

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

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL/WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL**

DATE: August 25, 2020  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Banquet Room at South Padre Island Golf Club

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor  
Michael Carter, Council Member Place 1  
Johvonne Howard, Council Member Place 2  
Victor Worrell, Council Member Place 5  
Nadine Smith, Mayor Pro Tem

Ed Meza, City Manager  
Alan Ozuna, Town Attorney  
Rendie Gonzales, Town Bookkeeper

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rolando Gonzalez, Council Member Place 4

ALSO PRESENT: Tony David, Police Chief

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1. Call to Order** – Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
- 2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance** – was led by Mayor Houston.
- 3. Roll Call/Excused Absences** – Council Member Gonzalez was absent.

**Mayor Houston made a motion to excuse Council Member Gonzalez, Mayor Pro-Tem seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Worrell, Howard, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, and Mayor Houston voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

- 4. OPEN FORUM** - Due to COVID-19 emergency, the Town will live stream the meeting on the Town’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/lvtexas/>. Viewers will be allowed to comment during our live stream on any topic. Comments submitted after the close of the open forum may be read at the end of the meeting. Each commenter will be identified by Facebook Username. There is no discussion

or formal action taken during this agenda item.

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

**a) FY 2020-21 Budget** – Consideration of FY 2020-2021 Budget. (Mayor Houston)

*Mayor Houston addressed the needs of our police department and that we needed to find the money for at least one new patrol vehicle, 6 new rifles and 2% wage increase for all officers.*

*Mayor Pro-Tem Smith agreed and added that the officers needed to have their sidearm weapon upgraded and that due to the salty air climate we have to make sure they have the best equipment that can have.*

*Police Chief spoke briefly about the cost of the car but that it comes fully equipped, he explained the need for rifles is to limit the cities liability if they were to ever have to fire the rifles and he explained that he has arranged for a buy back program through a close contact wherein they can get all the officers new weapons for about \$2,000.00 and each officer buying back the weapon they are trading in for the upgrade.*

*Police Chief addressed the cost of the rifles are about \$1,500.00 a piece and that the department already has two and would only need 6 more.*

*The council agreed that they would ask the CDC to purchase the patrol unit.*

*Council Member Howard asked about the Capital program and why are we not following it.*

**Mayor Houston made motion to meet on Tuesday September 1, 2020 at 5:00 pm, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Worrell, Howard, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, and Mayor Houston voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**b) TAX RATE** – Consideration and possible action on proposed Tax Rate for FY 2020-21 and scheduling and notice of public hearing. (City Manager)

*Mayor Pro-Tem Smith made a motion to raise the tax rate by 0.384124 and set a public hearing for September 8, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Howard, Worrell, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.*

**c) ELECTION** – Consideration and possible action on contract for election services with Cameron County Elections Administrator. (City Manager)

*Town Attorney presented the new contract from Cameron County Elections Administrator.*

**Mayor Pro-Tem Smith made a motion to contract with Cameron County Elections Administrator for the November elections, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Howard, Worrell, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, and Mayor Houston voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

**6. ADJOURNMENT –**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Smith made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m., Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Howard, Worrell, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, and Mayor Houston voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

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Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

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Ana Hernandez, City Secretary