

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §
TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA §

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL**

DATE: April 6, 2021

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nadine Smith, Mayor
Michael Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem
Johvonne Howard, Council Member Place 2
Rolando Gonzalez, Council Member Place 4
Victor Worrell, Council Member Place 5
Silke De Gobeo, Council Member Place 6

Ed Meza, City Manager
Ana Hernandez, City Secretary
Rendie Gonzales, Town Bookkeeper
Alan Ozuna, Town Attorney
Anthony David, Police Chief

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bettin Tolin, Council Member Place 3

ALSO PRESENT: Lonnie Gillinan, SOS Services
Carlos Mondragon
Michael Rowe, Rowe Group
Gary L. Jeter
Stephanie Wilson
Jason Wilson
Frankie Garza, PC Nurse, USA

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1) **Call to Order** Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Smith.

3) Roll Call/Excused Absences –

Mayor Smith made a motion to excuse Council Member Tolin, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve motion passed.

Mayor Smith stated that Council Member Howard was running late.

- 4) OPEN FORUM** - At this time, audience is allowed 5 minutes per person to address the Council on any topic. There is no discussion or formal action taken during this agenda item. The speaker must identify themselves before speaking. A speaker request form must be presented to the City Secretary prior to the meeting.

No Open Forum.

- 5) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – All matters listed under this item are routine by the Council and will be enacted for approval by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately.

a) MINUTES – Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting. (City Secretary)

b) MINUTES – Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting. (City Secretary)

Council Member made motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting and the March 9, 2021 Regular Meeting, Mayor Smith seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve motion passed.

- 6) NEW BUSINESS** – Discussion, consideration, and possible action on each of the following items.

a) AUTISM RUN - Consideration and possible action to approve request by BIG Heroes Inc. to hold an Autism Hero Run/Walk on April 17, 2021. (City Manager)

Stephanie Wilson thanked the Council for even considering the event to be held in Laguna Vista. They have so many sponsors including Space X, HEB, Charlie Clark. Many people are registering for the event. Channel 5 and a videographer will be on site.

Mayor thanked them as well.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve request by BIG Heroes Inc to hold an Autism Hero Run/Walk on April 17, 2021, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- b) RESOLUTION 2021-12** – Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution Number 2021-12 promoting April 2021 as National Autism Awareness Month. (City Manager)

Mayor Smith read Resolution 2021-12.

Council Member Carter asked if the light at the entrance was changed to color blue. Mr. Meza replied he would make sure Willie changed it.

Council Member Gonzalez made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2021-12 promoting April 2021 as National Autism Awareness month, Council Member Worrell seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- c) TXCDBG 2021-2022** – Consideration and possible action on contracts for TXCDBG 2021-2022 Grant for administrative/management services and architectural/engineering services. (City Manager)

Mr. Mondragon explained to the Council that this grant cycles every 2 years in May. The amount of this grant is \$350,000. These contracts are contingent upon funding.

Mayor reviewed the scores stating that Cruz Hogan and Business Services Co received the highest score. Mayor also stated that we have applied for these grants for many years.

Mayor Smith made a motion to approve to approve contracts for administrative/management services to Business Services Co and architectural/engineering services to Cruz Hoggan, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- d) RESOLUTION 2021-10** – Consideration and possible action on Resolution Number 2021-10 designating April 2021 as Fair Housing Month. (City Manager)

Mayor Smith made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2021-10

designating April 2021 as Fair Housing Month, Council Member Carter seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- e) **2020 TDA GRANT #7220251** – Consideration and possible action on TDA Grant #7220251 Street Improvements to:
- i) Award of Engineering Services Contract
 - ii) Award of Administrative Services Contract
 - iii) Civil Rights Resolution #2021-13 and other required documentation

Mayor explained to Council that this is the same we did for item C, but this is what was filed 2 years ago. This is paperwork that previous City Manager, Mr. Vela, failed to have signed.

Council Member Worrell made a motion to approve 2020 TDA Grant #7220251 along with all required documentation, Council Member De Gobeo seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- f) **RE-PLAT** – Consideration and possible action regarding recognition of exemption applicable to combining Lots 10 & 11 located at South Padre Island Golf Community Parcel 6 into one lot. (City Manager).

Council Member Carter made a motion to recognize the exemption applicable to combining Lots 10 & 11 located at South Padre Island Golf Community Parcel 6 into one (1) lot, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

- g) **IT CONTRACT** – Consideration and possible action on IT services contract. (City Manager)

Council Member Howard arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Mr. Meza explained that we had 3 bids; ROWE Group, PC Nurse USA, SOS Services

All 3 bidders were present and discussed their proposals in further detail.

Council Member Carter made a motion to award IT Contract to PC Nurse, USA, Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Council Members Howard and De Gobeo voted “nay”, Council Members Carter, Gonzalez, Worrell, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve, motion passed.

Mayor Smith thanked all for submitting their bids.

h) MASKS REQUIREMENTS – Discussion and action on mask requirements in City Buildings. (Council Members Howard & Worrell)

Council Member Howard addressed the council stating she was drawn back by the option. She stated that back in December when we first did curbside the employees may have not voiced verbally or hesitant to do curbside, but it was there. There's still apprehension on the safety of everyone and her concern is the employee's safety. Masks are not permanent, are we safer yes but should we still require masks, yes! She stated that employees did curbside despite the fact they didn't want to. She stated that it's different from City Hall because they have a window but it's different at the library. Council Member Worrell agrees with Council Member Howard. Council Member Worrell said we should continue to require masks at the library. He also asked if we are required to abide by anything that the governor has applied.

Mr. Ozuna replied that cities have the ability to decide how to run their businesses.

Council Member De Gobeo asked how many visitors does the library have per day? Answers were anywhere from 28 to 50.

Mayor Smith explained that the city issued declaration early on to follow the governor's orders and we are not telling people not to wear a mask, we are giving them the option to decide. If they want to wear a mask, they can wear one. She thought everyone was comfortable in not wearing a mask including the library plus everyone has been vaccinated and just like City Hall the library also has the glass.

Council Member Carter stated that if we are going to make it mandatory then it has to be City wide and not just the library.

Council Member Howard asked if City Hall received citizens into our offices. Our answer was yes. Council Member Howard sees that there are different temperaments between buildings.

Council Member Worrell made a motion to require patrons & employees to wear masks at the Library, Council Member Howard seconded the motion. Council Members Carter and Mayor Smith voted “nay” and Council Members Howard, Gonzalez, Worrell, and De Gobeo voted ‘aye’ to approve, motion passed.

7) ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Smith made a motion to adjourn at 6:51 p.m., Council Member Gonzalez seconded the motion. Council Members Carter, Howard, Gonzalez, Worrell, De Gobeo, and Mayor Smith voted “aye” to approve motion carried.

Nadine Smith, Mayor

Attest:

Ana Hernandez, City Secretary