

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

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

DATE: September 1, 2020

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: City Hall Building

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 Gonzales, Council Member Place 4

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Anthony David

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order** Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Nadine Smith.
- 3. Roll Call/Excused Absences** – Council Member Gonzalez was absent.

Mayor Houston made a motion to excuse Council Member Gonzalez from the Special/Workshop Meeting on August 11, 2020, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, 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 2020-21 Budget (Mayor Houston)

Mayor Houston states that she feels we should increase tax rate. We have looked at \$0.01, \$0.02, \$0.03. She had no suggestions but had some ideas. She stated we have roads to fix, PD Dept & Fire Dept to fund, our Parks need improvement. She also stated that our tax rate is one of the lowest in the state.

Mayor Pro-Smith stated that compared our tax rate to other cities in the Valley. She feels that people expect better roads, better police service, better parks, better fire stations lets fix those. She supports a \$0.03 – \$0.05 tax rate.

Council Member Carter stated that our revenues are not where we want to be, he stated that right now the Town has only 110 days of fund balance to run on and we should always aim for a minimum of at least 90 days. Council Member Carter supports a \$0.02 tax increase. He also supports the purchase of a police car and guns.

Council Member Worrell supports the tax increase.

Council Member Howard is all for the tax rate increase she stated we need roads, sidewalk etc.

Council Member Carter & Mr. Ozuna discuss adjusting the rate of the I & S to the M & O and what the base I & S rate is based off of which is the debt ratio is. Council Member Carter stated that we don't need to build up our I & S balance unless we are trying to pay off the debt early.

Bookkeeper Rendie Gonzales suggested that they consider having the CDC fund the street project and the Town Purchase the car so there wasn't as big of delay for purchasing the new vehicle. The CDC doesn't meet again until the end of September and it would still have to go through the 60 day notice process if funded through the CDC. We have more time available to us for the street matching than we do the patrol car.

Council Member Howard stressed the imporanct of the street maintenance and that she supports the increase that gets that done. She asked City Manager about the deadline for the \$45,000.00

matching payment and he advised he would get back to her.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NO COMMENTS

6. ADJOURNMENT -

**Mayor Pro-Tem Smith made a motion to adjourn at 6:48 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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Attest:

Susie Houston, Mayor

Ana Hernandez, City Secretary