

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, January 8, 2013**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, January 8, 2013, 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 – Late 6:37
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. Irene Szedlmayer	Planning and Community Dev. Dir.
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Paula Rodriguez	Capital Projects Coordinator
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 gave 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 4, 2012**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Commissioner John Hernandez 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 18, 2012**

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,

December 18, 2012. Commissioner Lori Weaver 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 REGULAR MEETING OF THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFIDC) HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to confirm the minutes of proceedings of the previous regular meeting of the La Feria Industrial Development Corporation (LFIDC) held on Thursday, November 1, 2012. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**REPORTS BY TXDOT ON LA FERIA RELATED PROJECTS AND DISCUSSION WITH THE CITY COMMISSION**

Mr. Juan A. Bernal, P.E., CFM, Transportation Engineer from the Pharr TxDOT office, reported that the changes requested for the Safe Routes to School Project (SRTS) were received by the area office and they are being processed. He also reported that the contractor for the SRTS project is the same contractor doing the Los Fresnos project and he has requested an extension until February 1, 2013, to start work in La Feria. The contractor wants to complete Los Fresnos work before starting the La Feria project full force. Mr. Bernal said that the grant application for the Enhancement Project was submitted on time, and it was complete. It will compete statewide. Mr. Bernal presented a brochure to City Manager Sunny K. Philip and Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer that outlines the project selection steps. Mr. Bernal also reported that once the SRTS project begins, it should be complete within 280 days. Mayor Brewer thanked Mr. Bernal for his report. There was no action needed on this item.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH THE TEXAS RANGER DIVISION FOR THE LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM (LBSP); ACCEPTING THE 2013 LBSP GRANT FUNDS AWARDED; AND DESIGNATING OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AND OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE LBSP**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the copy of the resolution was included in the packet and that if approved, the funds would pay for overtime work performed by existing employees in the Police Department. Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero said that the application was prepared requesting \$90,000.00, but the amount that will be approved would probably be less. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia 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 2013-01. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to approve Resolution 2013-01 authorizing the submission of an application for grant funding to the Texas Department of Public Safety through the Texas Ranger Division for the Local Border Security Program (LBSP); accepting the 2013 LBSP grant funds awarded; and

designating officials to execute an interlocal agreement and other necessary documents between the City of La Feria, Texas and the Texas Department of Public Safety for the LBSP. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO PURCHASE A BRUSH TRUCK THROUGH BUYBOARD CO-OP PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA**

This item was tabled on a motion by Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. and a second by Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS WITH THE FIRST COMMUNITY BANK FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BRUSH TRUCK FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA**

This item was contingent on the previous item on the agenda which was tabled; therefore, this was also tabled on a motion by Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. and a second by Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA TEMPORARILY CLOSING CERTAIN AND SPECIFIED STREETS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA AND MODIFYING TRAFFIC PATTERNS ON CERTAIN STREETS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING THE SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC DURING THE ANNUAL "FIESTA DE LA FERIA" CELEBRATION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the ordinance was similar to previous ordinances approved annually for the celebration of the Fiesta de La Feria and asked the Commission to favorably consider approval of the ordinance. Commissioner Lori Weaver 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 Commission. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Ordinance 2013-01. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. moved to approve Ordinance 2013-01 temporarily closing certain and specified streets within the limits of the city of La Feria and modifying traffic patterns on certain streets for the purpose of ensuring the safety and general welfare of the public during the annual "Fiesta de La Feria" celebration to be held on Saturday, February 23, 2013. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia 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, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 551.072 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PURCHASE/SALE/ DONATION OF REAL ESTATE BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/CITY OF LA FERIA; AND SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item since there was no business to discuss in executive session. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**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 AND DISCUSSION WITH CITY COMMISSION**

- Update on Drainage Project
- Water and Wastewater Systems Improvements Project
- Progress of Library Expansion Project
- Progress of City Hall Expansion Project
- Progress of Fire Station Expansion Project and Substation Project
- Status of Dome Construction Project
- Generator Purchase Project
- Sidewalk Improvement Project

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following.

- Update on Drainage Project – the City is submitting 100% of the plans and specs to the State. The first part of the project will be the Rabb Road improvements. Acquisition of property cannot take place until the Environmental is cleared. The City is working with the County and Harlingen Drainage District #5 on part of the project.
- Water and Wastewater Systems Improvements Project – This project is also divided into sections and the State has completed its review of the water meter purchase specs and they have no more questions on it. They are waiting on the local TWDB office to review and sign off on it. After that is done, the project will be ready to be advertised for bids. The City plans to use in-house labor to install the meters, but in order to complete the installation some temporary employees may need to be hired.
- Library Expansion Project – The contractor seems to be doing a good job. There is money available from the grant and staff is working on a change order to re-roof the existing part of the building, replace the old air conditioner units, and change the facade and paint as well. The Library has applied for a grant to upgrade the internet.
- City Hall Expansion Project – Slowly coming along. As part of the project the computer cables have been replaced and a new phone system has been added in City Hall, the Police Department and Fire Department. The old telephone system in City Hall was replaced since it had no more capacity to add on new extensions.
- Fire Station Expansion Project – USDA is reviewing plans and specs for this project. Staff needs to remind them that they have these plans. Staff needs to bring back the subdivision plat for final approval.
- Dome Construction Project – The architect has submitted his contract. The City is reviewing it.
- Sidewalk Improvement Project – There are some mail boxes in the way.
- Generator Purchase Project - the generator has been ordered.
- Going back to the Drainage project, the City received a separate FEMA grant through the HMGP program to buy a pump which will be installed at the Orange Grove Crossing on the west side of the La Feria reservoir.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON ATTENDANCE STATUS OF  
MAYOR AND/OR COMMISSIONERS**

There was no action needed on this item, since everyone was present at the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the public comments session open. There was no one present 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 John Hernandez moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**


Mayor Steve Brewer adjourned the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

**APPROVED:**



Steve Brewer, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 6:30 P.M. on January 19, 2013, as official record.

  
Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary



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**CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**  
AT THE  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013, 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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