

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: February 11, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Michael Carter, Council Member Place 1
Johvonne Howard, Council Member Place 2
Frank Davalos, Jr., Council Member Place 3
Rolando Gonzalez, Council Member Place 4
Victor Worrell, Mayor Pro-Tem
Nadine Smith, Council Member Place 6

Alan Ozuna, City Attorney
Tony David, City Manager
Ricky Gonzalez, Police Lt.
Ana Hernandez, Office Assistant
Rendie Gonzales, Office Clerk
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: All Present

ALSO PRESENT: Eduardo Salazar, Laguna Madre Water District
Charles Ortiz, Laguna Madre Water District
Carlos Galvan, Jr, Laguna Madre Water District
Orlando Ruiz, Laguna Madre Water District
Robert Gomez, Laguna Madre Water District
Herb Houston, Laguna Madre Water District Vice-Chair
Corrine Jeter, Citizen
Janie Petty, Citizen
Karen Watt, Citizen
Rusty Justice, Citizen
Felicia Justice, Citizen
Sonia Harry, Citizen
Silke De Gobeo, Citizen
Richard Lane, Citizen
Javier Ibarra, AMI Kids
Gene Orive, Jr., Mejia & Rose, Inc.
Martha McClain, Citizen

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM
2. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Pastor Steven Hyde from Lighthouse Assembly Church.
3. **Roll Call/Excused Absences** – All Present.
4. **OPEN FORUM:**

Corrine Jeter addressed the Council stating it was great to hear the rollcall. Her proclamation is that Mayor Houston is perceived to be Governor of Texas.

Karen Watt addressed the Council stating that the 3rd Annual Duathlon was held January 26, 2020 and the proceeds from the race are going to the AMI Kids. She presented a check to AMI Kids Director, Javier Ibarra.

5. **RECOGNITION** – To recognize Tiffany Palestina for creating the shirt logo for the Du It By The Bay Duathlon 2020. (Mayor Houston)

The Port Isabel High School held a contest and Tiffany Palestina won with her design for the Duathlon shirt logo.

Karen Watt and Sonia Harry presented Tiffany Palestina with a Walmart gift card, shirt and frame with the design of the Duathlon.

6. **PRESENTATION** – Presentation from the Laguna Madre Water District regarding infrastructure needs. (City Secretary)

Carlos Galvan, Jr., presented a video concerning the infrastructure improvements needed for the Laguna Madre Water District plants. There will be a bond issue election on May 2, 2020 election.

There are three plants, one in Laguna Vista, one in Port Isabel and one in South Padre Island. The Laguna Vista plant is the only one that is fully currently operational.

The cost of the improvements for Plant 1 is \$22.4 million; elevated tank replacements is \$3.5 million, and the Water Distribution System is \$1.7 million.

Council Member Smith is a member of the Laguna Madre Water District Bond Committee. She urged everyone to vote in favor of the bond issue because it is critical that the equipment is improved and maintained.

Council Member Smith urged everyone to read up on the information or tour the facilities to see the dire need of the improvements.

Council Member Gonzalez asked how long the process once the bond issue is approved. Charles Ortiz stated that once the bond is approved, it will take about a year for funding, a year for the plans and another year to make the improvements. We're basically looking at three and a half years.

Herb Houston reiterated what Council Member Smith stated. He stated that if the water plant in Laguna Vista goes out, the Port Isabel plant will have to be started and the water will smell and taste horrible. Citizens could be without water for days, if this malfunction happens.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:** All matters listed under this item are 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 of the January 14, 2020 Regular Meeting. (City Secretary)
 - b) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 Audit Committee Meeting. (City Secretary)
 - c) **MINUTES** – Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 Special Meeting. (City Secretary)
 - d) **RACIAL PROFILE REPORT** – Consideration and possible action to accept the Laguna Vista Police Department 2019 Racial Profile Report. (Police Chief)
 - e) **CDC CARPORT FUNDING** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Carport not to exceed \$25,000. (City Manager)
 - f) **CDC LIBRARY FUNDING** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Library building improvements, not to exceed \$16,000. (City Manager)
 - g) **CDC FIRE STATION FUNDING** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Fire Station improvements, not to exceed \$15,000. (City Manager)
 - h) **CDC FIREWORK DISPLAY FUNDING** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Firework Display at the Independence Celebration, not to exceed \$6,520.00. (City Manager)

- i) **REPLAT** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat Original Townsite, Block 444A, Lots 3 and 6. (City Manager)
- j) **REPLAT** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat South Padre Island Golf Club, Phase I, Block 4, Lot 25. (City Manager)
- k) **REPLAT** – Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat Original Townsite, Block 555, Lots 4 and 5. (City Manager)

Mayor Houston asked that the Consent agenda items e, f, g, and h be pulled for separate discussion.

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as follows; (a) approval of the minutes for the January 14, 2020 Town Council regular meeting; (b) approval of the minutes for the January 30, 2020 Town Council Audit Committee meeting; (c) approval of the minutes for the January 30, 2020 Town Council Special meeting; (d) approval of the Laguna Vista Police Department 2019 Racial Profile Report; (i) approval of the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat Original Townsite, Block 444A, Lots 3 and 6; (j) approval of the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat South Padre Island Golf Club, Phase I, Block 4, Lot 25; (k) approval of the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to replat Original Townsite, Block 555, Lots 4 and 5, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item (e) approval of the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Carport not to exceed \$25,000, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item (f) approval of the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Library building improvements not to exceed \$16,000, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item (g) approval of the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Fire station improvements not to exceed \$15,000, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Council Member Howard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item (h) approval of the recommendation from the CDC Board of funding for the Firework Display at the Independence Celebration not to exceed \$6,520, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

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

- a) RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020 - 05** – Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution Number 2020-05 authorizing the Police Chief to submit Grant #3996901 Application to the Texas Governors Office. (Police Chief)

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2020-05 authorizing the Police Chief to submit Grant #3996901 application to the Texas Governors Office, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- b) GRANT ADMINISTRATION** – Consideration and possible action to award the 2019-20 Texas Community Development Block Grant contract for Administrative Services. (City Manager)

Mayor Houston made a motion to award the 2019-20 Texas Community Development Block Grant contract for Administrative Services to Business Services Company, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- c) MEDICAL DIRECTOR** – Consideration and possible action to approve the agreement between the Town of Laguna Vista and MercyRGV PLLC – Dr. Eduardo Uribe, Medical Director. (City Manager)

Council Member Howard made a motion to approve the agreement between the Town of Laguna Vista and MercyRGV PLLC – Dr. Eduardo Uribe, Medical Director, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- d) INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION** – Consideration and possible action to set the date for the Independence Day Celebration. (Mayor Houston)

Council Member Howard made a motion to set the date for the Independence Day Celebration with first choice date of Thursday, July 2, 2020, second choice date of Saturday, July 11, 2020 and third choice date of Sunday, July 5, 2020, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- e) LIBRARY DIRECTOR TRAVEL** – Consideration and possible action to approve travel for Pura Mireles to attend the Texas Library Association Annual Conference. (Library Director)

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the travel for Pura Mireles to attend the Texas Library Association Annual Conference, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- f) CLERK TRAVEL** – Consideration and possible action to approve travel for Ana Hernandez to attend the TMCEC continuing education court seminar in South Padre Island. (City Secretary)

Council Member Davalos made a motion to approve travel for Ana Hernandez to attend the TMCEC continuing education court seminar in South Padre Island, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

- g) CLERK TRAVEL** – Consideration and possible action to approve travel for Rendie Gonzales to attend the TMCEC new court clerk seminar in Austin. (City Secretary)

Council Member Smith made a Motion to approve travel for Rendie Gonzales to attend the TMCEC new court clerk seminar in Austin, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

h) CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- i. Fire Hydrants Update

Tony David informed the Council that \$24,000 has been spent on the fire hydrant repairs. There are an estimated \$25,000 additional repairs to repair all hydrants. The amount budgeted was approximately \$48,000.

ii. Firework Display Update

Tony David stated that the dates have been selected on the previous agenda item for the Independent Celebration.

- i) **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Executive closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, regarding any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to Section 551.071 - consultation with Town Attorney; 551.072 - deliberation regarding real property; 551.074 - deliberation regarding personnel matters; and 551.087 – deliberation regarding economic development negotiations.

 **City Manager Anthony David**

Council Member Worrell made a motion to go into executive session at 6:59 PM, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, regarding any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to Section 551.071 – consultation with Town Attorney; 551.072 – deliberation regarding real property; 551.074 – deliberation regarding personnel matters; and 551.087 – deliberation regarding economic development negotiations – City Manager Anthony David, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Town Council came out of executive session at 7:58 PM.

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

Mayor Houston made a motion to accept the resignation of Anthony David as City Manager and appoint him as Police Chief and Interim City Manager, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter, Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Smith made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:59 PM, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Mayor Houston, Council Members Carter,

Howard, Davalos, Gonzalez, Worrell and Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.

Attest:

Susie Houston, Mayor

Alma Deckard, City Secretary