

City of Natalia, Texas  
Regular City Council Meeting  
November 16, 2015 at 7:00 pm  
Minutes

Roll Call: Mayor Ruby Vera - Present Alderman Sam Smith - Present  
Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present Alderman Tommy Ortiz - Present  
Alderman Sam Bluemel – Present Alderman Ruben Juarez – Present

Call to Order:

- 1) Mayor Vera called the regular city council meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Alderman Ortiz, and the invocation by Alderman Bluemel.

Citizens to be Heard:

- 2) a. Laura Gallagher questioned why the closure of DelMonte/Miller Street was not placed on the agenda as discussed during last month’s meeting. No Council response.

Public Hearing:

- 3) To consider a Resolution for Submission of an Application to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Office for a matching loan/grant application to fund the purchase of a new police vehicle, fully equipped, for the Natalia Police Department. Chief Rodriguez explained the grant will fund 75% with 25% matching funds, submitting the application for one fully equipped vehicle at \$30,000.

City Council Comments:

- 4) None.

Consent Agenda:

- 5) a. Approval of Minutes: October 19, 2015 Regular Meeting, and November 2, 2015 Special Meeting  
b. Approval of the Financial Activity Report: October 2015  
c. Approval of the Police Department Activity Report: October 2015  
d. Approval of the Municipal Court Activity Report: October 2015  
e. Approval of the Utility Department Activity Report: October 2015  
Motion: Alderman Bluemel made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderman Ortiz seconded the motion.  
Vote: 5-0; Passed by a unanimous vote.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 6) Discussion/Consideration of bids relating to the sale of obligations designated as “City of Natalia, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2015”; consideration and approval of financial advisor’s recommendation concerning this matter; and other matters in connection therewith.  
Duncan Morrow, Vice President of Frost Bank, presented bid proposal options submitted by Community National Bank. The original proposal submitted provided for an average annual payment of \$26,214 at a 4.25% interest rate for a 20 year term, with a fixed-5 year term with a ceiling of 7%, having an estimated interest cost of \$179,813; and with new negotiations, two final proposals were presented for consideration: Option 1) Average Annual Payments of \$29,728 at a 3.30% Interest Rate for a 15-year term, having an estimated interest cost of \$102,189; or Option 2) Average Annual Payments of \$24,733 at a 3.59% Interest Rate for a 20-year term, having an estimated interest cost of \$149,882.

Motion: Alderman Ortiz motioned for the approval of Option 1 for the 15-year term; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 7) **Discussion/Consideration and Approval of an Ordinance authorizing the issuance of “City of Natalia, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2015”;** providing for the payment of said certificates by the levy of an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property within the city and further securing said certificates by a lien on and pledge of the pledged revenues of the system; providing the terms and conditions of said certificates and resolving other matters incident and relating to the issuance; authorizing the execution of a paying agent/registrar agreement, a purchase and investment letter, and the letter of representations to be filed with the depository trust company; authorizing the execution of any necessary engagement agreements with the city’s financial advisors and/or bond counsel; and providing an effective date.

Motion: Alderman Bluemel made the motion approving the ordinance authorizing the issuance “City of Natalia, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Pledge Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2015”; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 8) **Discussion/Consider Action terminating the sewer service agreement dated February 23, 2005 with resident Roy Sheetz effective immediately.**

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the termination of the sewer service agreement with Roy Sheetz; and Alderman Juarez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 9) **Discussion/Consider approving a Resolution designating administration and engineering service providers for the City of Natalia 2015 Texas CBDG Fund Contract 7215349 for Wastewater (Sewer) Improvements.**

Discussion: Mayor Vera stated that the City received two proposal submissions for Project Administration Services: Grant Works Inc., and Community Development Management Co. Inc.; and, received four proposals for Engineering Services: TRC Solutions, LNV Engineers, Klein & Cope Engineering, and Rakowitz Engineering. After review and evaluation, it was determined the firm with the highest average score for Project Administration Services was Grant Works, Inc.; and the firm with the highest average score for Engineering Services was TRC Solutions.

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made a motion approving for the designation of Grant Works, Inc. for Project Administration Services, and TRC Solutions for Engineering Services for the 2015 TxCBDG Fund Contract No.7215349. Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 10) **Discussion/Consider approving a Resolution designating authorized signators for the City of Natalia 2015 Texas CBDG Program Contract 7215349 for Wastewater (Sewer) Improvements.**

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained the 2015 TxCBDG Fund Contract No.7215349 requires the designation of authorized signers for execution of related documents; being Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, and City Administrator/Secretary.

Motion: Alderman Bluemel made a motion approving the designated signators; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 11) **Discussion/Consider approving a Resolution adopting required CBDG Civil Rights policies.**

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made a motion approving the resolution; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- 12) **Discussion/Consider Action on Resolution No.2015-25; Authorizing the Natalia Police Department to submit a grant application to USDA Rural Development Office for a matching loan/grant for the purchase of a police vehicle for the Natalia Police Department.**

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made a motion for the approving of authorizing the NPD to submit a grant application to USDA; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

*With no objection Mayor Vera moved the order of agenda items No. 18 and No. 19 next on the agenda.*

- 18) **Discussion/Consider Action on the appointment of Municipal Court Judge Richard Loza and Alternate Municipal Court Judge Jason Cruz for a two-year term.**  
Motion: Alderman Ortiz made a motion approving the appointment of Richard Loza and Jason Cruz; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 19) **Mayor Vera Administered the Oath of Office to Municipal Court Officials: Richard Loza, Municipal Court Judge; and Jason Cruz, Alternate Municipal Court Judge**

*Mayor Vera continued with the order of agenda items commencing with agenda item No. 13.*

- 13) **Discussion/Consider Action on Resolution No.2015-26; Casting Votes to elect Directors for the Appraisal District of Medina County for the Years 2016-2017.**  
Motion: Alderman Bluemel made the motion electing Roy Sheetz as a Board of Director for Medina County Appraisal District 2016-2017; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 14) **Discussion/Consider Action on Resolution No.2015-27; Designating authorized signers for all depository accounts with Security State Bank on behalf of the City of Natalia, Texas.**  
Motion: Alderman Smith made a motion approving the resolution; and Alderman Juarez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 15) **Discussion/Consider Action on Resolution No.2015-28; Authorizing the Write-Off of General Fund Uncollectible Accounts Receivable in the amount of \$82,059.68.**  
Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that the City's General Fund has previously funded expenses incurred by the Natalia Police Department for law enforcement payroll, equipment and legal fees that were to be reimbursed from NPD Forfeiture-Impound Fund Account; however, with the new policy and use of towing, impoundment funds are nearly depleted and no funds are expected to be gained to support reimbursement costs to the City of Natalia General Fund in the amount of \$68,777.23; therefore, the receivable uncollected is recommended to be written off. The City for several year's supported the operations of the Veterans Memorial Library by utilizing city funds for library operation expenses with the expectancy to recover the expenditures from billing contributions; however, the amount of expenses exceeded the amount of contributions gained, and now that the Library is its own nonprofit organization, reimbursement is unlikely, and recommending the receivable of \$12,156.10 to be written off. Financial statements have recorded an order of restitution for the Natalia Police Department of an amount of \$1,126.35; however, no municipal court or police department files provide information of the defendant and case to be paid by restitution, this has been on the books since 2008; therefore, a write-off of the account is recommended. The City has a fiscal responsibility to maintain accurate financial and account information to provide for a better accountability of funds.  
Motion: Alderman Bluemel made the motion approving for the write-off of \$82,059.68; and Alderman Ortiz seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 16) **Discussion/Consider Action on rescheduling the date of the December 21, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting to December 14, 2015.**  
Motion: Alderman Smith made the motion rescheduling December's regular meeting to December 14, 2015; and Alderman Ortiz seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 17) **Discussion/Consider Electing an Alderman to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem for a one year term.**  
Motion: Alderman Fernandez made a motion nominating Alderman Sam Smith to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem; and Alderman Ortiz seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- 18) **Ceremonial Event: Mayor Vera Administered the Oath of Office to Unopposed Elected Officials: Samuel "Chip" Bluemel Jr., Alderman; Ruben Juarez, Alderman; and Manuel C. Saldana, Mayor.**
- 19) **Presentations: Recognition of Ruberta C. Vera 18-years of dedicated service to the City of Natalia, Texas.**

- i. Presentation by Judge Schuchart on behalf of State Representative Andrew Murr's Office of the State of Texas.
- ii. Presentation by Alderman Sam Smith on behalf of the City of Natalia, Texas.

20) **Adjournment.**

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm, and Bluemel seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Passed and Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

Approval:

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Manuel C. Saldana, Mayor

Attest:

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Lisa S. Hernandez,  
City Administrator/Secretary