

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, September 25, 2018 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 Maldonado declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Olga H. Maldonado	Mayor	Present
Jesse Zuniga	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
Mr. Ricardo Navarro, City Attorney
Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary
Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director
Mr. David Phinney, Fire Chief
Mr. Armando Gonzalez, Police Captain
Mr. Cesar Diaz, Police Chief

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

5. CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

There were no announcements made.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 2018.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2018.

C. APPROVAL OF CASH MANAGEMENT POLICY.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve all items under Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga and passed unanimously.

7. PRESENTATION BY CAMERON COUNTY CLERK REGARDING LA FERIA BRANCH OFFICE.

Cameron County Clerk Sylvia Garza-Perez addressed the Commission regarding the opening of a substation in La Feria. She explained that citizens will now be able to file documents related to properties, pay taxes, fines and fees and get certified copies of vital records including birth, death and marriage certificates at the location. There was no action taken on this item.

8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY BUDGETS FOR LA FERIA UTILITIES BOARD, LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND LA FERIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve the budgets for La Feria Utilities Board, La Feria Industrial Development Corporation, and La Feria Economic Development Corporation for fiscal year 2018-2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano and passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE CITY OF LA FERIA BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the City of La Feria budget for fiscal year 2018-2019. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga and passed by the following vote:

Mayor Maldonado: Aye
 Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga: Aye
 Commissioner Garcia: Aye
 Commissioner Guevara: Aye
 Commissioner Lozano: Aye

10. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 2018-12 ESTABLISHING AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR TAX YEAR 2018 INCLUDING MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, AND INTEREST & SINKING RATES.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve the tax rate of \$0.76 per \$100 valuation with \$0.548709/\$100 going to long-term debt retirement and \$0.211291/\$100 to be used for maintenance and operations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano and passed unanimously. Ms. Hayward read the caption of the ordinance.

11. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2018-13 AMENDING THE EMERGENCY SERVICES FEE.

Mr. Sandoval explained that the Emergency Services fee has been at \$1 for several years and has been allocated to benefit the fire and police departments. The City is proposing a \$5 increase in this fee that is added to all utility accounts. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Ordinance 201813 amending the Emergency services fee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

12. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2018-14 AMENDING TOWING CHARGES TO INCLUDE GOVERNMENTAL FEE.

Mr. Sandoval explained that the City is able to add a fee to towing charges for individuals whose vehicles are impounded due to lack of financial responsibility. The revenues generated from this fee will be allocated to the police and fire departments. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-14 amending towing charges to include a governmental fee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

13. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT A LABOR STANDARDS OFFICER FOR TX CDBG PROJECTS.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to appoint City Manager Jaime Sandoval to serve as Labor Standards Officer for TX CDBG Projects. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

Mayor Maldonado called the meeting into closed executive session at 6:46 p.m.

14. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO TEX. GOV'T CODE SEC. 551.072 REGARDING THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE, OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IF**

DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PERSON REGARDING THE EL CHAPARRAL PROPERTY. - CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER SECTION 551.071(1), TEXAS GOV'T CODE TO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE IN CONNECTION WITH PENDING LITIGATION IN THE LAWSUIT STYLED AND NUMBERED PHILIP V LA FERIA, CAUSE NO. 2016-CCL-01195 (CCL#2 CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS)

There was no action taken during closed executive session.
Mayor Maldonado called the meeting back to order at 7:46 p.m.

15. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION RELATED TO THE LAWSUIT STYLED AND NUMBERED PHILIP V LA FERIA, CAUSE NO. 2016-CCL-01195 (CCL#2 CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS) AND RELATED MATTERS.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to reaffirm the city's intent to pursue prosecution of the case against Mr. Philip and defense of the case filed against the City. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lozano also made a motion to allow the City Manager to represent the City in mediation and act as the city's agent to negotiate an agreement, if possible. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

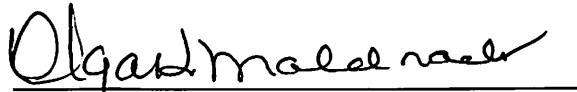
16. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATED TO THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY REGARDING THE EL CHAPARRAL PROPERTY.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to convey the parking lot located behind the El Chaparral building to the La FERIA Industrial Development Corporation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

17. ADJOURN.

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

APPROVED:



Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amanda Morales, City Secretary