

City of Natalia, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting
October 17, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Minutes

Roll Call: Mayor Manuel C. Saldana - Absent 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 Pro-Tem Sam Smith 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) a. Ruby Vera addressed the City Council regarding of the MDD Building Lease and repairs; the next MDD meeting is on October 27, 2016 at 5:30pm. Vera announced the Veterans Ceremony will take place on November 11, 2016 from 10am-2pm. Vera also expressed concerns regarding the lack of a Natalia Voting Location on Election Day, and will address this matter with Congressman Will Hurd on October 18, 2016 at 2pm in Hondo, and with Medina County Commission Court on October 24, 2016 at 10am; and requests for those interested in being a voice for Natalia be present.

City Council Comments:

- 3) a. Alderman Bluemel states that a formal complaint from the City of Natalia, against Patricia Barton, Medina County Elections Administrator, needs to be filed with the County; Alderman Fernandez agreed. Alderman Fernandez also thank everyone for coming out and supporting Natalia Night Out, it was a great success with over too persons in attendance. City Administrator Hernandez states a letter of complaint can be drafted, but each member of the council must come by and formally sign the letter for submission if the Council wishes. Council agreed to a formalized letter.

Consent Agenda:

- 4) a. Approval of Minutes: September 19, 2016 Regular Meeting
b. Approval of Financial Activity Report: September 2016
c. Approval of Police Department Activity Report: September 2016
d. Approval of Municipal Court Activity Report: September 2016
e. Approval of Code Compliance Activity Report: September 2016
f. Approval of Utility Department Activity Report: September 2016
Action: Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 5) Discuss/Consider action on retroactively approving the Natalia Municipal Development District Annual Budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017.
Discussion: Ruby Vera, MDD Chair, presented the MDD FY2016-2017 Budgets, and explained that funds of \$25,000 are restricted funds to be used for future property purchase, \$5,000 are funds to be used for business assistance in beautifying their frontage, and for a “Welcome to the City” sign to be placed at the corner of FM-471/IH-35 Access; essentially, the proposed fiscal year budget has an estimated revenue of \$64,200, and expenditures of \$48,500, which will provide for a fund balance of \$15,700.
Action: Alderman Fernandez motioned to accept the budget; and Alderman Juarez second the motion. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) Discuss/Consider entering into a one-year Lease Agreement with Natalia Little League for the leasing of the Natalia Ball Fields located between State Hwy 132 & East 3rd Street off FM-471, retroactively commencing on October 1, 2016.
Action: Alderman Bluemel motions to approve the renewal contract; and seconded by Alderman Fernandez. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously. No changes made to the billing of electricity, city continues process.

- 7) **Discuss/Consider approving a Resolution; Authorizing the Award of Professional Administration and Engineering Service providers for the City of Natalia 2017-2018 Texas Community Development Block Grant project.**

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that the Selection Review Committee evaluated each proposal and qualification received; each evaluation was then tallied up to obtain the firms average score. Recommendations were based on those firms receiving the highest average score. For Grant Administration services, the committee selected Langford Community Management Services; and for Engineering Services, the committee selected TRC Engineers.

Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion approving the Resolution, selecting Langford Community Management Services for Grant Administration, and TRC Engineers for Engineering Services for the 2017-2018 TxCBDG project application. Alderman Smith seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0 Vote; Motion carried unanimously.

- 8) **Discuss/Consider adopting an Ordinance; Amending the City's Code of Ordinance Chapter 40, Section 40-53, designating new one-way school zone hours on Eighth Street between Miller and Kearney Street.**

Discussion: Chief Rodriguez explained the City Council that NISD is releasing school out earlier a few minutes, therefore, suggests changing the afterschool one-way hours from 3:15-4:15pm to 3:00-4:00pm.

Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion adopting the Ordinance amendment, and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0 Vote; Motion carried unanimously.

- 9) **Discuss/Consider assignment and authorization of School Resource Officer (SRO) to act as a mediator and contact person for the court, for NISD Stop Arm Camera Program.**

Discussion: Alderman Bluemel mentioned that NISD is looking into the Student Safety Atop Arm Camera Program for NISD Buses; at which cameras will capture vehicles passing-up or around buses having extended stop arms for when students enter/exit the bus, at which upon review of video, the officer may issue a citation by mail to vehicle owner upon certifying violation occurred. The Program requires for a certified peace officer to be assigned and authorized to review the video and make determination of violation.

Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion authorizing the SRO to the Stop Arm Camera Program; and Alderman Juarez seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.

- 10) **Discuss the Performance Statement, Budget and Timeline activities funded by the 2016 TDA TxCBDG Planning and Capacity Building Program Fund.**

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that the City received grant funds of \$39,705 with a required match of \$6,281 to perform several studies that include base mapping, demographic assessment, land use and economic development, analysis of infrastructure: street, water, sewer, and storm drainage, including the update of the city's zoning and subdivision ordinances. The procurement of professional services is scheduled for December 14, 2016, at which the city will have to release publication for request for qualifications. This project will essentially update the City's current 1996 Master Plan.

Action: None.

- 11) **Discuss/Consider action on the Interlocal Agreement with Medina County; participating the City of Natalia in the countywide Hazard Mitigation Action Plan and dedicating local matching funds of \$3,500.00 to Medina County for grant activities.**

Discussion: Medina County is making a grant application, administered by GrantWorks, to implement a Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County; the grant planning efforts would ask for local cities assistance with committing \$3,500 of matching funds towards this program, which the amount must be dedicated by the end of 2017.

Action: Alderman Bluemel motioned to postpone action until the November 21, 2016 meeting; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0 Vote; Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

- 12) **City Administrator's Report:** 1) The status and processes for RFQ's for Professional City Engineering Services was explained that the RFQ deadline is October 31st by 4pm, the qualifications will be reviewed/evaluation between November 7-11, for a selection to be awarded at the November 21st city council

meeting. 2) An update of the 2016 property tax bill statements; tax bills have not been released, and determine that the statements will not be mailed until the end of October. It was explained that with tax statements not being mailed by the end of October many taxpayers of Natalia may miss out on their opportunity to receive the 3% early payment discount; however, taxpayers may call into the Medina County tax office to receive an estimated City tax amount of which payment can be applied to this entity only to receive their discount, as the City of Natalia is the only entity to apply discounts to their properties.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 13) **Executive Session:** The City Council met in Executive Session at 7:48pm pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 to discuss the following:
 - a. §551.074; Personnel Matters: Annual Evaluation of Chief of Police.
- 14) **Regular Session:** The City Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:53 pm, and took no action on items discussed in Executive Session.
- 15) **Adjournment.** Alderman Fernandez motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and Approved this 21st day of November, 2016.

Approval:

Attest:

Lisa S. Hernandez, City Administrator/Secretary