

City of Natalia, Texas  
Special City Council Meeting  
September 2, 2015 at 7:00pm  
Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** City Administrator/Secretary performed roll call, and a quorum of members were present. Mayor Vera called the special city council meeting to order.  
Mayor Ruby Vera - Present  
Alderman Tommy Ortiz - Present  
Alderman Ruben Juarez - Present  
Alderman Sam Bluemel – Present (arrived at 6:25pm)  
Alderman Sam Smith - Present  
Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present
2. **Public Hearing on Proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.** No public comments.
3. **Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.8869 per \$100 valuation for 2015 Tax Year.** No public comments. The second public hearing is scheduled for September 9, 2015 at 6pm, and the vote on the tax rate is set for September 21, 2015 at 7pm, at the City Hall Council Chambers, Natalia, Texas 78059.
4. **Public Hearing regarding the Texas Department of Agriculture’s CBDG Program.** Citizens are encouraged to attend to discuss the citizen participation plan, local housing and community development needs, available funding, eligible activities, past use of funds, and development of CDBG applications. No public comments.
5. **Discussion/Consider action on M&S Engineering proposed project options for water and wastewater.** Engineers Tom Turk, Chris Rosenboom, and Brady Cori were present to discuss and answer questions regarding the USDA Water/Wastewater SEARCH project lists. Mr. Rosenboom discussed the projects by priority; for Water: 1) Wellsite Upgrades to improve the performance and reliability of the city’s two existing raw water wells and back-up well, to include standby battery backup power the wellsites and inspection of the wells condition; 2) Upgrades to the water distribution system in areas, to include 10,000 feet of main replacements from old galvanized lines to new PVC mains, in addition to analyzing an alternative to isolate Loves and NISD from direct impact in the event of a water break in the system; and 3) Interconnecting with East Medina at CR675/FM463 for temporary water source in such events of a break in the City’s pipes, or major system failure. The total costs for water projects as prioritized is \$747,500.00, which does not include optional projects to water tank rehabilitation and automatic-read meters for an additional cost of \$203,250.00. And for Wastewater, the following projects were priority: 1) Redirect Loves liftstation through new pipeline to the wastewater treatment plant by installation 6,400 feet of new pipe along FM6717; 2) Replacing the eroded utility crossing of Fort Ewell Creek by constructing a new crossing with adequate pipe supports; and 3) Reduce non-wastewater treatment at WWTP during a major rain event, which developed in three phases – inspection of gravity and determine sewer line conditions, cleanout of lines, and/or lining/replacement of lines. The total costs for wastewater projects as prioritized is \$766,000.00, which does not include optional projects to making repairs to Ballfield Liftstation, extending the sewer lines across I-35, constructing a collection system at Mustang Ridge, extending sewer service to parcel NW of I-35 interchange and to T%M parcel SW of i-35 interchange for an additional cost of \$945,500.00. The total costs for both water and wastewater prioritized projects are \$1,513,500.00. Mayor Vera recommended that an alternative direction of

the new sewer lines to the WWTP such as cutting behind the Loves and NISD property to tie into the main on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Alderman Fernandez stated that the upgrades to the water distribution system is a good idea, and asked how much East Medina was going to charge for the water usage when used, and believes they're water charges would be too expensive to even connect.

Alderman Fernandez made the motion to approve the projects lists with possible recalculated costs to redirect the sewer line as suggested, and Alderman Juarez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Discussion/Consider approval of the August 17, 2015 Special City Council Meeting Minutes.** Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the minutes, and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Discussion/Consider Action on adopting Ordinance 15-0902-1; Declaring Unopposed Candidates in the November 3, 2015 General City Election elected, and Canceling said Election.** Alderman Bluemel made the motion adopting Ordinance No. 15-0902-1, and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. **Discussion/Consider revisions to Proposed Annual Budgets for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.** City Administrator Hernandez noted that with the cancellation of the election, the \$10,000 of election expenses would be redistributed to legal fees. Alderman Fernandez made the motion accepting the revisions as discussed, and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. **Adjournment.** Alderman Fernandez made the motion adjourning the meeting at 6:35pm, and seconded by Alderman Smith. The motion passed by unanimously.

Passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

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Ruberta C. Vera, Mayor

Attest:

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Lisa S. Hernandez,  
City Administrator/Secretary