

**CITY OF NATALIA
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2078 STATE HWY 132 NORTH, NATALIA, TEXAS
AUGUST 27, 2013
5:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

Roll Call

Honorable Ruberta Vera, Mayor – present	Alderman Sam Smith - absent
Alderman Jaime Gomez – present	Alderman Sam Bluemel Jr. – present
Alderman Tommy Ortiz – present	Alderman Mike Fernandez – present

Call to order

Mayor Ruberta Vera called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Notice was posted as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act (Chapter 551, Texas Government Code). Mayor Ruberta Vera led the pledge of allegiance and Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. the invocation.

Budget Work Session – Presentation of the Municipal Court, Administration, Personnel, Revenues and Other Funds.

City Administrator Sandra Passailaigue presented the *draft proposed* budget. Items proposed where the creation of a City Council Budget to include the following: \$500 – supplies; \$1400 – Association dues & publications; \$2400 – training/education; \$4800 – travel/lodging/meals; \$2500 – special services (fireworks, PA system, holiday dinner); and \$1800 – Mayor & Council stipend. There was a consensus among the members of Council to roll over the \$1800 stipend into the Special Services bringing that total to \$4300. Ms. Passailaigue went on to discuss Administration which included the following: to include a position for a code compliance officer, outsourcing payroll, eliminating the position of Administrative Assistant and creating the position of Finance Director who would be responsible for the daily finances and overseeing the municipal court. Lastly, Ms. Passailaigue went over the municipal court with the following proposal of adding a position of part time court clerk to assist in the collection of the outstanding fines and warrants. There was a consensus of the Council to approve of these proposals and move forward with putting them into the final draft budget.

First Public Hearing: Proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 of \$.9506 per \$100 of valuation and on the Proposed Annual Operating and Capital Budget.

Mayor Vera opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Elizabeth Cargile – 707 Miller – requested that the City Council consider an over 65 property tax freeze for the citizens of Natalia.

There being no further comments from the public, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

Discuss and consider action to setting September 9, 2013 as the date for the second public hearing of the City Council for the proposed tax rate and Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Proposed Budget.

Mayor Vera announced that September 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. would be the second public hearing for the proposed tax rate and Fiscal Year 2013-20174 Proposed Budget.

Discuss and consider action to set September 16, 2013 as the date for the final vote of the City Council for the purpose of adopting the proposed tax rate and proposed budget.

Mayor Vera announced that September 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. would be the date and time for the City Council's final vote on the proposed tax rate and Fiscal Year 2013-20174 Proposed Budget.

Discuss and consider action by the City Council to appoint members to the NPD Chief Citizens Committee.

The City Council members each made an appointment to the NPD Chief Citizens Committee. The following appointments were made: Mayor – to be determined later; Alderman Sam Smith – Eric Smith; Alderman Tommy Ortiz – Dorothy Woodson; Alderman Mike Fernandez – Brenda Fernandez; Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr. – Liz Cargile; and Alderman Jaime Gomez – Ruben Juarez.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz and a second made by Alderman Mike Fernandez, the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to accepting the nominations for the NPD Chief Citizens Committee as presented. The motion carried.

Discuss and consider action to set the guidelines, roles and deadline for recommendation of the NPD Chief Citizen Committee.

There was a consensus among the City Council members that the NPD Chief Citizen Committee meet on September 5, 2013 to review applications and use guidelines as outlined by Council; to rank applications and make recommendations to the City Council on September 9, 2013.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz and a second made by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to the guidelines, roles and deadlines as discussed. The motion carried.

The City Council will conduct interviews for the position of Chief of Police on September 12, 2013 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Alderman Tommy Ortiz and a second by Alderman Sam Bluemel, Jr., the City Council voted four (4) and none (0) to adjourn the Special City Council meeting at 7:39 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27, 2013. The motion carried.

The minutes approved on the 21st of October, 2013.

A P P R O V E D

RUBERTA C. VERA
MAYOR

Attest: _____
SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Administrator