION** – A proclamation recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club Laguna Madre. (City Manager)

Mayor read the proclamation for the 25th Anniversary of the Boys and Girls Laguna Madre Club.

5. **PROCLAMATION** – A proclamation recognizing October 2014 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. (Mayor Houston)

Mayor read the proclamation recognizing October 2014 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

6. **OPEN FORUM:**

Richard Lane addressed the Council concerning the chemicals using in doing street improvements. He stated he wanted to know what chemicals are in the black tar that was spilled on FM 510.

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

- A. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2014-29** – A resolution recognizing former Council Member Rita Garcia. (City Manager)

Mayor Houston read and presented the resolution plaque to former Council Member Rita Garcia, which was approved at the September 9, 2014 regular meeting.

- B. **MINUTES** – Approval of the minutes from the September 9, 2014 Regular Meeting.

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2014 Regular Meeting, with a correction to Item E, stating that Council Member Rice opposed motion, Council Member Rice seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- C. **FIRE DEPARTMENT** – Presentation from Interim Fire Chief Julio Olguin on the Laguna Vista Volunteer Fire Department. (Interim Chief Olguin)

Julio Olguin informed the Council that the fire Dept has 12 active volunteer members and is working on recruiting members. They are also organizing to complete training session with the City of Port Isabel and South Padre Island Volunteer Fire Departments. All three communities assist in mutual aid, so it's a good idea for all of us to train together. The fire Dept members hope to go out in the community and inform citizens of the department's goals and needs. Members in the department is definitely a need.

- D. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2014-30** – Second Reading –approval of the second reading of Ordinance Number 2014-30 repealing Ordinance 2014-18 and 2014-19 with regard to Parks rules and regulations. (City Manager)

Council Member Rice made a motion to table Ordinance Number 2014-30 and continue discussing for the November 3, 2014 meeting . . . motion died for lack of second.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2014-30 repealing Ordinance 2014-18 and 2014-19 with regard to Parks rules and regulations, with all fees removed, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. Council Member Rice opposed motion, all others voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- E. FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT** – Presentation on the 4th Quarter Financial Performance Report (July 2014 – September 2014). (City Manager)

Rolando Vela reviewed the 4th quarter financial report, explaining that 98.5% of the revenue was realized and 96% of expenditures was used according to the 2013-14 budget. Property taxes’ revenue collection was at 96.5%.

Council Member Meschi asked when the grant reimbursement would come in. Rolando Vela stated that we would probably receive it by the end of the year.

Council Member Meschi asked if \$1,000 in the line item ammunition budget was sufficient for the police department. Julio Olguin stated that all officers must go to the shooting range to qualify every 3 months. Rolando Vela stated that he would check on the amount that the police department may need.

Council Member Carter asked if the encumbrances were included in the expenditures on page 4 of the memo. Rolando Vela stated he would follow up and if it was not included he would add it to the list.

- F. STREET IMPROVEMENTS** - To authorize the City Manager to initiate the procurement process to secure engineering services for the Ebony Lane street improvement project. (City Manager)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to authorize the City Manager to initiate the procurement process to secure engineering services for the

Ebony Lane street improvement project, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

G. STREET IMPROVEMENTS – To award a contract for street improvements on Palm Blvd and Mesquite Street. (City Manager)

Council Member Hinojosa made a motion to award the contract for street improvements on Palm Blvd and Mesquite Drive to G & T Paving for \$305,052.00 with an additional \$9,000 for testing, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

H. DELIVERY SYSTEM REFORM INCENTIVE PAYMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT - To authorize the City Manager to execute the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments Services Agreement on behalf of the Town of Laguna Vista for 2014-15 fiscal year. (City Manager)

Mayor Houston made a motion to authorize the City Manager to execute the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments Services Agreement on behalf of the Town of Laguna Vista for 2014-15 fiscal year, Council Member Davalos seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

I. 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 \$55,718.63. There was no activity during the month of September.

J. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

i. Hallam Street Project

Rolando Vela stated that the Hallam street improvement project is complete.

ii. Clean Up Campaign

Rolando Vela informed the Council that a town wide Clean Up Campaign is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 8 am to 12 noon.

iii. Music by the Bay

Rolando Vela stated that a Music by the Bay is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 5 – 9 pm. Hector Guzman and the All Nighters will be playing.

iv. Veterans Day Ceremony

Rolando Vela stated that the Veterans Day Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 5:30 pm, at Veterans Park.

- K. EXECUTIVE SESSION** - There will be an Executive Session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney to seek advice in legal matters.

🚩 Potential litigation relating to Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction

Mayor Houston informed the Council that she has filed a Conflict of Interest form with the City Secretary, and will not be attending the executive session. Mayor Pro-tem will handle the executive session.

Council Member Keplinger made a motion to go into executive session at 6:58 pm, pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Section §551.071; consultation with Town Attorney to seek advice in legal matters – Potential Litigation relating to Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction, Council Member Meschi seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Town Council came out of executive session at 7:50 pm.

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

Council Member Carter made a motion to hire Jim Hunter & Associates, at the same rate as the Town Attorney, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. Mayor Houston abstained from motion, all others voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Davalo made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:51 pm, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Attest:

Susie Houston, Mayor

Alma Deckard, City Secretary