

**CITY OF NATALIA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2078 STATE HWY 132 NORTH, NATALIA, TEXAS
JULY 15, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Roll Call

Honorable Ruberta Vera, Mayor – present
Alderman Jaime Gomez – present
Alderman Tommy Ortiz – present

Alderman Sam Smith - absent
Alderman Sam Bluemel Jr. – present
Alderman Mike Fernandez – present

Call to order

Mayor Ruberta Vera called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Notice was posted as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act (Chapter 551, Texas Government Code). Alderman Mike Fernandez led the pledge of allegiance and Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. the invocation.

Citizens to be heard

None

City Council Comments

- Alderman Tommy Ortiz – Announced and congratulated the Natalia Little League on coming in 2nd in State. Mayor Vera asked that Mr. Ortiz ask the ladies to be present at the August Regular Council meeting to be recognized.
- Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. thanked the Chief of Police and his department for their swift action in the recent shooting over July 4th. Alderman Ortiz agreed and stated his pleasure in the professionalism of the department.

Presentation by Ms. Southard of the Lion’s Club International.

Ms. Catherine Williams of the Lions Club International presented this item. Ms. Williams stated that there are 46,000 clubs in country. Ms. Williams said they need members! The Lion’s Club provides eye glasses and food for boys and girls among other services. Membership is \$50 tonight and \$100 per year. She also stated there they have four scholarships available and encouraged people to apply. The Lion’s Club will meet on July 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Natalia Volunteer Fire Department.

Presentation by Ms. Maria Sanchez concerning the closing of Kearney between 5th and 6th Street and a portion of 5th Street during the St. John Bosco Church Annual Festival to be held on September 1, 2013; Followed by discussion and possible action.

Ms. Maria Sanchez presented a request from St. John Bosco Church to hold the annual festival on September 1, 2013. In addition to the presentation, Ms. Sanchez also asked that the streets be closed for the event.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Mike Fernandez and a second made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve of the festival being held on September 1, 2013 with the appropriate street closures. The motion carried.

Presentation by the following for solid waste and recycling services for the City of Natalia.

a) ACI Recycling & Disposal

Mr. Blake Cesar presented the ACI Recycling & Disposal proposal.

b) Allied/Republic Services Company

Mr. Terry Gawlik presented the Allied/Republic Services proposal.

c) Texas Disposal Systems

Mr. Ray Bryant presented the Texas Disposal System (TDS) proposal.

Each presenter was allotted fifteen minutes to make their presentation which was followed by questions from the City Council members.

Council asked that the two of the three companies that did not provide a list of communities, provide those lists to the City Administrator so the Council could check references.

Discuss and consider possible action on the selection of Solid Waste and Recycling Services for the City of Natalia and authorizing the City Administrator to enter into an agreement for services to begin September 1, 2013.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. and a second made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz, the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to table this item until a Special Council Meeting could be held on July 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. The motion carried.

Discuss and consider possible action on Resolution No. 13-06, a resolution of the City of Natalia City Council authorizing the City to award contracts for professional Project management Services and Project Engineering Services for projects funded under the 2013/2014 (PY) Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG).

Upon a motion made by Alderman Mike Fernandez and a second made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to accept the recommendation to go with Klein Engineering for engineering services, Inc. and Community Development as the management services for the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG). The motion carried.

Discuss and consider possible action on the acceptance of the June 17, 2013 Warranty Deed presented to the City from McFadin Family Limited Partnership for Lot 58A, MUSTANG ESTATES, a subdivision in Medina County, Texas, according to the map or plat of record in Volume 9, pages 177 & 178 of the Plat Records of Medina County, Texas.

City Administrator Passailaigue presented this item after receiving a Warranty Deed on June 17, 2013 for Lot 58A, Mustang Estates which was donated to the City in 2006. Ms. Passailaigue informed the City Council of the current condition of the lot as well as the laws that pertain to the maintenance of a city owned cemetery.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Sam Bluemel and a second made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz, the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to revert Lot 58A, Mustang Estates back to the McFadin Family, Ltd. and to refuse the warranty deed as presented. The motion carried.

Discuss and consider approval of the consent agenda as presented or amended.

- a. Approval of the City Council Minutes from:
June 17, 2013 Special Meeting
June 24, 2013 Regular Meeting**
- b. Acceptance of the Financial Activity Report**
- c. Acceptance of the Utility Activity Report**
- d. Acceptance of the Municipal Court Activity Report**
- e. Acceptance of the Animal Control/Code Compliance Activity Report**
- f. Acceptance of the Police Department Activity Report**

Upon a motion made by Alderman Mike Fernandez and a second made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Mayor Vera thanked Water Superintendent, Art Smith and his crew for a job well done on water loss. For the first time ever the City of Natalia's water loss is at 9.98%. Mayor attributes this to the Utility Department working diligently and rapidly repairing water leaks throughout the City. Mr. Smith also credited the citizens of Natalia for following the guidelines on water restrictions.

Discuss and consider possible action on the SRO Memorandum of Understanding for School Year 2013-2014.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz and a second made by Alderman Jaime Gomez, the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the SRO Memorandum of Understanding for School Year 2013-2014 as presented. The motion carried.

Discuss and consider possible action regarding the funding of the Natalia Impound staff with possible direction to the Mayor on employment status.

Mayor Vera presented this item with the current financials for the Impound Fund. Mayor Vera did inform the Council and audience that there will be an auction on August 10, 2013.

Alderman Tommy Ortiz motioned that the City find a way to help fund the Natalia Police Impound other funds. There being no second to Alderman Ortiz' motion, the motion failed.

Mayor Vera announced that there is a one full time – Sergeant; one full time – Officer; one part time – Officer; and one secretary that are paid out of the Impound Fund. Chief Wayne Morgan said that all of these officers already know that this is going to happen. Mayor Vera asked the Chief if he had any plans or recommendations since this has already been discussed in the department. The Chief said that the officers already have jobs lined up and asked that if cuts are to be made that he be allowed to decide which ones go.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. and a second made by Alderman Mike Fernandez, the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to postpone this item until July 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. and take action on it at that time. The motion carried.

Discuss and consider possible action on the Medina County Appraisal District Preliminary Budget 2014.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Mike Fernandez and a second made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted to appoint the Mayor and City Administrator to go and discuss the City of Natalia's portion of this budget with Medina County. The motion carried.

Mayor's Report

- a) Medina Community Hospital Advisory Board Information**
- b) June Blood Drive Report**
- c) TxDOT Update 471/I-35**

Mayor Vera reported on the following items: a) Mayor Vera said she had recently met with the Medina Community Hospital and that she will be representing our community to assist in addressing the needs of this community; b) the blood drive was successful and 31 units were collected; and c) Mayor Vera met with Mr. Ortiz from TxDOT who said they were starting the work on the access roads to continue the upgrade in the Love's Travel Station area.

City Administrator's Report

- a) Employee Status**
- b) Final Budget Calendar**
- c) Brush Pickup**
- d) Alamo Fireworks Donation to the Natalia Veterans Memorial Library**
- e) 3rd Quarter Newsletter Deadline – August 15th**

City Administrator Sandra Passailaigue reported on the following items: a) Misty Villarreal resigned after thirteen years with the City and Lori Garcia from Atascosa has been hired to take her place. Ms. Garcia will begin on July 29, 2013; b) the final budget calendar was given to the Council; c) brush pick up begins August 5th; d) Alamo Fireworks has decided to donate a percentage of all December 2013 proceeds from the IH-35 and 1604 location to the Natalia Veterans Memorial Library. More information on this will come in the next month or so; and e) Ms. Passailaigue reminded City Council members that August 15, 2013 is the deadline to submit articles for the 3rd Quarter City Newsletter.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Alderman Mike Fernandez and a second by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) and none (0) to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting at 9:22 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 2013. The motion carried.

The minutes approved on the 19th of August, 2013.

A P P R O V E D

RUBERTA C. VERA
MAYOR

Attest: _____
SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Administrator

