

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 15, 2011**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 15, 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.

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

Absent: Mr. Steve Brewer Mayor

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

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

At 6:30 P.M., Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver gave the invocation. After the invocation, Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. She 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, NOVEMBER 1, 2011**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

Before proceeding with the next agenda item, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to excuse Mayor Steve Brewer's absence from tonight's meeting. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said there was some unfinished business from the last meeting concerning Commissioner John Betancourt's absence from that meeting (November 1, 2011). Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approved Commissioner John Betancourt's absence from the November 1, 2011 City Commission meeting. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

PRESENTATION – "THEATRE IN THE PARK" TO BE HELD AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX ON DECEMBER 3 AND DECEMBER 4, 2011

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the La Feria Independent School District has been doing a production with the drama students and the productions are usually held at the school cafetorium. The idea is to take this out to the park and have a production that people can enjoy in a family setting out at the park. The school has bought a sound system, and they have been working on backdrops. They will bring some chairs. The program will be held at 3 P.M. on Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4, 2011. It is approximately one hour long. The City is participating in the program by providing the stage, a tent, the electrical post and port-a-cans. Mr. Philip said this is a good event and the program is being posted on the City website and the School website. In order to provide for ongoing productions of this event, donations are being sought in sponsorship levels of \$500.00 for a Platinum sponsor, \$250.00 for a Gold sponsor, \$100.00 for a Silver sponsor, and \$50.00 for a Bronze sponsor. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia said she thought this was a great idea and she was glad to see that the school and city were working together on this to bring the fine arts out to the park where it can be shared with the community in general. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. inquired as to the fundraising goal. Mr. Philip said the goal is \$5,000.00 to offset expenses and provide some seed money for future productions. The school is sending out letters for sponsorships and the City will also send some out.

RECOGNITION OF GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF USA AND CANADA'S (GFOA) AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that the City set a goal several years ago to submit the comprehensive annual financial reports to the GFOA for their review with the hope of getting the certification. The City of La Feria has received the certification for several years. Mr. Philip said a lot of the credit goes to Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero who has done a very good job. The Commission congratulated Maria for her good work.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF "CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND LIMITED PLEDGE REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2011"; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID CERTIFICATES BY THE LEVY OF AN AD VALOREM TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY AND FURTHER SECURING SAID CERTIFICATES BY A LIEN ON AND PLEDGE OF THE PLEDGED REVENUES OF THE SYSTEM; PROVIDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID CERTIFICATES AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE, PAYMENT, SECURITY, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND A PURCHASE AND INVESTMENT

LETTER; COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LETTER OF REPRESENTATIONS WITH THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the City has submitted various applications for grant funding and there are requirements for local matches by the City of at least 25%. Mr. Philip said there are two major issues to be discussed tonight; one is issuing brand new debt and the other is refunding some older debt that was issued in prior years at a higher interest rate, for a lower interest rate. Mr. Philip said that this is not increasing the property tax rate for residents. He then introduced Ms. Anne Burger Entekin, Managing Director with First Southwest Company, who made the presentation on the issuance of Certificates of Obligation and the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2011. The presentation covered both this item and the next item on the agenda. Ms. Burger Entekin distributed a presentation to the Commission and staff and discussed every page in detail. She discussed the advantages of "Bank Qualified Bonds" which yields a lower interest rate. She also discussed that there is a requirement that in order for the City of La Feria to take advantage of this "Bank Qualified" interest rate, the bond issues would have to close at least 15 days apart. She discussed the plan of finance and said that for City Commission consideration tonight was the authorization of the Certificates of Obligation and the adoption of a Parameter Bond Sale for the Refunding Bonds. With the adoption of a Parameter Bond Sale for the Refunding Bonds, whereby certain parameters are defined and met, the authorized delegate of the City, who is typically the City Manager, can execute the pricing certificate after 15 days or more of the sale of Certificates of Obligation. The proposed parameters included in the Bond Ordinance for consideration were as follows: (1) Delegated Pricing Officer: City Manager; (2) Maximum True Interest Cost: 4.40%; (3) Minimum Savings Threshold: 3.00% Present Value Savings; (4) Maximum Principal Amount: \$8,470,000; (5) Final Maturity Date: February 15, 2029; and (6) Expiration of Parameter Authority: May 15, 2012 (180 days). Ms. Anne Burger Entekin discussed the open market bond sale and the private placement sale methods, and said that the most effective option for the City of La Feria was the private placement sale method. She discussed that a lower interest rate than what was anticipated in the September 27 presentation was achieved resulting in increased savings to the City. In summary, the projected total par amount would be \$7,970,000 in General Obligation Refunding Bonds and \$5,005,000 in Certificates of Obligation. The Certificates of Obligation, Series 2011 is projected to close on December 6, 2011 and the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2011 is projected to close on December 22, 2011 (Parameter Sale). Ms. Anne Burger Entekin thanked the City Commission for the opportunity to work with the City of La Feria and said the staff was very helpful and professional in assisting the process. Commissioner John Betancourt inquired as to what the next move would be if all the parameters discussed were not met and Ms. Burger Entekin said that they would bring the issue back before the City Commission for reconsideration. Mr. Philip clarified that the parameters are in reference to the next item on the agenda as the discussion held was for both items. Commissioner John Betancourt, and the Commission thanked Ms. Anne Burger Entekin for the good job in bringing interest rates lower and providing the added savings. Commissioner John Betancourt moved to read the ordinance 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 Ordinance 2011-16. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Ordinance 2011-16 authorizing the issuance of "City of La Feria, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue

Certificates of Obligation, Series 2011"; providing for the payment of said certificates by the levy of an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property within the City and further securing said certificates by a lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues of the system; providing the terms and conditions of said certificates and resolving other matters incident and relating to the issuance, payment, security, sale, and delivery of said certificates; authorizing the execution of a paying agent/registrar agreement and a purchase and investment letter; complying with the requirements of the letter of representations with the depository trust company; and providing an effective date. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF "CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2011", LEVYING AN ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX, WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS PRESCRIBED BY LAW, FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, A PURCHASE AND INVESTMENT LETTER, AND AN ESCROW DEPOSIT LETTER; COMPLYING WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY'S LETTER OF REPRESENTATIONS; DELEGATING THE AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR AND CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE CITY STAFF TO EXECUTE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE BONDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Discussion for this item was held along with the previous item. City Manager Sunny K. Philip recommended approval. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to read the ordinance 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 Ordinance 2011-17. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to approve Ordinance 2011-17 authorizing the issuance of "City of La FERIA, Texas General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2011", levying an annual ad valorem tax, within the limitations prescribed by law, for the payment of the bonds; prescribing the form, terms, conditions, and resolving other matters incident and related to the issuance, sale, and delivery of the bonds; authorizing the execution of a paying agent/registrar agreement, a purchase and investment letter, and an escrow deposit letter; complying with the provisions of the depository trust company's letter of representations; delegating the authority to the mayor and certain members of the city staff to execute certain documents relating to the sale of the bonds; and providing an effective date. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF "CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND LIMITED PLEDGE REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2012A"; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID CERTIFICATES BY THE LEVY OF AN AD VALOREM TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY

WITHIN THE CITY AND FURTHER SECURING SAID CERTIFICATES BY A SUBORDINATE AND INFERIOR LIEN ON AND PLEDGE OF THE PLEDGED REVENUES OF THE SYSTEM; PROVIDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID CERTIFICATES AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE, PAYMENT, SECURITY, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND AN ESCROW AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that this item deals with the financing of the Library Expansion Project through the United States Department of Agriculture. They have awarded a grant to the City for the Library Expansion Project in the amount of \$464,431, but they require that the City take the remaining amount of \$379,000 loan through them and the quoted interest rate is 4% maximum, but it varies until the day of closing; it could be less. Commissioner John Hernandez moved to read the ordinance 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 Ordinance 2011-18. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approve Ordinance 2011-18 authorizing the issuance of "City of La Feria, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2012A"; providing for the payment of said certificates by the levy of an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property within the City and further securing said certificates by a subordinate and inferior lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues of the system; providing the terms and conditions of said certificates and resolving other matters incident and relating to the issuance, payment, security, sale, and delivery of said certificates; authorizing the execution of a paying agent/registrar agreement and an escrow agreement; and providing an effective date. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF "CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND LIMITED PLEDGE REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2012B"; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID CERTIFICATES BY THE LEVY OF AN AD VALOREM TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY AND FURTHER SECURING SAID CERTIFICATES BY A SUBORDINATE AND INFERIOR LIEN ON AND PLEDGE OF THE PLEDGED REVENUES OF THE SYSTEM; PROVIDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID CERTIFICATES AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE, PAYMENT, SECURITY, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND AN ESCROW AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that this is for the financing of the expansion of the Fire Station and for the new sub station in the Blue Town area. Mr. Philip said the amount authorized is \$1,015,000.00 but the actual amount may be different, and the City is working with them to see if it can get a better interest rate. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to read the ordinance 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 Ordinance 2011-19. After reading of the caption,

Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Ordinance 2011-19 authorizing the issuance of "City of La Feria, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2012B"; providing for the payment of said certificates by the levy of an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property within the City and further securing said certificates by a subordinate and inferior lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues of the system; providing the terms and conditions of said certificates and resolving other matters incident and relating to the issuance, payment, security, sale, and delivery of said certificates; authorizing the execution of a paying agent/registrar agreement and an escrow agreement; and providing an effective date. 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 RESOLUTION APPOINTING MANUEL BRIONES TO THE CITY OF LA FERIA PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO SERVE THE INCOMPLETE TERM OF MARCO RODRIGUEZ WHO HAS RESIGNED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 1, 2012

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said Mr. Marco Rodriguez has served well on the Planning and Zoning Commission, but he has decided to resign, leaving a vacancy on the board. Mr. Philip discussed that at a previous City Commission meeting, the Commission appointed Randy Sowers to the board and Mr. Briones was another candidate for the same board position. Mr. Briones had agreed that when another position became available on the Planning and Zoning Commission he would like to be appointed. Mr. Briones was contacted this week and asked if he would accept the position, if appointed, and he said he would. Commissioner John Betancourt moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. 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 2011-48. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Resolution 2011-48 appointing Manuel Briones to the City of La Feria Planning and Zoning Commission to serve the incomplete term of Marco Rodriguez who has resigned effective immediately, said term to expire on October 1, 2012. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE BY 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

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that this item was placed on a previous City Commission agenda, but it was tabled to allow for a public hearing. The State Legislature has passed legislation, which says that unless the governing body takes affirmative action to tax goods stored in the community, the items would be exempt from taxation. Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing open at 7:21 P.M. A brief discussion followed concerning what items would be taxed. The item relates to materials stored in warehouses that will be transported to other locations. There being no further comments, Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing closed at 7:34 P.M.

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

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that staff's recommendation is for approval. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to read the ordinance 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 Ordinance 2011-20. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to approve Ordinance 2011-20 relating to approval of taxation of Goods-in-Transit that are otherwise exempt from taxation by Tex. Tax Code § 11.253. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REQUEST BY THE LFIDC TO CHANGE THE ZONING OF THE 2.2 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED BETWEEN THE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY AND FIRST STREET, IMMEDIATELY EAST OF MAIN STREET (DEPOT SUBDIVISION) FROM I-INDUSTRIAL (THE EASTERN 300') AND PD-PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (THE WESTERN 120') TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that the LFIDC owns 2.2 acres of property across Business Highway 83 and in order to sell the properties, the LFIDC will have to abide by the same rules that the City asks from the residents. This item has been presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and they are recommending approval. Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing open at 7:27 P.M. Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer said that the rezoning is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and it is consistent with the adjacent properties. Ms. Szedlmayer clarified that it is the western 125 ft. that is zoned Planned Development and the eastern 324 ft. is zoned Industrial. There being no further comments, Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing closed at 7:29 P.M.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 14, EXHIBIT A, OF THE LA FERIA CODE OF ORDINANCES (THE ZONING ORDINANCE) TO AMEND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PD-PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, I-INDUSTRIAL, AND C2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS ON THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, AMENDING THE CITY OF LA FERIA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to read the ordinance by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. 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 Ordinance 2011-21. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve Ordinance 2011-21 amending Chapter 14, Exhibit A, of the La FERIA Code of Ordinances (the Zoning Ordinance) to amend the boundaries of the PD-Planned Development, I- Industrial, and C2 General Commercial Districts on the official zoning map of the City of La FERIA, amending the City of La FERIA Comprehensive Plan and providing an effective date. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 14, EXHIBIT A, CITY OF LA FERIA CODE OF ORDINANCE (THE ZONING ORDINANCE), SECTION 4 C (7) REGULATING LANDSCAPING, SIGNAGE AND BUILDING MATERIALS ON U.S. EXPRESSWAY 83, U.S. BUSINESS HIGHWAY 83, AND FM506; AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 25 (NON-CONFORMING USES); AND TO CREATE A NEW SECTION 4 C (9) ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR FENCES IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

City Manager Sunny K. Philip asked Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer to introduce this item. Ms. Szedlmayer said that she was not in a hurry to get action taken on this item, and that whatever time the Commission felt would be needed to discuss and arrive at the right decisions would be satisfactory to her. She proceeded to discuss the items in detail. It was determined that the Commission would rather discuss this item in the form of a workshop and they asked that it should be placed on a future City Commission agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing open at 8:11 P.M. There were no further comments, so Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public hearing closed at 8:12 P.M.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2011

- **REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**
- **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**
- **INVESTMENT REPORT**
- **TAX COLLECTION REPORT**

Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver inquired of the Commission if they had any questions concerning the financial reports. No one had any questions, so she thanked Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero for the reports and announced that these reports would be filed for audit.

REPORTS BY STAFF

- **Indoor Recreation Facility Construction Progress**
- **Air Conditioning Replacement Project funded through SECO**
- **Library Expansion Project**
- **Safe Routes to School Project**
- **Report on NFL Flag Football Program and Youth Basketball Program**
- **Update on Christmas Parade**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following.

- The Indoor Recreation Facility construction work is going good. They have poured the foundation and are waiting for it to cure. Then the block work will begin. They seem to be doing a very clean job. Staff and the architect have been on site for a weekly meeting. Some cities applied for funding under the 319 Program through TCEQ (money originating from FEMA), but they didn't qualify, so approximately \$155,000.00 of that was awarded to the City of La Feria and it is a 75% grant/25% local match. This will be used for the parking lot (an alternate item in the contract) for the recreation center.
- Staff is working with the contractors to replace the air conditioning units for the City Hall, Police Department and Fire Station. The contract has a provision that everything has to be "Buy American." The city is having a hard time getting that from the vendors, but will continue to work on it.

- The Library Expansion Project – This project is waiting on the bond issue to be done. The bond money will not be ready until January, and the USDA rules are so strict that the City can not advertise for construction bids until the money is in place. The plans and specs have been approved.
- Safe Routes to School Project – Some minor modifications were needed on the route.
- The Lighting of the Tree is going to take place this Thursday, November 17, 2011; then we will move forward with the Christmas Parade on December 10, 2011 and immediately after the parade the Winter Festival begins. There will be live music and some Carnival rides and games at the Festival.
- NFL Flag Football Program and Youth Basketball Program. The NFL Flag Football Program has been able to break even. Alfonso Rodriguez runs the program and has done a good job. There were some issues last year, so the City has instituted some standards. The City has the NFL Flag Football Program, the Baseball Program, the Youth Basketball Program and the Summer Youth Program. The Youth Basketball Program has been in place for two years, and the school was very gracious in allowing us to use the facilities. Albert Garcia was recruited to run the program, and there was only one issue last year, but it was resolved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver declared the public comments session open and acknowledged Mr. Richard W. Novak who had signed up to speak before the Commission. Mr. Novak said that the meeting was very informative, and that he was withdrawing his request to speak before the Commission. No one else signed up to speak before the City Commission, so Mayor Pro Tem Weaver declared the public comment session closed.


ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Lori Weaver adjourned the meeting at 8:27 P.M.

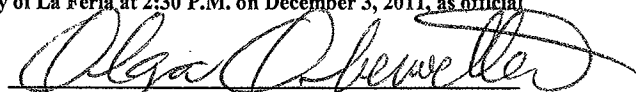
APPROVED:


Lori Weaver, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 2:30 P.M. on December 3, 2011, as official record.


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary



CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
AT THE
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011, AT 6:30 PM

WELCOME
PLEASE SIGN IN

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME/WORK PHONE NO.</u>
1	RICHARD NOVAK	617 VIRGINIA AVE	956 783 0283
2	Johanna Moreno	310 E Pimrose	622-1133
3	Kristine Sanchez	2301 Acadia, Harlingen	367 8871
4	Osor R.S. Jara	320 N Kansas City Rd L. Feria	497-8871
5	Andre Prado	2927 N. Blake, Harlingen	245-0497
6	Adrian Medhox	918 E Washington Ave	956-341-6293
7	Kaelin Martinez	P.O. Box 1658 Lateria	956-797-5830
8	Jala Coug		
9	Randy Andrach		956-245-6430
10	Pablo Hernandez	1910 River Oaks	(956) 264.6496
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