

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015 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.

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| Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr. | Mayor |
| Ms. Esmeralda Lozano | City Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tem |
| Mr. John Betancourt | City Commissioner |
| Mr. John Hernandez | City Commissioner |
| Mr. Julian Guevara Jr. | City Commissioner |

The following City Commission members were absent from said meeting.

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| Ms. Olga H. Maldonado | City Commissioner |
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The following staff members were present:

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| Mr. Sunny K. Philip | City Manager |
| Mr. Richard S. Talbert | City Attorney |
| Ms. Paula Rodriguez | Planning & Community Dev. Director |
| Ms. Kin I. Mendoza | Finance Director |
| Ms. Esmeralda R. Sánchez | City Secretary |

A copy of the signature roster of all others present is attached as a part of the minutes hereof.

At 6:31 P.M., Mayor Victor Gonzalez, Jr. asked Commissioner Esmeralda Lozano to give the invocation. After the invocation, Mayor Gonzalez 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Gonzalez announced the public comment period open. There being no one signed up for public comments, Mayor Gonzalez declared the public comments period closed.

REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

Following review, Commissioner Julian Guevara made a motion to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. The motion was

seconded by Commission John Hernandez and passed by unanimous vote of the City Commission present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA ADOPTING TITLE 2 AND TITLE 44 OF THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS AS THE STANDARD APPLICABLE POLICY AS A SUBGRANTEE PERTAINING TO HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT SERVICES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.

A copy of the Resolution was reviewed by the Commission. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has implemented requirements to document the stringent procurement policies followed by grant recipients. The City of La FERIA has been implementing such procurement policies as evidenced by the procurement of professional and administrative services for the TDEM Hazard Mitigation Planning grant. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lozano to read the caption of Resolution 2015-38. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed by unanimous vote of the City Commission present. Mr. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2015-38.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Lozano to approve Resolution 2015-38, establishing procurement practices in matters relating to future Hazard Mitigation grant projects and activities related thereto. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed by unanimous vote of the City Commission present.

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/THE LA FERIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/CITY OF LA FERIA; SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS; SECTION 551.074 TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL; SECTION 551.074 TO DISCUSS THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER.

There being no items to discuss in Executive (closed) Session, Mayor Gonzalez declared no action taken was to be taken on this agenda item.

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

There being no Executive (closed) Session, Mayor Gonzalez declared no action taken was to be taken on this agenda item.

REPORTS BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION WITH CITY COMMISSION

- **FIRE STATION EXPANSION AND SUBSTATION**
- **TECHNOLOGY AND SUCCESS CENTER**
- **PROPOSED CRAFT TRAINING CENTER**
- **PROPOSED CULTURAL ARTS FACILITY**
- **PROPOSED MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT**
- **ELECTRIC POWER PURCHASE THROUGH TCAP**

Mr. Philip addressed the Fire Station Expansion and Substation, Technology and Success Center, and the Electric Power purchase through TCAP. The Fire Station Expansion and Substation experienced delays due to recent rain events. The crews are back on site and construction is progressing. Construction of the Technology and Success Center is also progressing. The local contractor is coordinating with the technology crew from Our Lady of the Lake University to install communication lines and network cabling. The electric power purchase through TCAP was discussed and a review of the attached packet ensued. Only one entity has opted for Option A, all others are moving forward with Option B, which provides savings over a longer period of time, considering alternative sources of energy including wind turbines for lower energy costs. Although a resolution was previously passed and approved Mr. Philip indicated the best option for the City is to wait to secure lower rates during the early part of 2016. A resolution will be presented to the Commission at such time.

Mr. Philip then introduced Ms. Petra Reyna to present a report on the Craft Training Center and Mr. Ed Mesa to present a report on the proposed cultural arts facility and museum development. Ms. Reyna reviewed documentation previously distributed to the Commission including the activity timeline to date, proposed planning committee members, and a draft concept paper. Mr. Mesa then reviewed the Cultural Arts Center and Museum proposal previously distributed to the Commission including costs and potential funding sources associated with restoring the theater building into a Cultural Arts Center and Museum

Following discussion, Mayor Gonzalez declared that no official action of the Commission was required.

DISCUSSION OF ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The City has hosted a Christmas Party for over 30 years for the employees, volunteers, board members and City Commission. The cost is included in the current budget.

This year's party has been scheduled for Friday, December 18, 2015 at 6:00 PM. The event typically begins with a social hour followed by dinner catered by a local business. There is usually music either a DJ or a band and recognition of employees and volunteers receiving service awards for the number of years in five year increments. The event is a good opportunity to visit with employees, volunteers, and board members.

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

Commissioner Olga Maldonado was absent due to a work schedule conflict. A motion was made by Commissioner Lozano to excuse the absence of Commissioner Maldonado. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Betancourt and approved by unanimous vote of the City Commission present.

ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Guevara made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez and passed by unanimous vote of the City Commission present.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

APPROVED:


Victor Gonzalez, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Esmeralda R. Sánchez, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 3:00 P.M. on November 21, 2015, as official record.


Esmeralda R. Sánchez, City Secretary