

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COMMISSION  
Tuesday, September 27, 2016**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Meeting on **Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 6:30 PM** in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 E. Commercial Avenue, La Feria, TX 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 Maldonado declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Julian Guevara Jr.	Commissioner	Present	6:30 PM
Esmeralda Lozano	Commissioner	Present	6:30 PM
Eric Hoff	Commissioner	Present	6:39 PM
Jesse Zuniga	Commissioner	Present	6:30 PM
Victor Gonzalez Jr.	Commissioner	Present	6:30 PM
Olga H. Maldonado	Mayor	Present	6:30 PM

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

The following Staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Cesar Diaz, Interim City Manager / Chief of Police  
 Mr. Ricardo J. Navarro, Attorney, DNRBHZ, PC  
 Ms. Paula Rodriguez, Planning and Community Development Director  
 Ms. Kin Mendoza, Finance Director  
 Mr. Alex Acosta, Assistant Finance Director  
 Ms. Tabitha Outlaw Administrative Assistant

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gloria Casas of 12707 Arroyo Lane, La Feria, TX spoke to the Commission regarding an Anti-Bullying Campaign. Mrs. Casas spoke concerning bullying in our community and on school campuses. She invited the Commission and City to join the "GO BLUE" Anti-Bullying Campaign by wearing Blue on Monday, October 3, 2016.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016.**

A copy of the minutes were provided to the Commission. Items 5 and 6 were addressed concurrently. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Julian Guevara Jr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016.**

A copy of the minutes were provided to the Commission. Items 5 and 6 were addressed concurrently. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Julian Guevara Jr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF LA FERIA BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016.**

A copy of the Budget Amendment was provided to the Commission. Kin Mendoza reviewed the amendments to the budget with the Commission. After discussion, a motion to accept the amendments was made, seconded and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Julian Guevara Jr., Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS FOR PREPARING FOR, RESPONDING TO, AND RECOVERING FROM EMERGENCIES & DISASTERS**

A copy of the Memorandum was provided to the Commission. Paula Rodriguez reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the American Red Cross. The MOU is a 5 year term with an Annual Review. In the case of Domestic Emergencies or Disaster, the Red Cross would take lead in facilitating response and recovery. This is not a contract, so at anytime the City can discontinue the services provided by the Red Cross. After further discussion and review, a motion to accept the Memorandum was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY A SHELTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS FOR THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FEMA COMMUNITY SAFE ROOMS DURING A DECLARED EMERGENCY**

A copy of the agreement was provided to the Commission. Paula Rodriguez reviewed the Shelter Agreement between the City and the American Red Cross. This agreement is for the use of the Domes during a declared emergency. The agreement includes coverage of any damage that may be caused during Red Cross operations. After discussion and review, a motion to accept the agreement was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Victor Gonzalez Jr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA TEMPORARILY CLOSING A PORTION OF SOUTH CANAL STREET BETWEEN WEST SPRUCE AVE. AND WEST JESSAMINE AVE. 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 ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT 500 SOUTH CANAL STREET ON OCTOBER 29, 2016 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 AM AND 10:00 PM AND ON OCTOBER 30, 2016 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 AM AND 8:00 PM.**

A copy of the request from St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church was provided to the Commission. Paula Rodriguez and Cesar Diaz reviewed the request with the Commission. There was discussion regarding safety of the festival attendees and the ability for emergency vehicles to maneuver through the community with the blocking of Canal Street. Cesar stated the emergency vehicles have the ability to maneuver through the community. Paula stated the sign being provided by St Francis Xavier would be arriving Friday and would be put up at that time. Attorney Ricardo Navarro read the caption of Ordinance 2016-09. A motion to accept Ordinance 2016-09 was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA CERTIFYING CONTRACT COMPLIANCE AND ACCEPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA**

Paula Rodriguez addressed the Commission concerning the Comprehensive Master Plan. The Plan has been finalized and in order to receive the funds allotted to the City, a resolution must be passed.

Attorney Ricardo Navarro read the caption of Resolution 2016-22. A motion to accept Resolution 2016-22 was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Julian Guevara Jr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR ATTORNEY CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOV'T CODE, TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE AND COUNSEL REGARDING THE CITY COMMISSIONS RIGHTS, DUTIES, PRIVILEGES, AND OBLIGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE HIRING PROCESS FOR A CITY CHARTER APPOINTED CITY MANAGER AND RELATED LEGAL ISSUES.**

Items 12 and 13 were addressed concurrently.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting in Closed Executive Session at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting back in Open Session at 7:34 PM.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOV'T CODE, TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, AND EVALUATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICER, NAMELY, TO CONSIDER APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION OF A CITY CHARTER APPOINTED CITY MANAGER BY THE CITY COMMISSION.**

Items 12 and 13 were addressed concurrently.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting in Closed Executive Session at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Maldonado declared the meeting back in Open Session at 7:34 PM.



**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/LEASE/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 were no items to discuss in Executive Session.

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

As a result of Closed Executive Session, Items 12 and 13, the Commission reported on an offer made and accepted by Jaime Sandoval for the position of City Manager. Mayor Pro-Tem Lozano read the Employment Salary and Benefits Agreement for the City Manager. The agreement states that the City Manager effective date is Monday, October 10, 2016.

A motion to accept the agreement was made, seconded, and approved as noted.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Victor Gonzalez Jr., Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>NO ACTION REQUIRED</b>
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**ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Esmeralda Lozano, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Eric Hoff, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Guevara Jr., Lozano, Hoff, Zuniga, Gonzalez Jr.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

APPROVED:

  
Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Paula Rodriguez, Interim City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 4:30 PM on October 5, 2016, as official record.

  
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Tabitha Outlaw, Administrative Assistant