

**City of Natalia, Texas**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**January 27, 2020 at 7:00 pm**  
**Minutes**

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Tommy Ortiz – Present	Mayor Pro-Tem Sam Smith - Absent
	Alderman Mike Fernandez – Present	Alderman Darin Frazier - Absent
	Alderman Sam Bluemel – Present	Alderman Selica Vera - Present

Call to Order:

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

Citizens to be Heard:

- 2) Ruby Vera, Chairwoman of Natalia Municipal Development District, notified City Council of the NMDD Boards action to hire a crew to clear trees from Palm Courts property, and B.M.A's participation to clean-up the back portion of their property that abuts the NMDD Palm Courts property to improve downtown appearance.

City Council Comments:

- 3) Mayor Ortiz introduced a Proclamation in recognition of long-time resident, Ofilia G. Vera, in honor of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Staff Reports:

- 4) (a) City Administrator: 1) Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019 Preliminary Audit was conducted. City Administrator's Public Funds Investment Act Certificate is expired, and has registered for renewed training; the Final Audit is scheduled for March 23-24, 2020. 2) Medina County Appraisal District Election Results for 2020-2021 re-elects Roy Sheetz of Natalia as a Director for the two-year term. 3) TxCBDG Contract No.7219309 Wastewater Treatment Plant site project was determined by Texas Historical Commission (THC) of an archeological study and survey needed, as it was found incomplete as required from a previous grant application awarded. City Administrator is scheduled to meet with GrantWorks and THC to discuss this mandate, and suggests action to be considered if discussions do not assist in the city's favor (re: Item #7).  
(b) Public Works Director: Art Smith absent. City Administrator Hernandez updated City Council on the USDA Construction Improvement Projects: 1) Gravity Sewer by Barclays Premier Utility Services is complete; 2) Wastewater Collection System by QRO Mex Construction is almost complete; Love's lift station pumps are in ground but waiting on AEP electrical change order for connectivity; 3) Wells Site Improvements by MGB Construction is ongoing, Well #6 is complete and operating, Well #4 is back in ground and waiting on meter-loop swap to be serviced by Medina Electric; 4) Water Distribution Improvements by QRO is ongoing, and working on a few issues on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, but is almost ready to tie-in the new water system with exiting. The last prediction of tie-in was expected for February 17<sup>th</sup> but may be postponed for another date, however adequate notice will be relayed to residents. 5) WWTP TCEQ site inspection resulted for the replacement of the facilities fence, and installation of a new leak detector system. Smith has placed a call to TCEQ regarding the fence replacement, as the bids received exceeded the city's budgeted costs by over \$20k, and waiting quotes for a new leak detector.  
(c) Chief of Police: Chief Barrows requests City Council to consider employing the position of Police Chaplin for the department. (Not an action item.) Mayor and Council notes Chief's request.

Consent Agenda:

- 5) a. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes: December 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.  
b. Approval of Financial Activity Report: December 2019  
c. Approval of Utility Department Activity Report: December 2019  
d. Approval of Municipal Court Activity Report: December 2019  
e. Approval of Police Department Activity Report: December 2019  
Action: Alderman Fernandez made the motion approving the consent agenda, and Alderwoman Vera seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0; Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 6) Introduction/Discuss and Consider employing Richard Lee Davis Jr. as a Reserve Police Officer for the Natalia Police Department, and Mayor to Administer Oath of Office.  
Introduction of applicant was presented by Chief Glenn Barrow, and recommending appointment.

Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion; and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. Vote: Motion passed unanimously by a 3-0 vote.

Mayor Ortiz administered the Oath of Office to Alexis Anne Spengler, Reserve Police Officer.

- 7) Discuss/Consider reschedule the January and February 2020 regular meeting dates to January 27, 2020 and February 24, 2020.

Action: Alderwoman Vera made a motion to reschedule meetings as dated, and Alderman Bluemel seconded the motion. Vote: Motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.

- 8) Discuss/Consider adopting Resolution; Reporting and Appropriating Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2019 Unassigned Fund Balance.

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez noted that FYE 9/30/2019 had a net income of \$45,500 in the General Fund, and recommending allocation to Grant Oversight Fees for projected expenses in the amount of \$10,000; having the remaining \$35,500 be transferred to General Fund Reserves; and a net income of \$60,100 in the Utility Fund, and recommending allocation of \$30,00 to make necessary fence repairs at WWTP; the remaining funds are restricted costs paid for plan review/inspection costs for the NISD Bond Project.

Action: Alderman Frazier made a motion adopting the Resolution; and Alderwoman Vera second the motion. Vote: Motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.

- 9) Discuss/Consider enrolling/engaging into agreement through ASR or VISPRO Program for the lease of permitted water rights.

Discussion: City Administrator Hernandez noted that the city purchased 60-acre feet of water in result to drought and reduction restrictions, and since, for two-consecutive years the city has had over 100 acre feet of unused permitted water. Councilmembers Frazier and Fernandez expressed their concerns for leasing water through these programs, especially for the leasing term-lengths as we may need our water in the future. Under current conditions, it seems appropriate, but climate-weather changes too drastically to know what to expect one-year to ten-years. City Administrator Hernandez explained it was worth mentioning, to know whether to proceed with looking into these programs or not, and understands the Council's concerns.

Action: None.

- 10) Adjournment. Alderman Bluemel motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm, and Alderman Fernandez second the motion. Vote: Motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.

**Passed and Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.**

Approval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Ortiz, Mayor /or/  
Sam Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa S. Hernandez, City Administrator/Secretary