

# CITY OF NATALIA

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## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 2078 STATE HWY 132 NORTH, NATALIA, TEXAS 78059 17 JULY 2023 at 7.00 P.M.

### MINUTES

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Samuel Bluemel – Present  
Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present  
Alderman Tommy Ortiz – Present

Mayor Pro-Tem Sam Smith – Present  
Alderman Darin Frazier - 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:**

Representatives from Wreaths Across America requested support from the city. They would like to partner with the city for the Veterans Ceremony in November. Brenda Fernandez spoke about her concerns with the 18-wheeler trucks parking all around Love's. Brenda stated that it's a very dangerous situation and it needs to be addressed before someone gets hurt. Brenda also expressed concerns about the piles of bulk trash and brush residents are placing on the easements throughout the city.

#### 3. **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Alderdwoman Vera reminded citizens that bulk and brush should not be placed on the easements until it's allowed for pick up. Alderdwoman Vera also reminded the council and citizens that if you see a door-to-door solicitor, please ask if they have a permit. Alderdwoman Vera stated she sees an improvement in the number of loose dogs within the city. Alderman Ortiz thanked the city staff for the clean up of the streets and alleys.

#### 4. **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.*

Approval of the Minutes: 19 June 2023 Regular Meeting

Approval of the Financial Activity Report: June 2023

Approval of the Utility Department Activity Report: June 2023

Approval of the Municipal Court Activity Report: June 2023

Approval of the Police Department/Code Enforcement Activity Reports: June 2023

Action: Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderman Frazier seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0; motion carried.

#### 5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

##### a) City Administrator/Secretary

Nikki reported the HOME program round is set to begin late fall. Early 2024. The Hog Wild seminar will be held on July 28<sup>th</sup> in Schertz. The officers are addressing nuisance violations and

blocked alleys. Nikki sent the interlocal agreement to MCESD #4 for their review and consideration. There will be a Stop the Bleed class held at city hall.

b) Utility Director – Art Smith reported that the TCEQ inspectors will be here later this week doing their annual inspection.

c) Mayor – Mayor Bluemel reported that he and Nikki have a meeting tomorrow with TXDOT representatives about multiple concerns.

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

6. Discuss/Consider Right of Way agreement with Rise Broadband. The item was tabled from June's meeting so it could be confirmed that there would be no tree trimming or overhead lines. We also required no open cuts. This was confirmed and plans were submitted for the project. Art will be meeting with the contractor before the project begins. Alderman Frazier made a motion to accept and enter into the agreement; Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

7. Discussion/Consider approving or disapproving the Final platting of the Love's Travel Stops and Country Store property 21548 FM 471, approximately 64 acres owned by Love's Travel Stop and Country Store in Natalia Texas. The request was to divide the 64 acres into separate areas for two separate businesses. Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores would become lot 1, Block 1 consisting of 25.50 Acres and Love's Tire Warehouse becoming Lot 2, Block 1. Nikki explained the recommendation from the P & Z Board. Full size copies of the plat were available to view. Nikki introduced Cody Garrison from Ambrose property group. Alderman Smith asked Cody if there would be any tire fumes emitting from the tire warehouse and Cody responded absolutely not. There will be no fumes at all. Alderman Fernandez made a motion to approve the final plat; Alderman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

8. Discuss/Consider Resolution Awarding the Bid Construction to a building Contractor for the TDHCA HOME Program for construction of 5 homes. The city council reviewed the bid packages. Alderman Fernandez made a motion to adopt the resolution; Alderwoman Vera seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

9. Discuss/Consider Medina County 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Appreciation Day Sponsorship. Mayor Bluemel explained that this was presented at the Go Medina meeting. They are requesting sponsorship funds. Alderman Frazier asked what the funds what be used for exactly. His concerns are the amount of sponsorship levels, with multiple organizations donating it seems like an awful lot of money for a one-day event. Alderman Frazier stated he feels someone should attend a meeting and explain this in detail further before public funds are used for sponsorships. Alderwoman Vera made a motion to table the item until someone could attend a meeting and give details about the event; Alderman Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

10. Discuss/Consider Road closures for St. John Bosco Festival. No discussion. Alderman Fernandez made a motion to approve the road closures; Alderman Frazier seconded the motion. Alderwoman Vera abstained from voting due to being a member of the parish. Motion carried; 4-0.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The city council did not convene in closed session.

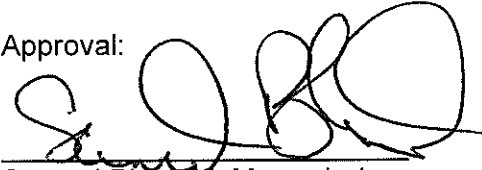
11. The city council will meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 551.074, personnel, to deliberate the position of Police Chief, to include the hiring process and designation, if necessary. No action.

12. The city council will meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 551.072, real property, to deliberate the value and location of real property in relation to public safety. No action.

13. Adjournment. Alderman Fernandez motioned to adjourn at 8:02 pm, and Alderman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.


**Passed and Approved this 21st day of August, 2023.**

Approval:



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

Attest:



Nichole M. Bermea  
Interim City Administrator/Secretary

