

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

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: November 1, 2016

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor  
Wanda Reyes, Councilmember Place 2  
Frank Davalos, Jr., Councilmember Place 3  
Leti Keplinger, Mayor ProTem  
Nadine Smith, Councilmember Place 6

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Carter, Councilmember Place 1  
Gary Meschi, Councilmember Place 5

ALSO PRESENT: Carole Benham, Citizen  
A.J. Garcia, Military Order of the Purple Heart 1544  
Dant J. Leon, MOPH 1544  
Miguel S. Flores, Jr., Military Order of the Purple Hear 1544  
Gloria Garcia, Military Order of the Purple Heart 1544  
Carlota Juarez, Harlingen, Texas  
Pedro Juarez, Military Order of the Purple Heart 1544  
Silke De Gobeo, Citizen  
Victor Worrell, Citizen  
Macarro Mejia, Harlingen, Texas  
Robert Guerra, Royston Rayzor Attorneys

ORDER OF BUSINESS

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Council Member Smith.

**3. Roll Call/Excused Absences – Council Members Carter and Meschi were absent.**

**Council Member Keplinger made a motion to excuse Council Members Carter and Meschi from tonight’s meeting, November 1, 2016, Council Member Reyes seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**4. OPEN FORUM:**

Carole Benham addressed the Council with regard to the Salvation Army Angel Tree gifts. She asked that they participate to give Christmas gifts to kids in the Port Isabel, Laguna Heights and Laguna Vista area. A signup sheet was passed around.

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

**A. PRESENTATION** – Presentation by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. (City Manager)

**A.J. Garcia from the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 1544, presented Mayor Houston with a plaque of appreciation for becoming a Purple Heart City.**

**B. PURPLE HEART PROCLAMATION** – Consideration and action to approve the proclamation honoring the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the Town of Laguna Vista. (Mayor Houston)

**Mayor read the proclamation and presented to the MOPH Chapter 1544 members present.**

**C. MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2016 Regular Meeting.

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the October 11, 2016 Town Council Meeting minutes, Council Member Reyes seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**D. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-17** – First Reading – To consider Ordinance Number 2016-17, repealing Ordinance 2014-30 and updating the rules and regulations pertaining to parks to include open carry. (City Manager)

**No action was taken for the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-17.**

- E. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-18** – First Reading - To consider Ordinance Number 2016-18, providing for a change in the Municipal Contributions to the current service annuity reserve at retirement of Town employees. (City Manager)

**No action was taken for the first reading of Ordinance Number 2016-18.**

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

**Rolando Vela informed the Council that the Certificates Of Obligation fund balance is \$41,885.10. There were two expenditures, during the month, for park benches and mulch for the playground area.**

- G. 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT** – Presentation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Financial Performance Report (July 2016 – September 2016). (City Manager)

**Rolando Vela stated that the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is the final quarter for the 2015-16 fiscal year. The revenues collected was \$871,000, which is 99.6% of the budget. Expenditures spent was at 95% of budget. There was \$170,000 spent on one time purchases for the year.**

**H. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

- i. Veterans Day Ceremony

**Rolando Vela stated that Veterans Day Ceremony is set for Friday, November 1, 2016 at 5:00 for the sign unveiling and 5:30 for the ceremony and unveiling of the purple heart monument at Veterans Park.**

- ii. Laguna Vista Live: Music by the Bay

**Rolando Vela stated that the Music by the Bay event is set for Saturday, November 12, 2016 from 6 – 10:00 pm. There will be vendors and The Agency will be playing.**

- iii. Christmas Events

**Rolando Vela stated that the Christmas Tree Lighting Event is set for Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 5:30 pm. The tree decorating contest winners will be announced at this event. The Home decorating contest will be kicked off and winners will be announced at the December 2016 Council meeting.**

- I. 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:

- ✚ American Tower lease agreement
- ✚ ETJ Litigation
- ✚ Short Term Lease Ordinance
- ✚ Plastic Bag Ordinance

**Council Member Reyes made a motion to go into executive session at 6:34 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: American Tower Lease Agreement, ETJ Litigation, Short Term Lease Ordinance and Plastic Bag Ordinance, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**Town Council came out of executive session at 7:15 pm.**

**J. OPEN SESSION** – Action, if any on the items discussed in Executive Session.

**Mayor Houston made a motion to direct the City Attorney to respond to the American Tower letter, on the lease agreement, as instructed in executive session, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Davalos made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:16 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