

City of Natalia, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting
March 21, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Minutes

Roll Call: Mayor Manuel C. Saldana - Present Alderman Sam Smith – Present
Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present Alderman Tommy Ortiz - Present
Alderman Sam Bluemel – Present Alderman Ruben Juarez – Absent

Call to Order:

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

Citizens to be Heard:

- 2) None.

City Council Comments:

- 3) Alderman Bluemel expressed his frustration regarding TxDOT's maintenance/construction project at the exit/entry ramps occurring Lytle, and how the City of Natalia always seems to come as the lowest priority. Alderman Ortiz expressed his concerns of safety hazards on IH-35, stating that having police patrol traffic would help. Alderman Ortiz also expressed concerns regarding the age of manufactured homes allowed, requesting that this be discussed further by council at a later meeting. Alderman Smith like to recognize Jazmine Vasquez on her athletic accomplishments, winning state two years in a row and setting four records.

Public Hearing/Consider Action:

- 4) a. Public Hearing /Consideration on the submission of a variance request by Ira W. Wells, Property Owner, requesting a variance to the zoning of Block E, Lots 21-24, addressed as 402 Walton Street, Natalia, Texas 78059; to including Zoning District C-1 (Commercial District).

Discussion: Juan Camacho, Realtor representing property, in the presence of Mr. Wells and potential buyers, asked that the property be classified commercial as the potential buyers, Urban Metal Shop, is looking into relocating their business from Hwy-132 to this location if approved. City Administrator Hernandez explained that all utility services or any development costs is at the owner's expense; PW Director Art Smith added that the property has an existing water service line; however it needs to be upgraded and installed deeper into the ground as it only sits about 1' foot deep; determining that the best method would be to tap into the existing water line across 4th Street, however, without having the manpower or equipment this job would have to be contracted out at the owner's expense as boaring under 4th Street would be required.

Motion: Alderman Bluemel made the motion approving the variance request adding Commercial District classification. Alderman Smith seconds the motion.

Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- 5) a. Approval of Minutes: February 29, 2016 Regular Meeting
b. Approval of Financial Activity Report: February 2016
c. Approval of Police Department Activity Report: February 2016
d. Approval of Municipal Court Activity Report: February 2016
e. Approval of Code Compliance Activity Report: February 2016
f. Approval of Utility Department Activity Report: February 2016

Motion: Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderman Smith seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 6) **Update on the Schedule of Events and Activities for the 2016 Natalia Bluebonnet Festival; beginning Wednesday, March 23, 2016 and ending Saturday, March 26, 2016.**
Discussion: Librarian Amy Edge discussed the activities that will be conducted, including the setup of a carnival, bands to perform, parade and court entries, this year's Queen is 5 yr. old Saylene Juarez, vendors and booth spaces, and the Library's application to sell beer for Saturday only. Mrs. Edge also mentioned the need for volunteers and donations, and welcomed any assistance.
- 7) **Discussion/Consider approving Resolution; Order to File a Lien with the Medina County Clerk's Office in the amount of \$1,527.00 and to accrue interest of 10% on Real property located at 302 8th Street, Block 52, Lots 5 & 6 (N ½), City of Natalia, Medina County, Texas for the cost of work incurred by the City of Natalia.**
Motion: Alderman Fernandez made the motion to approving the Resolution; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion.
Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 8) **Discussion/Consider approving Resolution; appointing directors to serve on the Natalia Municipal Development District Board of Directors.**
Discussion: Nominations to fill the positions of the unexpired term ending February 17, 2017 were made by the current Directors of the NMDD, as being Laura Gallagher, Ruby Vera, and Delia Loza.
Motion: Alderman Fernandez made the motion to approving the Resolution; and Alderman Smith seconded the motion.
Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 9) **Discussion/Consider approving an Ordinance; amending Fiscal Year 2015-2016 General Fund and Utility Fund Budgets.**
Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that overall, lines items were adjusted to reallocation the loss of \$1,030.00 from the General Fund, and \$500.00 from the Utility Fund.
Motion by Record Vote: Ayes: Alderman Bleumel, Alderman Ortiz, Alderman Smith, Alderman Fernandez;
Nays: None; Absent: Alderman Juarez; Present and Not Voting; Mayor Saldana.
Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 10) **Executive Session:** The City Council convened into Executive Session at 7:31pm pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 to discuss the following:
 - a) §551.074; Personnel Matters: City Administrator Evaluation and Employment Contract.
- 11) **Regular Session:** The City Council shall reconvened into Regular Session at 8:06pm and took action on discussions held in Executive Session.
Motion: Alderman Smith made a motion increasing the City Administrator's salary by 5% with the increase to be split from General and Utility Fund, and entering into a two-year contract expiring March 31, 2018. Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion.
Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 12) **Adjournment:** Alderman Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm, and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and Approved this 18th day of April, 2016.

Approval:

Manuel C. Saldana, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa S. Hernandez,
City Administrator/Secretary