

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

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: JULY 12, 2011
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susie Houston, Mayor
Steve Muschenheim, Council Member
Leti Keplinger, Council Member
Michael Carter, Council Member
Paul Villas, Council Member

Rolando Vela, City Manager
Ramon Vela, Interim Town Attorney
Robert McGinnis, Police Chief
Alma Deckard, City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Schnier, Council Member
Rita Garcia, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Arden Curts, Citizen
Harold Sherman, Citizen
Carole Benham, Citizen
Richard Lane, Citizen
John Karcanes, Citizen
Celeste Morris, Citizen
Bud Sherman, Citizen
Donna Sherman, Citizen
Walter Birdwell, Citizen
Nancy Franz, Citizen
Martha McClain, Citizen
Tony Escamilla, Fire Dept.
Kelli Hamlinck, Fire Dept.
Gabriella Bocanegra, Fire Dept.
Katherine Murphy, Fire Dept.
Julio Olguin, Police Sgt.
Frank Lerma, Police Officer
Ben Dennard, Fire Dept.
Eric Flores, Police Officer

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Mayor Houston called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Pledge and Invocation was lead by Councilman Villas.

3. Roll Call – Council members Schnier and Garcia were absent.

4. Open Forum:

Richard Lane addressed the Council concerning the Town sign, it appears that it says Laguna ista with two trees in the middle, it does not say Laguna Vista. He also suggested that the Council have more than three months of reserve in case of an emergency. It is his feeling that the Town should not increase its debt with the state of the economy. We should only buy what we need, not what we want. Mr. Lane mentioned that the million dollar park drawings are good, but we don't have a million dollars to spend on parks.

Celeste Morris addressed the Council concerning various topics. She suggested a recycling program where Laguna Vista would make money. The Fire and Police Department are doing a great job. She raised the question of drainage improvements again, concerning the area at Broadway and FM 510. Ms. Morris stated that she found 4 homeless kittens and would appreciate any help from someone that might want them.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RECOGNITIONS

- a) FIRE FIGHTERS – Recognition of fire fighters that have completed the State Fire Fighters Marshals Association Basic Fire Course.

Mayor recognized Fire Fighters Robert McGinnis, Tony Escamilla, Julio Olguin, for completing the State Fire Fighters Marshals Association Basic Fire Course. Jacob Curtis and Stephen Sustaita also completed the training, but were not present at the meeting.

- b) EMT - Recognition of fire fighters that have completed the Emergency Medical Technician certification.

Mayor recognized Fire Fighter Ben Dennard for completing the Emergency Medical Technician certification.

- c) ECA – Recognition of fire fighters and police officers that have completed the Emergency Care Attendant certification.

Mayor recognized Fire Fighters Robert McGinnis, Julio Olguin, Frank Lerma, Eric Flores, Kelli Hamlinck, Gabriela Bocanegra and Katherine Murphy for completing the Emergency Care Attendant certification.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: All matters listed under this item are considered to be routine by the Council and will be enacted for approval by one motion. There will not be 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 minutes from the June 14, 2011 Regular Council Meeting.
- b) CURRENT OBLIGATIONS – Approval of the current obligations for the Library Money Market Account as of June 30, 2011.
- c) CURRENT OBLIGATIONS – Approval of the current obligations for the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) Project 728220 as of June 30, 2011.
- d) C.D.C. FUNDING – Approval for the Community Development Corporation (CDC) funding of \$4,067 for a full page ad in the SPI Guide Magazine for 2011-12.
- e) RESOLUTION NUMBER CDC2011-01 – To approve the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation (CDC) Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget.

Council Member Villas made a motion to approve the agenda consent items as follows: (a) approval of the minutes from the Town Council meeting on June 14, 2011, (b) approval of the current obligations for the Library Money Market Account as of June 30, 2011 for \$900, (c) approval of the current obligations for the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) Project 728220 as of June 30, 2011 for \$1,805.4, (d) approval of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) funding of \$4,067 for a full page ad in the SPI Guide Magazine for 2011-12, (e) approval of Resolution Number CDC 2011-01 to approve the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation (CDC) 2011-12 Fiscal Year Budget, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

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

- A. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2011-19 – Second Reading – To adopt an ordinance regulating maximum speed regulations of motor vehicles on Town owned and maintained or controlled roadways when special hazards exists with regard to traffic, including pedestrian, or weather or other hazardous roadway conditions. (Police Chief)

Council Member Muschenheim made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance Number 2011-19 regulating the maximum speed regulations of motor vehicles on Town owned and maintained or controlled roadways when special

hazards or weather or other hazardous roadway conditions, Council Member Villas seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- B. FINANCIAL ADVISOR** – Discussion with the Town Attorney on the selection of a financial advisor to analyze the Town of Laguna Vista's financial ability to incur debt. (Interim Town Attorney)

Council Member Villas made a motion to authorize staff to request, Request For Qualifications (RFP) for Financial Advisors, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- C. CDC WORKSHOP** – To schedule a joint workshop with the Community Development Corporation (CDC) Board to discuss the use of 4B funds and the use of the Town-owned 23 acres. (City Manager)

Council Member Muschenheim made a motion to direct the City Manager to schedule a joint workshop meeting between the Town Council and the Laguna Vista Community Development Corporation (CDC) sometime in September 2011, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- D. CAMERON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY LEASE AGREEMENT** – To discuss the proposed lease agreement with Cameron County Housing Authority for the use of the vacant land, adjacent to Tanglewood Apartments, for recreational use. (Interim Town Attorney)

Mayor Houston made a motion to approve the lease agreement between the Town of Laguna Vista and the Cameron County Housing Authority (CCHA) for the use of the vacant land, adjacent to the Tanglewood Apartments for recreational use, with the revision of the 90 days' notice to cancel agreement, as requested from the CCHA, Council Member Muschenheim seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- E. ETJ ANNEXATION** – Discussion with the City Manager regarding the expansion of the Town's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) after becoming a Home Rules municipality and the impact that this will have on the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with the City of Brownsville. (City Manager)

Council Member Villas made a motion to direct the City Manager to obtain a map with indicating the town limits and a map indicating the Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) boundaries, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- F. ORDINANCE NUMBER 2011-23 – First Reading** – An ordinance amending Ordinance 2007-29 establishing new nuisance abatement procedures for abandoned and junk vehicles. (City Manager)

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance Number 2011-23 amending Ordinance 2007-29 establishing new nuisance abatement procedures for abandoned and junk vehicles, Council Member Muschenheim seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

- G.** ORDINANCE NUMBER 2011-24 – First Reading – An ordinance amending Ordinance 2007-29 establishing new nuisance abatement procedures for property maintenance. (City Manager)

Council Member Keplinger made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance Number 2011-24 amending Ordinance 2007-29 establishing new nuisance abatement procedures for property maintenance, Council Member Muschenheim seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

7. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

- a) Summer Feeding Program

Rolando Vela stated that the Summer Feeding Program will continue until August 19, 2011. HEB Store has donated two tents and twelve chairs to use at some of the feeding locations in town. Drawings will be held at the end of the program for the kids that participated in the program.

- b) Community Events 2011

Rolando Vela informed the Council that tentatively the following events are scheduled:

August 27, 2011 will be clean up day around town.

October 4, 2011 will be the National Night Out for the Police Department.

October 8, 2011 will be the Open House for the Fire Prevention Week.

November 11, 2011 will be the Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Park.

November 12, 2011 there will be a Music Fest by the Bay.

December 1, 2011 will the Second Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Muschenheim made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:05 pm, Council Member Keplinger seconded the motion. All voted "aye" to approve, motion carried.

Susie Houston, Mayor

Attest:

Alma Deckard, City Secretary