

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP
Tuesday, February 14, 2017**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 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.

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
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	Present

The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Jaime S. Sandoval, City Manager
 Ms. Rebecca Hayward, City Attorney
 Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary
 Ms. Paula Rodriguez, Planning Director
 Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Gary Metzel asked the Commission for increased patrols in his neighborhood to stop people from speeding. He also addressed an animal control problem in the area and asked that the Animal Control officer pick up the stray animals there.

5. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2017 AND SATURDAY JANUARY 14, 2017.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the minutes for meetings held January 24 and January 14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

6. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER VICTOR GONZALEZ FROM THE CITY OF LA FERIA CITY COMMISSION – PLACE 3

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to accept the resignation of Commissioner Victor Gonzalez from the La Feria city Commission- Place 3. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion and it

passed unanimously. Commissioner Gonzalez thanked the citizens of La FERIA for allowing him to serve for so many years.

7. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, TO APPOINT A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL TO FILL THE VACANT POSITION OF PLACE 3 OF THE LA FERIA CITY COMMISSION, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM.

City attorney Rebecca Hayward explained that the Commission was able to appoint someone to fill Commissioner Gonzalez place until an election is held. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to appoint Donato Garcia to fill the vacant position of Place 3 of the La FERIA City Commission, for the remainder of the unexpired term. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zuniga and passed unanimously.

8. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2017-03 ORDERING THE CITY OF LA FERIA GENERAL ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6, 2017.

Commissioner Hoff made a motion to read the caption of the ordinance. Commissioner Lozano seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. City Attorney Rebecca Hayward read the caption of the Ordinance ordering the City of La FERIA general election scheduled for May 6, 2017.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-03 ordering the City of La FERIA general election scheduled for May 6, 2017. Commissioner Lozano seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

9. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2017-10 CREATING A CONSENT AGENDA.

A consent agenda will allow the Commission to take action on several non-controversial items at once. Commissioner Lozano made a motion for the City Attorney to read the caption of the Resolution. Commissioner Guevara seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-10 creating a consent agenda, with corrections to grammatical errors. Commissioner Guevara seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

At this time, Commissioner Zuniga made a motion to deviate from the agenda so that Commissioner Garcia could take the oath of office. Judge Arturo Salas administered the oath of office and Commissioner Garcia took his place on the dais.

10. PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING A 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 ON FEBRUARY 25, 2017.

Mayor Maldonado opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Lozano had several questions for staff including how many drinks each patron would be allowed and who would be providing support to the Police Department for the event. Victor Gonzalez, Jr. also asked about an increase in police presence in the parking areas to deter theft. There was no action taken during this item. Mayor Maldonado closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

11. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A REQUEST BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR ALCOHOL SALES RELATED TO THE FIESTA DE LA FERIA CELEBRATION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25, 2017 AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE ORDER GRANTING THE SPECIFIC USE PERMIT.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve 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 to be held on February 25, 2017 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the order granting the specific use permit. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

12. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REVIEW OF THE FINAL PLAT OF LOS ENCINOS SUBDIVISION, A FIVE LOT SUBDIVISION, COMPRISED OF 4.47 ACRES OUT OF BLOCK 69, RE-SUBDIVISION MAP OF PART OF THE BIXBY SUBDIVISION, LA FERIA, CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.

Mayor Maldonado opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m. Planning Director Paula Rodriguez explained that the property owners are asking to subdivide their land and sell two lots. There was no action taken on this item. Mayor Maldonado closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

13. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FINAL PLAT OF LOS ENCINOS SUBDIVISION.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve the final plat of Los Encinos Subdivision. Commissioner Lozano seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

14. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RE-ZONING OF THREE PROPERTIES THAT WERE ANNEXED INTO THE CITY OF LA FERIA ON DECEMBER 1, 2013 FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

Mayor Maldonado opened the public hearing at 7:26 p.m. Mrs. Rodriguez explained that the current zoning for the properties does not match what they are being used for. There are currently vehicle storage and mechanic shops on the properties. The C-2 General Commercial District would allow any kind of Commissioner Lozano asked that the scope of those notified of the zoning change be widened to at least half a mile rather than the legally required two hundred feet. Mayor Maldonado closed the public hearing at 7:40 p.m. There was no action taken on this item.

15. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE 2017-04 TO RE-ZONE THREE PROPERTIES FROM R-1 SINGLE RESIDENTIAL TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed with Commissioners Lozano, Guevara and Garcia voting in favor and Commissioners Hoff and Zuniga voting against it.

16. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, ON A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AND LOCAL, COUNTY, OR STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OF JOINT OPERATIONS EXPENSES FROM THE TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Immigration and Customs Enforcement and local, county or state law enforcement

agency for the reimbursement of joint operations expenses from the treasury forfeiture fund. Commissioner Hoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

17. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, REGARDING AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF COMBES, THE CITY OF LOS INDIOS AND THE CITY OF LA FERIA FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SERVICES IN THE CITY OF LA FERIA.

This agreement will allow the Town of Combes to use City of La Feria facilities to hold fitness classes for citizens of both communities. Commissioner Hoff made a motion to approve the Interlocal cooperation agreement between the Town of Combes, city of Los Indios and the City of La Feria for community Health worker services in the City of La Feria. Commissioner Guevara seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

18. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, TO SELECT THE MOST QUALIFIED FIRM FROM THE LIST OF THE STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS SUBMITTED REGARDING THE CITY OF LA FERIA'S OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES AND LIFT STATIONS.

The City of La Feria advertised to solicit interested firms to submit Statements of Qualification for the operation, maintenance and management of the city's water, wastewater and lift station facilities. The City received only one proposal from Severn Trent. At this time, the firm would only assess the City's facilities and report their findings to the Commission at a later meeting. Commissioner Lozaon made a motion to select Severn Trent from the list of statements of qualification regarding the City of La Feria's operation, maintenance and management of the water and wastewater facilities and lift stations. Commissioner Hoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

19. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY ON RESOLUTION 2017-11 APPROVING BODY WORN CAMERA GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve resolution 2017-11 approving body worn camera grant application and acceptance of funding. Commissioner Hoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

20. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, TO APPROVE EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH ALLIANCE RECORDING SYSTEM FOR LA FERIA POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve extension of the contract with Alliance Recording for La Feria Police department. Commissioner Guevara seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

21. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION 2017-12 APPROVING THE OPERATION STONEGARDEN GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-12 approving the Operation Stonegarden grant application and acceptance of funding. Commissioner Zuniga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

22. EXECUTIVE SESSION – THE COMMISSION WILL ENTER INTO CLOSED, EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- **REAL ESTATE MATTERS PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.087, 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.**
- **BUSINESS PROSPECTS PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.087, TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**
- **PERSONNEL MATTERS PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074 TO DISCUSS THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER.**

Mayor Maldonado called the meeting into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. there was no action taken during Executive Session. Mayor Maldonado called the meeting back to order at 8:32 p.m.

23. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY AS THE RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATIONS.

There was no action taken on this item.

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

There was no action taken on this item.

25. ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

26. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

APPROVED:


Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amanda Morales, City Secretary