

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, December 19, 2017**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, December 19, 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	Mayor Pro-Tem/ Commissioner	Present
Julian Guevara, Jr.	Commissioner	Present
Esmeralda Lozano	Commissioner	Present
Donato Garcia	Commissioner	Present

The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Jaime Sandoval, City Manager  
 Ms. Rebecca Hayward, City Attorney  
 Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary  
 Mr. Armando Gonzalez, Police Captain  
 Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director  
 Ms. Lori Vogt, Library Director  
 Mr. Alfonso Rodriguez, Public Works Director  
 Mr. Ron Cathey, Assistant Fire Chief

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Maldonado thanked City staff from the police and public works departments for their work on the street renaming ceremony held on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD DECEMBER 5, 2017.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Hoff and passed unanimously.

**7. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-33 AUTHORIZING LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTING FUNDING.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-33 authorizing local Border Security Program Grant application and accepting funding. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

**8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-34 TO DESIGNATE AUTHORIZED SIGNATORS FOR THE 2017 TEXAS CDBG PROGRAM CONTRACT #7217241.**

Anthony Covacavic of Grantworks explained that items 8, 9 and 10 pertain to a grant application for improvements to the water treatment plant in the amount of \$275 thousand. Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-34 designating authorized signators for the 2017 Texas CDBG Program contract #7217241. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Hoff and passed unanimously.

**9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-35 TO ADOPT REQUIRED TXCDBG CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES FOR TX CDBG CONTRACT # 7217241.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-35 to adopt required TXCDBG civil rights policies for TX CDBG contract # 7217241. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zuniga and passed unanimously.

**10. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

**11. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE SCADA (SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION) SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF LA FERIA WATER TREATMENT PLANT.**

Bids for the SCADA system for the City of La Fria Water Treatment Plant were opened on December 8, 2017. One bid was received from Control Networks Plus, LLC from Leander, TX in the amount of \$168,126.00. The consulting engineer performed their due diligence and contacted references provided. The bid amount is well within the projected cost estimate for the project and they are recommending award of the contract to Control Networks Plus, LLC. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to award the contract for the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for the City of La Fria Water treatment plant to Control Networks Plus, LLC. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Hoff and passed unanimously.

**12. PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORTS.**

**A. FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

**B. POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**C. FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**D. LIBRARY DEPARTMENT**

**E. PUBLIC WORKS**

Finance Director Frank Rios presented the monthly financial report for the month of November. He said that revenue collected for the moth was \$295,109 and was comprised of \$81,659 in property taxes, \$46,203 in sales tax revenue, \$28,453 in court collections and \$59,569 in garbage/late charges.

Captain Armando Gonzalez presented a statistical report of police department activity. There has been a significant increase in the number of calls for service that the department was able to respond to, incident reports filed, accident reports completed, arrests made, and citations issued. This led to an increase in municipal court revenue for the city. Cpt. Gonzalez also noted the increase in community involvement activities by the police department including back to

school backpack and supply giveaways, Halloween and Easter events and a Christmas toy drive. The department is also working with Sam Houston Elementary to have an officer read to children every Monday as well as hosting drug awareness, safety awareness, and anti-bullying events for the La Feria and Santa Maria school districts. The police department has also recently taken over animal control duties and one officer in particular has attended training and been certified in animal control and euthanasia.

Assistant Fire Chief Ron Cathey informed the Commission of improvements being made at the Fire department including recruitment of volunteers who also serve as professional firefighters in neighboring communities; there are currently approximately 30 members of the department. Mr. Cathey also noted the vigorous training that all volunteers receive at their weekly meetings and training opportunities now available to volunteers who commit to serve the department. Several cadets are attending Emergency Medical Responder training that will improve the capability of the department to respond to a wide range of calls. He also noted that the department recently received new gear and equipment valued at close to \$80,000 through a grant.

Library director Lori Vogt informed the Commission of several activities going on at the library including family literacy night, the summer reading program, art classes, and "Meet the Author" events featuring local authors.

Public Works Director Alfonso Rodriguez spoke to the Commission about all the responsibilities of his department including maintenance of 32 miles of streets; 65.3 miles of water lines; 104.9 miles of sewer lines; 43 miles of storm drains; mowing 240 acres of city properties, easements and right-of-ways, and eight City parks. The recreation center and aquatic center also fall under the umbrella of the Public Works Department. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the recreation center serves over 200 children per day and offers access to a computer lab, game room, theatre, and indoor and outdoor basketball courts. The recreation center will begin hosting basketball games for the City's youth league this year. Games had previously been held at various school gyms but scheduling conflicts have made that difficult in the past. He informed the Commission of necessary repairs at the aquatic center and stated that the pool may have to be closed for the year in order to ensure the safety of our citizens until the repairs can be made. The Public Works department also works in setting up and breaking down equipment and electrical lines and garbage services for the City's Fiesta de La Feria, Trash Bash, Independence Day Celebration, Lighting of the Tree, Lighted Christmas parade, and Winter Festival.

There was no action taken on this item.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to table items 13 and 14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zuniga and passed unanimously.

### **13. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

#### **A. ATTORNEY-CLIENT CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071(2), TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY'S LEGAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS SURROUNDING THE REMAINING WORK WITH THE LA FERIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND GLO CONTRACT.**

14. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION.**

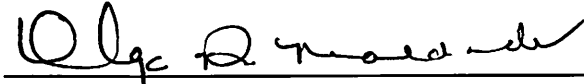
15. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AGREEMENT WITH RBI FOR DISPOSAL OF EXCAVATED SOIL.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Hoff made a motion to approve the agreement with RBI for disposal of excavated soil. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zuniga and passed unanimously

16. **ADJOURN.**

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Hoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano and passed unanimously.

APPROVED:

  
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Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Amanda Morales, City Secretary