

City of Natalia, Texas
Special City Council Meeting
June 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm
Minutes

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

1) Call to Order:

Mayor Ortiz called the special city council meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2) Public Comments: *Anyone is allowed to speak on any posted matter, other than personnel matters or matters under litigation, for length of time not to exceed three minutes. No Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law. To address the City Council, please sign the Citizens Participation Sign-in Roster located on the table at the entrance of the Council Chambers.*

1. Citizen to be heard ó TJ. Richardson, currently serves as Police/Code Enforcement Officer, expressed concerns with considerations of disbanding the Natalia Police Department and issues that may occur if the community does not have a small community police department.
2. Citizen to be heard ó Ray Wilkinson, Field Representative of TMPA, speaking behalf of the Natalia Police Department, expressed concerns with consideration of disbanding the Natalia Police Department, spoke of the basis of protection of police officers and their continued police service with the department, recommends Council reconsider any thoughts of disbanding and potentially consider appointing Officer Garcia to serve in the capacity of Chief of Police as recommended by former Chief.
3. Citizen to be heard ó Lorna Mann, citizen, expressed concerns with considerations of disbanding the Natalia Police Department, and wishes City Council reconsider this option and to remain serving its citizens with a Police Department.

Discussion/Consideration of Action Items:

- 3) Discuss/Consider convening into Executive Session to deliberate on personnel matters:
 - a. Review/Discuss/Consider legal issues and options related to the Natalia Police Department operations, protocols, and available options for the continued provision of law enforcement services. Action: Alderman Fernandez made a motion to convene into closed session, and Alderwoman Vera seconded the motion. Vote: Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.
- 4) Executive Session: The City Council met in Executive Session at 6:13pm, pursuant to Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.074 to discuss the following:
 - a. Review/Discuss/Consider legal issues and options related to the Natalia Police Department operations, protocols, and available options for the continued provision of law enforcement services.
- 5) Regular Session: The City Council reconvened into Regular Session at 6:58pm, and if necessary, may act on items discussed in Executive Session. Action: None.
- 6) Presentation by the Medina County Sheriff's Department regarding available assistance with the continued provision of law enforcement services. Discussion with the City Council will follow the presentation.

Discussion: Sheriff Randy Brown did not have a presentation to present; stated that should City Council consider disbanding the Natalia Police Department at any time, Medina County Sheriff's Department will automatically assume respective coverage, however, response or permanent patrol may not be available unless considerations of an contract or interlocal agreement is made. Sheriff Brown mentioned that LaSalle County currently has an interlocal agreement with the City of Cotulla that the City Council may wish to review if considering this route.

Action: None.

- 7) Discussion/Possible Action to authorize the Mayor and City Attorney to negotiate the final terms and conditions of a possible contract and interlocal agreement to secure the continued provision of law enforcement services as discussed and directed by the City Council.
Discussion: None.
Action: None.
- 8) Adjournment. Alderman Smith motioned to adjourn at 7:06pm, and Alderman Fernandez seconds the motion. Vote: Motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

Passed and Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Approval:

Attest:

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

Lisa Hernandez
City Administrator/Secretary, TRMC