

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
LA FERIA RECREATION CENTER
Tuesday, September 10, 2019**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.** in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 E. Commercial Ave., 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.

3. DETERMINE QUORUM PRESENT AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR

Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga 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
Devin Martinez	Commissioner	Present
Julian Guevara, Jr.	Commissioner	Present
Esmeralda Lozano	Commissioner	Absent
Donato Garcia	Commissioner	Present

The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Jaime Sandoval, City Manager
Ms. Allison Bastian, City Attorney
Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary
Mr. Frank Rios, Finance Director

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

5. CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

There were no announcements.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 27, 2019.

Commissioner Martinez made a motion to approve the items under consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

7. PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT REGARD PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020.

Mayor Maldonado opened the public hearing at 6:33 P.M. Mr. Rios explained that the city was not raising the tax rate, but some homeowners may see an increase to the total tax bill due to increased property valuation. There were no other comments and Mayor Maldonado closed the public hearing at 6:33 P.M.

8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN TROPICAL TEXAS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND CITY OF LA FERIA ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE LA FERIA POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve the amendment to an interlocal agreement between Tropical Texas Behavioral Health and the City of La Feria acting by and through the La Feria Police Department. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga and passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2019-15, INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT, AND COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CAMERON COUNTY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN SECURING URBAN COUNTY DESIGNATION PURSUANT TO THE U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG).

Mr. Frank Briones of Cameron County explained how the transition to Urban County funding would work for each city participating. He stated the Cities would not receive less funding than they are currently getting through CDBG. So far, only two Cities have signed on to the interlocal agreement. Most others are waiting to see what the City of Harlingen will decide as they have the largest population of the cities that will participate and participation is required from all cities in the county to proceed. There was no action taken on this item.

10. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2019-16 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING & ZONING BOARD.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

11. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION 2019-20 TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD.

Commissioner Martinez made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guevara and passed unanimously.

12. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO PURCHASE A ROSENBAUER COMMANDER 1500 GPM PUMPER THROUGH THE HOUSTON GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (HGAC) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$434,000.00.

Mr. Sandoval explained that the City had received a grant from Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation in the amount of \$495,000 that will be put toward the purchase of the Pumper and rescue equipment. Chief Phinney informed the Commission that this will

be the first unit of this type used in Texas. There is no monetary match required by the City for the grant funding. Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve the purchase of a Rosenbauer Commander 1500 GPM pumper through the Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) in the amount of \$434,000.00. the motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

13. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SUBMITTING GRANT FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) RURAL UTILITY SERVICE (RUS).

Mr. Humberto Garza of RGE, LLC addressed the commission regarding the work his firm is doing to prepare grant applications for the City. This grant application would cover the engineering costs for proposed street and drainage repairs. Commissioner Guevara made a motion to approve submitting grant for preliminary engineering and environmental assessment for United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utility Service (RUS). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

14. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ENGAGING RGE, LLC FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT/LOAN APPLICATION.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to engage RGE, LLC for engineering services For United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Facilities Grant/Loan Application. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

15. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING (CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN) FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (TDA) ON TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (TXCDBG) PROGRAM IN RELATION TO 2019 TEXAS CAPITAL FUND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION /MAIN STREET GRANT PROGRAM.

Commissioner Guevara made a motion to authorize a notice of public hearing (citizen participation plan) for Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) on Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) program in relation to 2019 Texas capital fund downtown revitalization /main street grant program. The public hearing is scheduled for September 19, 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

16. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BIDS RECEIVED FOR BANK DEPOSITORY SERVICES.

There were three bids received in response to a request for proposals for Depository service; from Texas National Bank, BBVA compass, and Frost Bank.

Mr. Rios addressed the Commission and explained that while Texas National Bank submitted the lowest bid in terms of costs to the City, his recommendation was to

remain with BBVA Compass because they are the only bidders to have a location within La Feria City Limits. He expressed concern for the way deposits would be handled. Currently, city employees only have to go one block from City Hall to make deposits or get change. Representatives from Texas National Bank were allowed to make a presentation on their proposal to the Commission. Edna Martinez and David Garza informed the Commission that they were prepared to offer an armored car service three times a week to collect deposits for the city at no extra cost if selected. Commissioner Garcia made a motion to table this item to allow the Commission more time to review the proposals. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

17. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST FROM OLEANDER STREET MARKET.

Jose Becerra, representing Oleander Street Market addressed the Commission regarding their request to close Oleander Street on certain dates over the next six months. Mayor Pro-Tem Zuniga made a motion to approve the request from Oleander Street market. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

Mayor Maldonado called the meeting in to Closed Session at 7:17 P.M.

18. CLOSED SESSION:

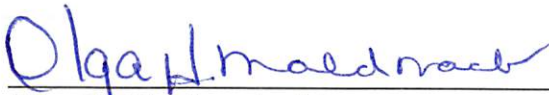
- **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOV'T CODE SECTION 551.071(2) TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE REGARDING CERTAIN BILLS OF THE 86TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE AFFECTING THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND THE TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT.**

There was no action taken during Closed Session.

19. ADJOURN.

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

APPROVED:



Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amanda Morales, City Secretary