

# CITY OF NATALIA

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REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
2078 STATE HWY 132 NORTH, NATALIA, TEXAS 78059  
24 JANUARY 2022 at 7.00 P.M.

## MINUTES

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Samuel Bluemel – Present      Mayor Pro-Tem Sam Smith – Present  
Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present      Alderman Darin Frazier - Present  
Alderman Tommy Ortiz – Present      Alderman Selica Vera – Present

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Bluemel called the regular city council meeting to order at 7:00 pm; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Alderman Vera and Invocation by Mayor Bluemel.

**2. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Stan Hulse, a Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4 candidate introduced himself to the City Council.

**3. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Alderman Frazier suggested that we install a doorbell at the Utility door. Alderwoman Vera would like to know the status of the vacant homes in town that have been broken into and vandalized. Alderwoman Vera requested the status of the signs for the no parking area on the northbound IH 35 frontage road. Alderman Fernandez requested the status on the homes that were on fire and have not been cleaned up.

**4. PRESENTATIONS/CEREMONIAL ITEMS:**

Mayor Bluemel administered Oath of Office to new police officer Jeremiah Sanchez.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA:**

*All of the following items are considered to be routine by the City Council, there will be no separate discussion on these items and will be enacted with one motion; unless removed by any Council Member to discuss and consider separately by making such request prior to a motion and vote.*

- a) Approval of the Minutes: 15 November 2021 Regular Meeting
- b) Approval of the Financial Activity Report: November & December 2021
- c) Approval of the Utility Department Activity Report: December 2021
- d) Approval of the Municipal Court Activity Report: November & December 2021
- e) Approval of the Police Department Activity Report: November 2021
- f) Approval of the Police Code Enforcement Activity Report: November 2021

Action: Alderman Smith made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderwoman Vera seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0; motion carried. Alderman Fernandez requested an updated employee wage summary.

**6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- a) City Administrator/Secretary
  - i. HOME Program Update
    - 807 3<sup>rd</sup> St. home to be completed and turned over in next 10 days.

- ii. City Offices will be closed for President's Day, February 21, 2022.
  - iii. New phone systems for the PD and City Hall are due to be delivered and installed in the next week.
  - iv. Clarifier project contract period extended to September 2022. Alderman Frazier requested we ask for a projection of costs due to extension.
  - v. Robert Carter will be submitting an engagement letter for Council's review.
  - vi. Marshall Hoak from Congressman Tony Gonzales office will be here on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1-3 pm
- b) Chief of Police
- i. Chief Naff discussed school safety issues. There needs to be more police engagement, possibly an Explorer program or Promise program. Chief Naff reported that she and the Mayor had a meeting with County. Alderman Smith, Alderman Frazier and Alderman Fernandez suggested that a review of protocols regarding IH35 pursuits.

### **DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ITEMS:**

7. Discuss/Consider NISD future use and or options of the alley situated between Kearny & Pearson Streets, Block 51 behind the ECC building for bus usage. Item removed by Mayor Bluemel.
8. Discuss/consider adoption of Proclamation: proclaiming January 2022 as School Board Recognition Month. Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion to proclaim January 2022 School Board Recognition Month, Alderwoman Vera seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.
9. Discuss/consider rescheduling the date of the February 2022 regular city council meeting due to President's Day holiday. Action: Alderwoman Vera made a motion for Mayor Bluemel to reschedule a meeting in February as needed; Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
10. Discuss/consider action on Resolution; Authorizing the submission of a new RSP HOME Program application, Affirmative Marketing Plan and Waitlist. Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion to pass resolution, Alderman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.
11. Discuss/consider action on Resolution; Appointing three (3) Board of Directors: Beatrice Morales, Pat Bourcier and Dorothy Woodson, to the Natalia Municipal Development District for a term of two (2) years expiring February 2024: Alderman Fernandez made a motion to pass Resolution, Alderman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.
12. Discuss/consider action on Resolution; The City of Natalia Go Medina membership for the 21-22 Fiscal Year. After discussion of the benefits of the Go Medina membership it was decided there needs to be better clarification on the membership benefits and cost. Action: Alderwoman Vera made a motion to table item until more information is available, Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.
13. At 7:52 pm, Alderwoman Vera made a motion to convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters. Alderman Ortiz seconded the motion. Vote: Motion carried; 5-0.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session: City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:52 pm pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters to discuss the following:

- a. §551.074; Personnel Matters: City Administrator employment

**REGULAR SESSION**

14. Regular Session: City Council reconvened into regular session at 8:22 pm, and if necessary, may take action on the items discussed in executive session.

a. §551.074; Personnel Matters: City Administrator employment. No Action.

15. Adjournment. Alderman Smith motioned to adjourn at 8:22 pm, and Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

**Passed and Approved this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.**

Approval:



Samuel Bluemel, Mayor /or/  
Sam Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest:



Nichole M. Bermea  
Interim City Administrator/Secretary