

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 1, 2011**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 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 Hernandez	City Commissioner
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	City Commissioner
Ms. Angelica P. Baldivia	City Commissioner

Absent: Mr. John Edward Betancourt City Commissioner

The following staff members were present.

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

The only other person at the meeting was Julie Cavazos.

At 6:30 P.M., Mayor Steve Brewer asked Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. 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, OCTOBER 25, 2011**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

**PRESENTATION – YOUTH LEADERSHIP LA FERIA, A PROJECT IN
COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF LA FERIA JOINTLY PRIORITIZED BY
THE CITY AND SCHOOL**

Ms. Tabitha Outlaw introduced the topic of the Youth Leadership Program (CFL), which is geared to creating future leaders. This program will educate high school students in what the City and School do and how they work. Dr. Mimi Vidaurri discussed the timeline and curriculum. Dr. Vidaurri said the applications would be available to the

students in November. The applications would be due in December and 20 students would be selected at that time. Maybe during 2013 that number would increase to 40 students. In January there would be an orientation and a syllabus review with the students. Then there would be a meet and greet with the City Commission and the School Board of Trustees. In February they would attend their first School Board meeting and in March they would attend the City Commission meeting. Dr. Vidaurri said the group would be working with two books, The Gift of Community and a leadership book which is John Maxwell's The 21 Qualities of Leadership.

Ms. Tabitha Outlaw discussed the Observation Project, which would allow the students to work together as a group and would culminate in a presentation to the City Commission and the School Board of Trustees about what the group observed about the community and their recommendation to address the situation. During the course of the Youth Leadership Program, the group would meet once or twice a month for one or two hours. The first program would start with the Freshmen Class of 2011.

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that he was so glad that the two entities are doing this together and that the City would buy the books for the Commission and the group that worked on establishing this program. Dr. Vidaurri said she would add the additional number to the order. Mr. Philip also added that the non-profit South Texas Emerging Markets Development Fund (STEMDF) has received a \$10,000.00 grant from BBVA Compass Bank which will be used to educate students about finances through a Finance Literacy Program in cooperation with the School District.

Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve participation in the Youth Leadership La Feria Project. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD AND THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS; AND OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reminded the City Commission about the presentation made by Anne Burger concerning the issuance of Certificates of Obligation. He said this resolution authorizes the interlocal agreement between the City and the Utilities Board for the Utilities Board to provide a limited pledge of revenue funds for the issuance of the Certificates of Obligation. The issuance of the Certificates of Obligation will provide funds for matching grant funds received for various projects as well as refund the Utilities Board and City's Certificates of Obligation that were issued previously at a higher rate and they will be funded at a lower rate. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2011-46. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approve Resolution 2011-46 authorizing an interlocal cooperative agreement between the City of La Feria Public Utilities Board and the City of La Feria, Texas; and other matters in connection therewith. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA AND TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY REGIONAL STORMWATER TASKFORCE AND TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$7,375.00 FOR FY 2012, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2011 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulates the water quality and these are new rules and regulations coming into place. All the communities in the Valley have joined together to work with the Texas A & M University – Kingsville, and the group has been working on the permit. The City of La Feria's share of the expenses is \$7,375.00. Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer said that she had received a revised interlocal agreement which added items J., K., and L. on Section 4.02, (Page 3 and 4). Staff recommended approval with the revisions. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve the interlocal agreement between the City of La Feria and Texas A & M University-Kingsville to continue participation in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Stormwater Task Force and to authorize payment of the membership fee of \$7,375.00 for FY 2012, beginning October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS, DETERMINING A PUBLIC NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN PROPERTY; GIVING NOTICE OF AN OFFICIAL DETERMINATION TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH AN ANTICIPATED PRIVATE PROJECT IN THE VICINITY OF BIXBY ROAD AND THE EASTBOUND FRONTAGE ROAD OF U.S. EXPRESSWAY 83 (ANOTHER CLOSET); ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS, DETERMINING A PUBLIC NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN PROPERTY; GIVING NOTICE OF AN OFFICIAL DETERMINATION TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS (DWSRF & CWSRF PROJECTS); ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPER OF ANOTHER CLOSET FOR UPGRADING OF THE WATER MAIN FROM 8 INCHES TO 10 INCHES AND FOR THE ADDITION OF FIRE HYDRANTS

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the oversizing of the water main from 8 inches to 10 inches would cost the City \$32,825.00 which the City has the option to pay within a period of one year. The developer is only required to provide an 8-inch line, but the City's Comprehensive Plan allows for the oversizing at the City's cost.

Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approve an agreement between the City of La Feria and the developer of Another Closet for upgrading of the water main from 8 inches to 10 inches and for the addition of fire hydrants. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS VOTING FOR A CANDIDATE TO SERVE AS A REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reminded the Commission that they nominated Ricardo Morado as the candidate to serve on the Cameron Appraisal District, and now they have four candidates from which to choose, Janice Cassidy, Eddie Lucio III, Ricardo Morado, and Joseph E. Rafac. The City Commission voted to go with their initial selection of Ricardo Morado. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2011-47. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to approve Resolution 2011-47 voting for Ricardo Morado as the candidate to serve as a representative on the Cameron Appraisal District. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA RELATING TO APPROVAL OF TAXATION OF GOODS-IN-TRANSIT THAT ARE OTHERWISE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION BY TEX. TAX CODE § 11.253

Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item until the City Commission meeting of November 15, 2011. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

REPORTS BY STAFF

- **Indoor Recreation Facility Construction Progress**
- **Air Conditioning Replacement Project funded through SECO**
- **Library Expansion Project**
- **Safe Routes to School Project**
- **Tom McDermott at Tiny Town Park**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following:

- The foundation was poured for the Indoor Recreation facility. The contractor is doing a good job.
- Staff is working with the contractor on the air conditioning project.
- The Library Expansion project will proceed as soon as the bond money is available.
- Staff is waiting on feedback from the Texas Department of Transportation on the plans which have been submitted to them, and the consultants are working on the Environmental Review.

- Tom McDermott, a children's author performed at Tiny Town. Mr. Philip said this is the type of program that the City had in mind when the park was planned. The park was designed with the six pillars of character in mind, and for the most part there has been little or no graffiti on the pillars. Mayor Brewer said Tom McDermott's program was very good and there was a good turnout, but he would like to see the City expand on this type of activity at the park. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia said that Mrs. Rhonda Amstutz is working on the "Theatre in the Park" which will be held at the Sports Complex, and she had 80 students sign up to participate in that program; maybe something like that could be done at Tiny Town.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the public comment session open. No one signed up to speak before the City 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 Commissioners present.

ADJOURNMENT


Mayor Steve Brewer adjourned the meeting at 7:12 P.M.

APPROVED:




Steve Brewer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 10:45 A.M. on November 12, 2011, as official record.



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary