

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 31, 2010**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, August 31, 2010, at 6:30 P.M.** in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 E. Commercial Avenue, La Feria, Texas 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on those items of City Business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with State Open Meetings Law. The following City Commission members were present at said meeting.

Mr. Steve Brewer	Mayor
Ms. Lori Weaver	City Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. John Edward Betancourt	City Commissioner
Ms. Angelica P. Baldivia	City Commissioner
Mr. John Hernandez	City Commissioner
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	City Commissioner

The following staff members were present.

Mr. Sunny K. Philip	City Manager
Ms. Irene Szedlmayer	Planning and Community Dev. Dir.
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Olga Oberwetter	City Secretary

A copy of the signature roster of all others present is attached as a part of the minutes hereof.

At 6:35 P.M., Mayor Steve Brewer asked Commissioner John Betancourt to give the invocation. After the invocation, Mayor Brewer led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. He then declared that a quorum of the City Commission was present and called the meeting to order.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, August 24, 2010. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR
FY 2009-2010**

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero reviewed the revenues and expenditures by line item. She explained that there was a discrepancy in the revenue figures for property taxes and that a correction would be made. After the correction, the net change in the revenues was \$9,726.00. Ms. Chavero then reviewed the expenditures by line item. The net change in expenditures was \$513,850.00. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to

approve budget amendments for FY 2009-2010. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR FY 2010-2011

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero explained that there were three documents presented for this item. One was a Tax Rate Analysis requested by Commissioner John Betancourt that showed the annual property tax per taxable value based on various tax rates. Another was the Analysis of Proposed Tax Rate that showed the portion of the tax rate that would be applied to the General Fund Maintenance and Operation and the portion that would be Debt Service (I&S). Ms. Chavero said that the Debt Service figure is fixed and can not be changed because that is the amount of debt payments due for the year. If changes are needed, they could only be made in the Maintenance and Operation figures. The third document was the listing of the City of La Feria Debt Obligation. City Manager Sunny K. Philip added that the City has applied for various grants and that some of the grants allow money for administration and that is not reflected in this budget, because the grants are not awarded as of yet. Mr. Philip reviewed the debt obligation for the City. Input from the Commission included that fees be increased for the mowing of weedy lots, increase fees for the pool and the parks. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. commented that the budget was figured on the effective rate of \$0.7353/\$100, and it appeared that that would have to be the rate to adopt. City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that staff will include the ideas mentioned such as the increased fees for weedy lots and increased fees for the pool and parks. There was no action needed on this item.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that the letter from Mr. Richard S. Talbert pertaining to his designation as the attorney of record for the City of La Feria was distributed to the City Commission. Mr. Philip explained the expertise that Mr. Talbert brings to this position in relation to real estate and economic development. He also asked the Commission to confirm the appointment of Mr. Brad Shields as the prosecutor for the Municipal Court. Discussion followed concerning both positions. After discussion and all questions answered, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to confirm the appointment of Mr. Richard S. Talbert as the City Attorney for the City of La Feria. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to confirm Mr. Brad Shields as the prosecutor for the Municipal Court. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO "SHOP LA FERIA FIRST" TO PROMOTE THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that staff did not have time to prepare the resolution, but he wanted to bring awareness to the community to shop in La Feria first before considering other options. He asked the Commission to allow the approval of this resolution to promote the local economy and local businesses, and if approved it would be published in the La Feria News. Mayor Brewer recommended that this should be taken to the School Board for their consideration, as well. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to approve Resolution 2010-23 (the next sequential number) encouraging residents to "Shop La Feria First" to promote the local economy and local

businesses. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW CHAPTER 551, GOVERNMENT CODE, VERNON'S TEXAS CODES ANNOTATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 551.072 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PURCHASE/ SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/ CITY OF LA FERIA; AND SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

Mayor Steve Brewer declared that there was no need for the Executive Session. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission. Commissioner John Hernandez asked for the reason why the Executive Session was tabled. City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that there was no business to consider in Executive Session; most items were covered in the earlier discussions.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY AS THE RESULT OF EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION DELIBERATIONS

There was no action needed since there was no Executive Session held.

REPORTS BY STAFF

- **Water and Wastewater Improvement Projects**
- **Beddoes Road Improvement Project Status**
- **Disaster Recovery Street Improvement Project**
- **Disaster Recovery – Round 2 Funding Status**
- **Disaster Recovery – Housing Project Fund**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following:

- SLC is completing the work on the South Beddoes Road Lift Station.
- Beddoes Road Improvement Project is complete.
- The Disaster Recovery Street Improvement Project – Parker Road is paved. Ninth Street is on hold due to some additional work that needs to be done. Staff scheduled a meeting at 2:00 P.M. today, but Leal Construction cancelled.
- The Disaster Recovery Round 2 Funding Status – The City is trying to schedule some public hearings and will submit an application, which is due on October 1, 2010. There will be a public hearing and a resolution on the next meeting's agenda (September 14, 2010). Judy Langford is preparing the application.
- Disaster Recovery - Housing Project Fund - The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council is going through the selection process to hire a consultant for the administration of the Disaster Recovery housing portion of the funds allocated in the Rio Grande Valley.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the public comments session open. No one signed up to speak before the Commission, so Mayor Brewer declared the public comment session closed.

ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT


Mayor Steve Brewer adjourned the meeting at 8:11 P.M.

APPROVED:




Steve Brewer, Mayor

ATTEST:


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 8:30 A.M. on September 13, 2010, as official record.


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

AT THE

CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010, AT 6:30 PM

WELCOME

PLEASE SIGN IN

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME/WORK PHONE NO.</u>
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2	MB Wright		
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