

City of Natalia, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting
December 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm
Minutes

Roll Call: Mayor Tommy Ortiz ó Present Mayor Pro-Tem Sam Smith - Present
Alderman Mike Fernandez ó Present Alderman Darin Frazier - Present
Alderman Sam Bluemel ó Present Alderman - Vacant

Call to Order:

- 1) Mayor Tommy Ortiz called the regular city council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Citizens to be Heard:

- 2) Alderman Bluemel thanks Chief Rodriguez for assisting NISD.

City Council Comments:

- 3) A Proclamation was presented to the Smith-Bradley Family in recognition of Leona Cordelius Smith Bradley 100th Birthday on January 2, 2018.

Consent Agenda:

- 4) a. Approval of Minutes: November 2017 Regular Meetings
b. Approval of Financial Activity Report: November 2017
c. Approval of Police Department Activity Report: November 2017
d. Approval of Municipal Court Activity Report: November 2017
e. Approval of Code Compliance Activity Report: November 2017
f. Approval of Utility Department Activity Report: November 2017
Action: Alderman Bluemel made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 5) **Discuss/Consider Hiring and Administering the Oath of Office to Jonas J. Florence as a Reserve Police Officer for the Natalia Police Department.**
Action: Alderman Smith made a motion approving the hiring of Jonas J. Florence; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion.
Vote: 4-0; Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) **Discuss/Consider terms of a Lease Agreement made by and between the City of Natalia and Natalia Little League for property located between State Hwy 132 & East 3rd Street off FM-471, and determining engagement.**
Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez mentioned that several changes to the contract were made as discussed from previous meetings with NLL; however, without the presence of a member from NLL to acknowledge the changes, but to move forward with a contract, it was suggested that City Council approve the In-Season terms of the contract for now, and may at a later time continue discussion of Off-Season terms. Nonetheless, NLL still has not provided any type of reports to the City, and still has an outstanding balance owed to the city for past-due electricity charges of about \$1,700.00 which includes October, November, and December.
Action: Alderman Bluemel made a motion approving a contract for In-Season only to NLL, contingent that reports and payments of past-due balances are provided to the City; Alderman Fernandez second the motion.
Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) **Discuss/Consider adopting Ordinance ; a Franchise Agreement with West Texas Gas, Inc. for the purpose of acquiring, maintaining, installing and operating a gas plant and equipment for the transmission and distribution of natural gas to the City of Natalia for a term of ten (10) years commencing on January 1, 2018.** Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that the franchise agreement has been reviewed and modified by Legal, which remove the language "public places" and to specifically apply the language provided by state statute; and, adding language to secure a franchise for the next ten-years with council approval, including the possibility of a sale or lease.

Action: Alderman Frazier made a motion approving the ordinance with amendments; and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

- 8) **City Administrator's Reports:** City Administrator Hernandez briefed City Council on 1) The status and eligibility requirements for the vacant alderman seat, which is open to anyone interested and qualified, for the remainder of the unexpired term ending in November, 2018. 2) The City's financial audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 is scheduled, the preliminary audit also requires several interviews to be conducted with council and staff officials to be prepared to come in on December 19, 2017. 3) The clearing of portions of Pickthal Street between 4th & 5th Street commenced to clear a street path for a property owner to gain access to her property, with such, the City has received several complaints for an abutting resident claiming ownership rights of the street but no records depict such, so resident was asked to attend tonight's meeting but did not show.
- 9) **Adjournment.** Alderman Fernandez motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm, and Alderman Frazier seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and Approved this 15th day of January, 2018.

Approval:

Tommy Ortiz, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa S. Hernandez,
City Administrator/Secretary