

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, January 28, 2014**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 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. Paula Rodriguez	Planning and Community Dev. Dir.
Ms. Esmeralda Sanchez	Capital Projects Coordinator
Ms. Olga Oberwetter	City Secretary

There were no other persons present at this meeting.

At 6:30 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.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE REQUEST BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR ALCOHOL SALES RELATED TO THE FIESTA DE LA FERIA CELEBRATION WHICH WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 22, 2014

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip requested that this item be tabled to allow staff to publish a public hearing notice in the newspaper relating to this event. Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia moved to table this item to allow for publication of the notice. 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 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 22, 2014

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip explained that this ordinance is similar to those approved in previous years. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to read the ordinance by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner John Betancourt 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 2014-03. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve Ordinance 2014-03 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 22, 2014. 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 OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA IN THE COUNCIL OF CITIES, CAMERON COUNTY, TX HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN AND ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS WILL BE THE LEAD COMMUNITY IN SIGNING DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF CITIES, CAMERON COUNTY, TX HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF LA FERIA TO EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip explained that the existing plan expired in 2012 and it is a good idea to be included in the Hazard Mitigation Action Plan, because it gives the City an advantage when applying for certain grants. The City’s share of the cost is approximately \$1,500.00. Commissioner John Hernandez 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 2014-02. After reading of the caption, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve Resolution 2014-02 authorizing the participation of the City of La Feria in the Council of Cities, Cameron County, TX Hazard Mitigation Action Plan and acknowledging that the City of Los Fresnos will be the lead community in signing documents on behalf of the Council of Cities, Cameron County, TX Hazard Mitigation Plan and authorizing the City Manager of La Feria to execute any required documents on behalf of the City of La Feria. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2013

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

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero said that the sales tax collections are good, but Municipal Court fines are low. Ms. Chavero responded to several questions from the

City Commissioners after which Mayor Steve Brewer announced that the financial reports for the months of October through December 2013 would be filed for audit.

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.

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the meeting in Executive (Closed) Session at 6:41 P.M. After executive session deliberation, Mayor Steve Brewer declared the meeting back in open session at 7:09 P.M.

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

There was no action needed under this item.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A JOINT OFFER AND PROPOSAL TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-RGV ADMINISTRATION OFFICES IN AN AREA ADJACENT TO CAMERON AND HIDALGO COUNTY BOUNDARY AND ADJACENT TO THE JOINT CITY LIMIT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITIES OF LA FERIA AND MERCEDES, TEXAS

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 2014-03. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Resolution 2014-03 authorizing the submission of a joint offer and proposal to the University of Texas System for the establishment of the University of Texas-RGV Administration Offices in an area adjacent to Cameron and Hidalgo County Boundary and adjacent to the joint city limit boundaries of the cities of La Feria and Mercedes, Texas with the changes discussed in Executive Session. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

REPORTS BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION WITH CITY COMMISSION

- Update on Drainage Project
- Water and Wastewater Systems Improvements Project
- Progress of Fire Station Expansion and Substation Project
- Status of Dome Construction Project
- Generator Purchase and Installation Project
- EDA Grant for Technology and Success Center
- Unger Park Improvement Project
- Trail Improvement Project

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip reported the following.

- Update on Drainage Project – There are three contracts out, the pump purchase, the levee crossing and the Rabb Road Improvements Project. The City has looked at the Kansas City Road paving and some of the estimates are more than the budget. As part of the Allied Waste project, there were some funds available which were used to improve the drainage from FM 2556 to the La Feria Main Canal, but there were not enough funds to go under the Main Canal. The City is looking into the possibility of adding that work as part of the Walsdorf project. Staff is meeting monthly and the contractor seems to be making good progress. The City has two years from now to complete the project.
- Water and Wastewater Systems Improvements Project – Cornett Construction of San Benito is doing the water and sewer lines. They started the improvements on White Ranch Road and Kelly Drive. Once that is done they will move south. They are doing a very clean job.
- Progress of Fire Station Expansion and Substation Project – All documents have been submitted to USDA for review.
- Status of Dome Construction Project – The City is waiting to hear about whether additional funds needed for the project will be granted. The contractor is ready to start.
- Generator Purchase and Installation Project – The wall is going up and signs need to be installed.
- EDA Grant for Technology and Success Center – Staff is working with the architect on the design.
- Unger Park – Staff is reviewing the plans submitted by the architect.
- Trail Improvement Project – Staff is waiting on final word from the Parks and Wildlife Department.

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

There was no action needed on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the public comments session open. No one signed up to speak before the City Commission, so Mayor Steve 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 7:17 P.M.

APPROVED:



Steve Brewer, Mayor

ATTEST:


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 2:15 P.M. on March 9, 2014, as official record.


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

