

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, November 15, 2017**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Special Session on **Wednesday, November 15, 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	Absent
Eric Hoff	Mayor Pro-Tem/ Commissioner	Absent
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
- Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director
- Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary

4 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements

6 CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD OCTOBER 24, 2017.

B. APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve all items under Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

7 PRESENTATION BY MR. RICK RODRIGUEZ, UTILITY DIRECTOR TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON WATER AND WASTE WATER PLANTS AND LIFT STATIONS.

Mr. Rodriguez gave the Commission an update on several repairs and upgrades done to equipment at the Water and Wastewater treatment plants and lift stations. There was no action taken on this item.

8 PRESENTATION BY MR. LANCE ELLIOT OF TIF SERVICES OF SOUTH TEXAS REGARDING THE CITY'S UPDATED TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ) DATA.

Mr. Elliot explained that the city established a Tax Increment Reinvestment zone, or TIRZ in 2008. The purpose of the zone is to work with Cameron County to generate tax revenue that would be reinvested in economic development. A board of directors was also appointed at the time the zone was established. The board has not been active since 2013. Mr. Elliot explained the options available to the Commission in moving forward with TIRZ activity. There was no action on this item.

9 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 2017-15 ACCEPTING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS GAS SERVICE AND DETERMINING RATES WITHIN THE CITY OF LA FERIA.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-15 accepting a settlement agreement with Texas Gas Service and determining rates within the City of La Feria. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

10 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-27 TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST BIDDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE HOME IN LA FERIA THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS HOME PROGRAM.

Bids were opened on August 3, 2017 for the construction of a new home at 306 Tim Garcia Street. The property owners received a forgivable loan through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs HOME Program for construction of the home. There was one bid received from James W. Turner Construction. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-27 awarding a contract to James W. Turner Construction for the construction of one home in La Feria through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs HOME Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

11 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-28 CASTING A VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE FOR POSITION NINE OF THE CAMERON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The City Commission had previously voted to nominate Ricardo Morado as the candidate for position nine of the Cameron Appraisal District. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve resolution 2017-28 casting a vote for a candidate for position nine of the Cameron Appraisal District. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

12 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE FARM LEASE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA FERIA AND JOSH RUIZ MID VALLEY AGRICULTURE, LLC AND STEVE WOLF.

Mr. Sandoval explained that Steve Wolf would be leasing 4.85 acres located on Kelly Drive and Josh Ruiz of Mid Valley Agriculture LLC would be leasing 23 acres located along FM 506. Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve farm lease agreements between the City of La Feria and Steve Wolf and Josh Ruiz, Mid Valley Agriculture, LLC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

13 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2017- 16 AMENDING CHAPTER 3 OF THE LA FERIA CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CONFORM TO NEW STATUTORY REQUIREMENT OF HOUSE BILL 3329.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-16 amending chapter 3 of the La Feria Code of Ordinances to conform to new statutory requirement of House Bill 3329. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

14 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the renewal of the contract with Frontier Communications for telephone service. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

15 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2017-29 APPROVING THE PROPOSAL BY THE CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT FOR RENOVATION OF APPRAISAL DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-29 approving the proposal by the Cameron appraisal District for renovation of appraisal district headquarters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano and passed unanimously.

16 ADJOURN


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

APPROVED:



Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amanda Morales, City Secretary