

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at 6:00 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.

**DETERMINE QUORUM PRESENT AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR**

Mayor Olga H. Maldonado declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Olga H. Maldonado	Mayor	Present	
Jesse Zuniga	Commissioner	Present	
Eric Hoff	Commissioner	Present	
Julian Guevara, Jr.	Commissioner	Present	
Esmeralda Lozano	Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner	Present	
Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	Commissioner	Absent	

The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Jaime S. Sandoval, City Manager  
 Ms. Rebekah Hayward, Attorney DNRBHZ  
 Ms. Paula Rodriguez, Interim City Secretary/Planning Director  
 Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director  
 Mr. Alfonso Gonzalez, City Engineer, SWG Engineering  
 Ms. Tabitha M. Outlaw, Administrative Assistant

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Yolanda Shoffett of 421 E. Oleander, La Feria, Texas spoke to the Commission concerning tires left in alley ways and stray cats in her yard. She stated concerns about the Zika virus with the littering of tires and the possibility of standing water that could breed mosquitos. She has nine cats that stay in her yard and she feeds them. The Animal Control Officer has come to her house and has told her to stop feeding them. She wished the Commission a Merry Christmas.

Delores Fuller of 1000 S. Chelo Drive, La Feria, Texas wished the Commission a Merry Christmas. She stated she is feeling better and thanked the Commission for listening to her all these years. She thanked the Commission again for firing Sunny Philip.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lozano recommended agenda items 5 and 6 be read concurrently. Mayor Maldonado read agenda items 5 and 6 concurrently.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016.**

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016.**

Mr. Sandoval recommended approval of the Minutes of the Special meetings of the City Commission held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 and Tuesday, November 22, 2016. A motion to approve agenda items 5 and 6 was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara, Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, TO TERMINATE THE CURRENT CONTRACT WITH LINEBARGER, GOOGAN, BLAIR & SAMPSON FOR DELINQUENT MUNICIPAL COURT FEES AND FINE COLLECTIONS.**

Mr. Sandoval recommended skipping items 7 and 8 and discussing them in Executive Session via Attorney recommendation.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, TO ENGAGE THE FIRM OF PERDUE, BRANDON, FIELDER, COLLINS & MOTT FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT MUNICIPAL COURT FEES AND FINE COLLECTIONS.**

Mr. Sandoval recommended skipping items 7 and 8 and discussing them in Executive Session via Attorney recommendation.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA TO CHANGE ITS CHECK SIGNING PROCESS FROM MANUAL SIGNATURE TO SECURE SIGNATURE.**

Mr. Rios reviewed with the Commission the pros of changing to secure signature on checks. He stated that the time it takes to get two signatures on all of the checks can take hours, but with secure signature it streamlines the process. The AP Clerk and the Finance Director would be the points of review prior to the checks being released. He stated that Mayor Maldonado and Mayor Pro-Tem Lozano would become the secure signatures on the checks. Mayor Pro-Tem Lozano asked Mr. Sandoval if he is familiar with this process and if he recommends this change. Mr. Sandoval said that he was familiar with this process and recommends the change. A motion to change to secure signature was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Julian Guevara, Jr., Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara, Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

**REVIEW PROPOSALS RECEIVED AND TAKE ACTION TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE PARKER ROAD ELEVATED STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION PROJECT, FUNDED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TxCDBG PROGRAM, TO THE LOWEST, MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.**

Mr. Sandoval recommended tabling this item due to the Utility Board not being able to meet due to lack of quorum and therefore did not have a recommendation for this item. A motion to table this item was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Julian Guevara, Jr., Commissioner
SECONDER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara, Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

### **PROJECT REPORTS**

Alfonso Gonzalez, SWG Engineering, reviewed the four water/wastewater projects with the Commission. He showed pictures of each projects progress. He stated that a more detailed workshop could be done on the projects. The Commission recommended the City Manager schedule a date in January for a workshop concerning these projects.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – THE COMMISSION WILL ENTER INTO CLOSED, EXECUTIVE SESSIONS TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:**

- A) REAL ESTATE MATTERS PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE § 551.072 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PURCHASE/LEASE/SALE/DONATION OF REAL ESTATE BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/THE LA FERIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/CITY OF LA FERIA;**
- B) BUSINESS PROSPECTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS;**
- C) PERSONNEL MATTERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074 TO DISCUSS THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER.**
- D) PURSUANT TO TEX. GOV. CODE § 551.071(1), CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION STYLED SUNNY PHILIP V. CITY OF LA FERIA, 2016-CCL-01195.**

Mayor Maldonado read items 7 and 8 to be discussed in Executive Session via attorney recommendation.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting in Executive Session at 7:01 PM.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting back in Open Session at 8:25 PM.

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

A motion to terminate the current contract with Linebarger, Googan, Blair & Sampson was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Julian Guevara, Jr., Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara, Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

A motion to table item 8, engage the firm of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Julian Guevara, Jr., Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara, Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

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

A motion to excuse Commissioner Gonzalez, Jr. was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

**ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**

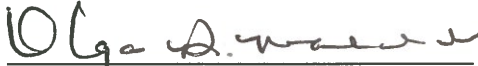
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner
SECONDER:	Julian Guevara, Jr., Commissioner
AYES:	Guevara Jr., Hoff, Lozano, Zuniga

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Olga H. Maldonado declared the meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

  
 Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
 Paula Rodriguez, Interim City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 10:00 A.M. on December 20, 2016 as official record.

  
 Tabitha M. Outlaw, Administrative Assistant