

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

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

**DATE:**                               February 15, 2023  
**TIME:**                               6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:**                             Town of Laguna Vista City Hall

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Christopher Romero, Council Member Place 1  
Bettina Tolin, Council Member Place 3  
Rolando Gonzalez, Mayor Pro Tem  
Victor Worrell, Council Member Place 5  
Silke De Gobeo, Council Member Place 6

Alan T. Ozuna, Esq.  
Rendie R. Gonzales, City Manager  
Anthony David, Chief of Police  
Crystal Chapa, City Secretary  
Norma Barbosa, Court Clerk  
Karen Gustaitis, Building Clerk  
Duvie Alcozer, Building Inspector/Code  
Pura Mireles, Library Director  
Emmanuel Zuniga, Public Works Director

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**           Michael Carter, Mayor  
  Johvonne Howard, Council Member Place 2

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

• **Call to Order**

Mayor Pro-Tem called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

• **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation lead by Council Member Romero

• **Roll Call/Excused Absences**

**Motion** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez to excuse Mayor Carter and Council Member Howard.

**Second** was made by Council Member Worrell.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**OPEN FORUM** - At this time, audience is allowed 3 minutes per person to address the Council on any topic. There will be 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.

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS** – Discussion, consideration, and possible action on each of the following items:

- **MINUTES** – Consideration and possible action to approve the following minutes:
  - January 10, 2023, Regular Town Council meeting

**Motion** was made by Council Member Worrell to approve January 10<sup>th</sup> minutes.  
**Second** was made by Council Member Romero.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS** – Review of Monthly Financial Reports. (City Manager)

Review of Check Register, Income Statement, and Balance Sheets was discussed by Rendie. Council Member De Gobeo asked about the Abila check listed on the Check Register as well as the varying amounts paid to Esteban Galvan. Rendie advised that Abila is our accounting software and Mr. Galvan's amounts are based on how many inspections are performed by him – he is paid \$50.00 per inspection.

**RACIAL PROFILING REPORT** – (Police Chief)

Chief David presented the racial profiling report for Council review as required by law.

**RESOLUTION 2023-01**—Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution 2023-01 Ordering General Election on May 6, 2023, for offices of Mayor Council Members for Places 1, 2, and 3, and approving other related matters. (City Manager)

Rendie explained that this is Resolution is required in accordance to State regulation since we do have 4 seats open for election in May. It was further advised that even if the council passes the resolution and no seat is contested, no election will be needed and no payment will be required.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Worrell to approve resolution 2023-01.

**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**RESOLUTION 2023-02**— Consideration and possible action to authorize the Laguna Vista Police Chief to submit grant application number 2990609 for the Local Border Security Program (LBSP-24 #2990609). (Police Chief)

Chief David spoke to the council about the annual grant that we currently participate in and the need to reapply for each year. He further stated that it is a good program and enables them to share intelligence with tribal agencies and provide added patrol to our town and corridor in accordance with the grant funding.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Romero to approve Resolution 2023-02.

**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**RESOLUTION 2023-03**— Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution 2023-03 regarding the designation/outline of funds pursuant to the ARPA grant funding requirements. (City Manager)

Rendie advised the council of the resolution outlining funds discussed for the police vehicle, tough books, and cloud storage for Eforce. Council member De Gobeo asked if there were additional

costs if it could come from the ARPA funds, Rendie answered that we can only spend up to what is approved unless we amend the resolution.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Tolin to approve Resolution 2023-03.  
**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**BUILDING PERMITS**– Consideration and possible action Building Permit Fee Schedule.  
(City Manager)

Rendie asked to table until Mayor Carter and Council Member Howard are present. Rendie did discuss adding a column for minor household repairs, to encourage people to follow permitting rules and not have to pay a hefty fee for it.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Tolin to move to next month’s meeting.  
**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**ORDINANCE 2023-01**– Consideration and possible action on FIRST READING regarding Hotel Occupancy Tax, placement of registration/permit information. (City Manager)

Rendie spoke to the council about a minor revision to the ordinance on specific language regarding the permit number being required on the 1<sup>st</sup> line of description or the first picture to enable ease of monitoring websites like Air B&B.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Worrell to go into executive session.  
**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez            Aye

**Motion Carried**

**HOT PROMOTIONAL EXPENSE**– Consideration and possible action to approve marketing program from the HOT funds. (City Manager)

Rendie spoke to council asking for permission to utilize some of the HOT Tax funds for promotional purposes on updating the town website using professional services such as photographer/videographer . Council Member De Gobeo stated that she loved the idea, and the expense is worth it.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Tolin to approve the expend 20% of HOT funds to social media project.

**Second** was made by Council Member Worrell.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**LVRA MARINA**– Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the CDC for the funding of an engineering report for LVRA Marina. (City Manager)

Rendie advised the council that the CDC has approved funding of \$30,000 for the LVRA Marina engineering report and now is coming to the council to ratify.

Council Member De Gobeo asked if there is a time limit on how long the report is valid for, Rendie was unsure on the time frame and discussion between the council’s outcome was for a long or good amount of time.

Council Member Tolin asked if we approve this, are we approving this company specifically to do this work. Rendie answered no, we are approving the funding only and the LVRA will use whom they want to perform the work.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Worrell to approve CDC funding of an engineering report for LVRA Marina.

**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	No	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS**– Consideration and possible action on appointing residents to the following advisory boards. (City manager)

- a. Library Board (2 Members)**
- b. Parks Board (1 Member)**

We have 1 applicant for the Parks Board, Teresa Bryant, and 2 applicants for the Library Board, Olga Papp and Stacey Capps.

**Motion** was made by Council Member Worrell to appoint members to their respective spots on the boards.

**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**– Executive closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, regarding any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to Section 551.071 – consultation with Town Attorney and pending litigation; 551.072 – deliberation regarding real property; 551.074 – deliberation regarding personnel matters; and 551.087 – deliberation regarding economic development negotiations.

N/A

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Rendie presented the council with the full city manager report and gave them a brief update on the grants. The Street Improvement Grant has been finalized; we are having a little trouble with our administrator on the re-imburement. The check has been issued to Clore for their November invoice in the amount of \$22,000 and we are only waiting for re-imburement.

Rendie also advised that the employe policy manual will be on the agenda for the next meeting, then gave a quick update on the HOT permits, only one company giving a little trouble with registering and Karen has gotten kicked out of Air B&B for all the messaging sparking a spam alert.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez to adjourn.  
**Second** was made by Council Member De Gobeo.

**VOTE**

Council Member Romero	Aye	Council Member Worrell	Aye
Council Member Tolin	Aye	Council Member De Gobeo	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez	Aye		

**Motion Carried**

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:13 pm**

  
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Rolando Gonzalez, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest:

  
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Crystal Chapa, City Secretary