

**PALM VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 20, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Palm Valley met in a Regular Meeting on the 20th day of June 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at 1313 N. Stuart Place Road, Palm Valley, Texas. The meeting was attended by the following persons:

Mayor George Rivera

Council members: John Widger, Debe Wright, Cynthia Thompson, Paul Powers
Absent: Julie Martin

City Attorney Jason Mann
City Secretary: Sylvia R. Trevino

Staff Present: Rosendo Flores, Waterworks Supervisor
A. R. Garcia, Police Chief

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Rivera called the meeting to order.
- 2) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Rivera led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**
A. R. Garcia, a resident of 5611 La Luna, was present to offer his services and expertise with the City's newsletter, the Palm Valley Review. He outlined his experience and his background, having moved here from California.
- 4) **NO ACTION TAKEN ON PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO MR. ED KNETIG FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE ZONING COMMISSION**

Mr. Knetig was not present to receive his Certificate of Appreciation.

- 5) **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 15, 2017**

Noting a correction to Page 4 to change the word 'walk' to 'walls', Councilman Widger made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.

Councilwoman Thompson seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

6) **MEMBERS APPOINTED TO ZONING COMMISSION**

Mayor Rivera explained that with the resignation of Ed Knetig, there was a vacancy on the Commission that needed to be filled. He explained he had contacted several persons and recommended that Bob Ermey and Alex Hinojosa, Jr. be appointed to the Board. There is a resignation from Tom NeSmith forthcoming.

Councilwoman Thompson made a motion to approve the recommended appointments of Bob Ermey and Alex Hinojosa, Jr. to the Zoning Commission.

Councilwoman Wright seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7) **MEMBER APPOINTED TO BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**

Mayor Rivera recommended that Carter Huber be appointed to fill the existing vacancy due to the passing of Quentin Keyes.

Councilman Widger made a motion to approve the appointment of Carter Huber.

Councilwoman Thompson seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8) **RESOLUTION APPROVING COOPERATION WITH THE CITIES SERVED BY AEP TO REVIEW AEP TEXAS INC'S REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADJUSTMENT TO ITS ENERGY EFFICIENCY COST RECOVERY FACTOR AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS APPROVED**

Mayor Rivera pointed out that there is no cost to the City to participate in this effort with other cities.

Councilman Widger made a motion to approve the resolution.

Councilman Powers seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 9) **CONSENT AGENDA:**
- A. Police Monthly Report – May 2017**
 - B. Municipal Court Report – May 2017**
 - C. Monthly Check Listing – May 2017**
 - D. Monthly Financial Report – May 2017**
 - E. Monthly Investment Report – May 2017**
 - F. Council/staff liaison reports**

Chief Garcia went over his report. It was pointed out that there has been no crime for the past 2 years and 3 months. Special thanks were given to Charlie Ramsey as the lead for the Neighborhood Watch. He stated that he still needs volunteers.

Chief Garcia commented that every night there are four of the PD vehicles out in the community – two of which serve as ‘decoys’.

Mayor Rivera asked that the Chief consider placing an article in the next newsletter about the resident who fell down and was on the floor for five days before someone alerted the Police Department about. He asked that the Chief remind residents to let the Police Department know when they are leaving town to turn in their patrol request.

Regarding the 2011 police vehicle, Chief Garcia explained that he is using it as a decoy and that about two weeks ago a private security company was interest in it. Councilman Widger felt that it was best to continue to keep the vehicle.

Councilwoman Thompson asked the Chief about the FBI LEEDA training. Chief Garcia explained that it is a three part training session---week long. When the City hosts the training there is room for free slots for the City’s officers and it only costs the City the coffee, beverages and snacks.

In response to Councilwoman Thompson’s question on the court fines, Councilman Widger replied that the uncollected fines on outstanding warrants just remains on the books. Efforts are being considered to eventually turn these warrants over to a collection firm.

Council/liasion reports

Reporting on the pond project at the Harlingen Country Club, Rosendo Flores reported that the report on the testing came in from PSI and the silt (mud) is not toxic. The question now will be where to place it when it is dredged out of the pond.

Councilwoman Wright offered to contact the City of McAllen’s head person with the Country Club as the City does dredging of their ponds quite regularly.

Councilman Widger stated that he and Councilwoman Wright have a meeting with Grantworks (Anthony Covacevich) on Monday, June 26 to discuss grant funding for this particular project.

Comment was made that the dredging of the pond is more of an environmental issue than a nuisance to repair.

Mayor Rivera commented that he does not want to push this project out another year and asked what the next step is.

What is going to be done with the silt? Have any discussions been held with the Country Club? Have they been updated?

Mayor Rivera suggested scheduling a meeting with the Harlingen Country Club to get their insight into the project.

Councilman Widger referenced some financing options and what it would cost to pay back on a loan, whether the Texas Water Development Board would fund the project or a local bank.

Mayor Rivera reiterated that while the City is obligated, but not in a hurry to do the project of dredging, he still does not want to push it out for another year.

Councilman Widger reported on the upcoming budget calendar and stressed the importance of all Council members being present at the scheduled meetings. He indicated there would be budget workshop on Saturday, July 22 and for the Council to start thinking about ideas for capital projects. The final adoption of the budget would be a special Council meeting on September 5.

Councilwoman Thompson made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Councilman Widger seconded the motion.

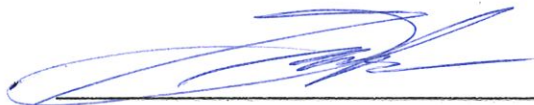
Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

Returning back to Item 4, Councilman Widger made a motion to table this item for another date to be determined later.

Councilman Powers seconded the motion.

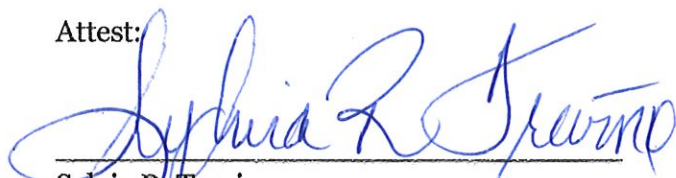
Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Powers and a second by Councilwoman Thompson.



George Rivera, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia R. Trevino
City Secretary