

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, January 10, 2012**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 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
Mr. John Hernandez	City Commissioner
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	City Commissioner
Ms. Angelica P. Baldivia	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

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 Steve Brewer asked Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia 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, DECEMBER 6, 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, December 6, 2011. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 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, December 20, 2011. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS SPECIAL AND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFIDC) HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to confirm the minutes of proceedings of the previous special and annual meeting of the La FERIA Industrial Development Corporation (LFIDC) held on Thursday, December 8, 2011. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

PRESENTATION - ESTABLISHMENT OF YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE TO OFFER YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF CITY OWNED FACILITIES FOR PRACTICE DURING THE SEASON

City Manager Sunny K. Philip introduced Mr. Ruben Rodriguez who was present to discuss the possibility of forming a Youth Football League to offer youth tackle football. Mr. Philip distributed a schedule of the City's sports programs and how the new league would overlap with the existing programs. Mr. Rodriguez said he would like to start a La FERIA Youth Football League. He said an organization out of San Antonio called the Texas Youth Football Association has teams all over the Rio Grande Valley, from Harlingen, San Benito, Rio Hondo all the way up to Roma. They have four divisions, Flag for ages 4, 5, and 6; Midget for ages 6 and 7; Rookie for ages 8 and 9; and Junior Division for ages 10 and 11. All four divisions would have to be represented and there is no option to delete the Flag division. The City's Flag program is offered at the same time as this new league's program. Mr. Rodriguez said he has started a non profit corporation called the Cameron County Sports Foundation, but is still lacking the IRS approval. It would be operated through donations. There would be a Spring and Fall season. Registration would be \$65.00 plus the purchase of a helmet through a certified approved helmet manufacturer (approximately \$50.00) and shoulder pads (approximately \$35.00). Uniforms would be provided through the sponsorships. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. said that the City already has an established Flag Football Program, and he had reservations about allowing an outside league to provide a program that would be in conflict with the City's program. Concerns about safety for the children and coaches actions were also voiced, as well as the use of practice fields. City Manager Sunny K. Philip said he had no recommendation for the Commission at this time. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. suggested that this be brought back for a workshop session at the next meeting. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to table this item until the next meeting. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2012 AS SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH IN LA FERIA, TEXAS

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said a copy of the proclamation and the background information was included in the City Commission packet. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to adopt the proclamation declaring the month of January 2012 as School

Board recognition month in La Feria, Texas. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING FOUR CITY COMMISSIONERS TO THE LA FERIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFEDC)

The LFEDC Board is made up of City Commissioners and one representative each from the LFIDC, the Utilities Board, and the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Commissioners serving as directors on the LFEDC are Lori Weaver, Angelica P. Baldivia, John Hernandez, and Victor Gonzalez, Jr. All four of the City Commissioners terms on the Board have expired and they have all agreed to continue to serve. 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-01. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve Resolution 2012-01 re-appointing four City Commissioners to the La Feria Economic Development Corporation (LFEDC). Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING TWO MEMBERS TO THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFIDC)

The terms of Mr. Arturo Martinez and Ms. Norma Alaniz on the LFIDC Board have expired, and they have agreed to continue to serve. 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-02. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve Resolution 2012-02 re-appointing two members to the La Feria Industrial Development Corporation (LFIDC). Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THREE MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The terms of Bishop Ronaldo Ortiz, Mary E. Garcia, and Reyes Rodriguez on the Planning and Zoning Commission have expired, and they have all agreed to continue to serve on the Board. Commissioner John Betancourt moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-03. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Resolution 2012-03 re-appointing three members to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING ALL MEMBERS OF THE LA FERIA ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS FOR ANOTHER TERM OF TWO YEARS

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said the Zoning Board of Adjustments is appointed for a two-year term for all members at the same time. Staff will bring a resolution later to fill some of the vacancies on this board. Mr. Philip said that since Board Member Fernando Najar, Jr. is the brother-in-law of Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. that Commissioner Gonzalez would not be participating in any discussion or in the vote. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert added that the Charter has a provision under Section 3.03 that states that, "No person related within the second degree by affinity or within the third degree by consanguinity to the Mayor, to any of the City Commissioners or to the City Manager shall be appointed to any office, position, clerkship or service of the City." Mr. Talbert said that a brother in law might fall within the 2nd degree of affinity and his recommendation was that the motion be with the condition of verification of the qualification for Mr. Najar. 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-04. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve Resolution 2012-04 with the condition of verification of the qualification for Mr. Fernando Najar, Jr. to serve on the Board. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by majority vote of the City Commission. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. was present not voting.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING FIVE MEMBERS TO THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF LA FERIA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said that when the TIRZ Board was established Mayor Steve Brewer, Brad Shields, Lori Weaver, and Betty Jo Dunlap were appointed to represent the City, and County Commissioner Edna Tamayo was appointed to represent the County. Since she did not seek reelection as County Commissioner and Dan Sanchez was elected County Commissioner for Precinct 4, he would be the member representing the County on the TIRZ Board. Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. called attention to the Caption of the Resolution where it read that it was "re-appointing" five members when in fact it would be re-appointing four members and "appointing" Dan Sanchez for the first time. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert said the Caption would be changed to read "appointing five members." Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-05. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve Resolution 2012-05 appointing five members to the previously established Board of Directors for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number One, City of La FERIA Development Project. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE KENNY'S FUNLAND REQUEST TO OPERATE A CARNIVAL ON INDUSTRIAL WAY (EAST OF CHURCH'S FRIED CHICKEN AND SOUTH OF MCDONALD'S) FROM FEBRUARY 2 THROUGH FEBRUARY 12, 2012

Mayor Steve Brewer thanked Ms. Kim Maples for the donation from the proceeds at the Winter Festival. City Manager Sunny K. Philip said the sample insurance form in the

package to the Commissioners did not include the City's name on it, but that would be taken care of. Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Kenny's Funland Request to operate a carnival on Industrial Way (East of Church's Fried Chicken and South of McDonald's) from February 2 through February 12, 2012. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR GRANT FUNDING

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said the City Commission approved a contract at the last meeting for the development of the application. This would be for \$150,000.00 with a City match of \$37,500.00 to develop an economic development comprehensive study. Commissioner John Betancourt 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2012-06. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Hernandez moved to approve Resolution 2012-06 authorizing the submission of an application to the Economic Development Administration for grant funding. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

WORKSHOP – ON AMENDING CHAPTER 14, EXHIBIT A, CITY OF LA FERIA CODE OF ORDINANCES (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

Planning and Community Development, Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer presented recommended amendments to the Scenic Corridor Ordinance and discussed the amendments with the Commission. She also discussed fences in residential neighborhoods and commercial districts. The City Commission advised that some of these items be brought back at future meetings, particularly discussion about signs. There was no action taken on this item.

REPORTS BY STAFF

- **Indoor Recreation Facility Construction Progress**
- **Air Conditioning Replacement Project funded through SECO**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following:

- Mr. Philip introduced Ms. Paula Rodriguez who has been hired as Capital Projects Coordinator and will assist the City with all the new projects currently underway. Ms. Rodriguez used to work with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- The Indoor Recreation Facility is moving along good. Staff had a progress meeting today. Later on staff will arrange a tour of the building with the Commission. The City and School need to start talking about how to partner on the programs that will be offered at the Recreation Center.

- Air Conditioning Replacement Project – Six units will be paid by the grant and one unit will be paid with City money. All units paid by the grant need to be made in America per grant requirements.

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 John Hernandez moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

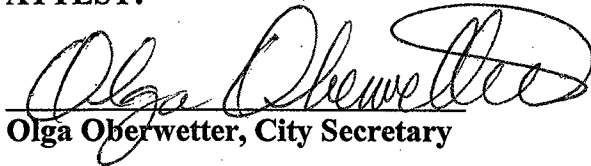
Mayor Steve Brewer adjourned the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

APPROVED:

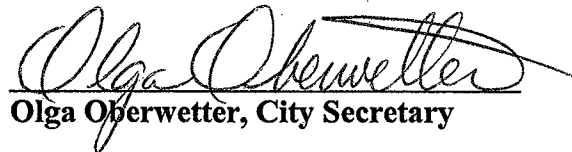


Steve Brewer, Mayor

ATTEST:


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 3:45 P.M. on January 22, 2012, as official record.


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
AT THE
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012, AT 6:30 PM

WELCOME
PLEASE SIGN IN

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME/WORK PHONE NO.</u>
1	LIANA Brewer		
2	Julia Cavazos		
3	Kim Meyer		
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