

City of Natalia, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting
January 15, 2018 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) None.

City Council Comments:

- 3) Alderman Fernandez requested that TxDOT be notified of the Overpass Bridge at IH-35, it appears the bridge is starting to bow and break, and wonders if a stress report has been performed to determine its traffic capabilities. City Administrator Hernandez notified Alderman Fernandez that contact with TxDOT Engineer, Jessica Castigloine, will be made.

Consent Agenda:

- 4) a. Approval of Minutes: December 2017 Regular Meetings
b. Approval of Financial Activity Report: December 2017
c. Approval of Police Department Activity Report: December 2017
d. Approval of Municipal Court Activity Report: December 2017
e. Approval of Code Compliance Activity Report: December 2017
f. Approval of Utility Department Activity Report: December 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 filling Single-member vacancy for an Alderman position on the City of Natalia City Council to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term ending November 2018.**
Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez received an application from candidate, Selica Vera; all information has be reviewed and declared eligible to serve on City Council for the unexpired term ending of the vacant position.
Action: Alderman Frazier made a motion approving the appointment of Selica Vera to fill the unexpired term of Alderman; and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0; Motion passed unanimously.
[At this time, Alderman Selica Vera declared her seat on the City Council.]
- 6) **Discuss/Consider Resolution; Appointing three (3) board of Directors to serve a two (2) year term on the Natalia Municipal Development District, expiring February 17, 2020.**
Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that three members of the NMDD Board of Directors are set to expire next month, and contact has been made to each of them to determine their wish to serve of the board, all members: Patrick Boucier, Maria Sanchez and Mark Marcum, wish to continue to serve on the Board.
Action: Alderman Smith made a motion approving the reappointment of Patrick Boucier, Maria Sanchez, and Mark Marcum as a Board of Director on the Natalia Municipal Development District to serve a term of two-years set to expire February 17, 2020; Alderman Fernandez second the motion. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) **Discuss/Consider rescheduling the date of the February 19, 2018 Regular City Council Meeting (Presidents Day – City Offices are closed this day to observe the holiday).**
Action: Alderman Smith made a motion cancelling the regular meeting in February, and approving to call a special meeting if necessary; Alderman Frazier second the motion. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.
- 8) **Discuss/Consider terms of a Lease Agreement between the City of Natalia and the Natalia Little League for property located between State Highway 132 & East 3rd Street off FM-471; and assigning a Council Liaison to oversee the terms and conditions of the contract.**

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez explained that in previous discussions between Council and NLL, it was believed that the NLL was going to provide the information; make payment of past due electric bills, and sign the contract. This discussion was made December 28, 2017, and have not received or made any contact with NLL since. Alderman Smith mentioned his interactions with NLL President, Jaime Gomez, stating that he agreed to provide the City Council monthly copies of their bank statement, and that he would be to City Hall the next day to pay the past-due bills and sign the contract. Hernandez noted that no such efforts were made. Alderman Frazier stated otherwise they have no contract. Mayor Ortiz asked that rather putting this as a responsibility on the City Administrator, that a member of Council should act as the Liaison, to interact with NLL, and act as necessary to the terms of the contract, and to make one-time exceptions of the contract. The Liaison will be the primary contact between City and NLL.

Action: Alderman Frazier made a motion appointing the Mayor as the Council Liaison, and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

- 9) **City Administrator's Reports:** **1)** The results of the Medina Council Appraisal District Board of Directors Election came in, and Roy Sheetz, Natalia Residents, was re-elected to serve on the Board. **2)** City's FY2016-17 Financial Audit is scheduled for the first part of the week starting February 27, 2018; **3)** Updates were provided to Council in regards to several infrastructure and improvements projects in active-status: **a)** TxCBDG Contract No.7215349 for WWTP Improvements to Chlorine Contact Basins and Oxidation Ditch Rotors is currently in the "Monitor Desk Review" status to determine the close-out and performance completion of the project; **b)** TxCBDG Contract No.7216074 for Master Plan Update is currently in progress, which will amend the 1996 Master Plan and focus on the current infrastructure needs and projects for the next 10 years; **c)** TxCBDG Contract No.7217321 for WWTP Improvements to install a Mechanical Fine Screen, Automatic Transfer Switch and Sludge Blanket Monitor for Clarifier No.2, was awarded to the City for an amount of \$275,000 with a Match of \$13,750; **d)** TxCBDG 2017 TxCapital Fund Application for Downtown Revitalization and Improvements for street lighting and handicap accessibility structures was unofficially awarded to the City, for an amount of \$166,666.00 with MDD Match of \$25k, and City Match of \$25k. The Official award letter should be delivered by the beginning of February. **e)** The USDA Water and Sewer Projects are still moving along; USDA is requiring the City to provide documentation of the city's ownership of certain easements of the project locations, with little to go on, I approved the hire of Texas Land & ROW to research county records, they were able to acquire 3-of-4 easements. The only easement the city is unable to show proof of ownership is at the interconnection; being that records only depict EMSUD owning the easements and having two records filed with the county showing so. EMSUD was asked if they would make assignment to the City for use of the property for the purpose of the interconnect; the assignment documents are under review.
- 10) **Adjournment.** Alderman Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and Approved this 20th day of February, 2018.

Approval:

Tommy Ortiz, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa S. Hernandez,
City Administrator/Secretary