

LOUIS RIGBY
Mayor
JOHN ZEMANEK
Councilmember At Large A
STEVE GILLETT
Councilmember At Large B
DANNY EARP
Councilmember District 1
CHUCK ENGELKEN
Councilmember District 2



BILL BENTLEY
Councilmember District 3
KRISTIN MARTIN
Councilmember District 4
JAY MARTIN
Councilmember District 5
NANCY OJEDA
Councilmember District 6
Mayor Pro-Tem

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE
APRIL 22, 2019**

The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a regular meeting on Monday, April 22, 2019, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 6:00 p.m., with the following in attendance:

Councilmembers present: Louis Rigby, John Zemanek, Steve Gillett, Danny Earp, Chuck Engelken, Bill Bentley, Kristin Martin, Jay Martin, Nancy Ojeda

Councilmembers absent: None

Council-appointed officers present: Corby Alexander, City Manager; Lee Woodward, City Secretary; Clark Askins, Assistant City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 6: 00 p.m.

INVOCATION – The invocation was given by Rev. Brian Christen, La Porte Community Church.

PLEDGES – The pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags were led by Councilmember Danny Earp.

3. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

- (a) Proclamation in recognition of Municipal Clerk's Week. [Mayor Rigby]
- (b) Proclamation in recognition of Parliamentary Law Month. [Mayor Rigby]
- (c) Proclamation in recognition of Whitney K. Lane, Don't Mess with *Texas Song Search Winner*. [Mayor Rigby]
- (d) Recognition of the Employee of the First Quarter 2019 – Deputy Court Clerk, Theresa Hernandez, City of La Porte Municipal Court, [Mayor Rigby]

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to five minutes per person.) Chuck Rosa and Abe Rosa spoke against item 6b. Michael and Mary Hanks expressed support for the City's EMS. Genesis Sanchez, Genesis M. Sanchez, Cie Cie Sanchez, Robert Guy, and Charles Crittenden requested City support for the Fairmont Park West park and pool. Thomas Garza spoke on local events, urged the Council to reject the bid in item 5c, expressed his support of the proposed EMS and Fire Department salary increases and recommended a higher raise, and said he did not approve of the sign ordinance discussion.

5. CONSENT AGENDA (*Approval of Consent Agenda items authorizes each to be implemented in accordance with staff recommendations provided. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion upon request by a member of the Council present at this meeting*)

- (a) **Approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 8, 2019.** [Lee Woodward, City Secretary]
- (b) **Award Bid #19008 for Asphalt Black Base & Type D Hot Asphalt Mix.** [Don Pennell, Public Works Director]
- (c) **Reject Bid #19011 for the Hillridge Water Plant Improvements Phase II.** [Don Pennell, Public Works Director]

Councilmember Zemanek moved to approve the consent agenda; the motion was adopted, 9-0.

6. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- (a) **Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding a salary increase for EMS and Fire personnel.** [Ray Nolen, EMS Chief; Donald Ladd, Assistant Fire Chief]

Councilmember Engelken moved that the City move forward with the 20% increase for EMS effective June 1, 2019; the motion was adopted, 9-0.

Councilmember Zemanek moved to provide for a June 1, 2019, 25% increase for the Fire Department. Councilmember Earp moved to amend the motion by striking 25% and inserting 20%. Without objection, the amendment was withdrawn. The motion was adopted, 7-2, Councilmembers Gillett and J. Martin voting against.

- (b) **Presentation and discussion on a draft resolution to establish a policy addressing the placement of campaign signs on City property. [Councilmembers K. Martin, Gillett, and Ojeda]**

The Mayor asked the City Manager to bring back another proposal including enforcement. Councilmember Gillett requested staff and the City Attorney also do research into creative solutions to permit social activities to place signs.

7. REPORTS

- (a) **Receive a report on the La Porte Development Board Meeting. [Councilmember Ojeda]**

Councilmember Nancy Ojeda reported on the La Porte Development Board meeting held at 5 p.m., saying the Board had approved a \$21,505 façade enhancement grant for Coastal Extermination and denied a façade enhancement grant to Texas Snowbirds Daiquiris and Grill.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- City Council Meeting, Monday, May 13, 2019
- Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, Thursday, May 16, 2019
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, Thursday, May 23, 2019

City Manager Corby Alexander said the draft IDAs have reached businesses and were being well received, noting their first meetings with the City would be April 29. He said he has spoken with the president of the Fairmont Park West HOA and would meet with him and return with feedback.

- 9. COUNCIL COMMENTS regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.**

Councilmembers praised those acknowledged during the recognition portion of the meeting, discussed enjoying a number of local events including the Civic Club's Spaghetti Dinner and the Easter Sunrise Service, remembered and praised former Mayor J. J. Meza, congratulated Ray Nolen and Donald Ladd on their departments' increases, thanked all who gave public comments, encouraged annual compensation studies, urged all to attend the Sylvan Beach Festival, and thanked and congratulated Councilmember Kristin Martin on her years of service.

ADJOURN – Without objection, Mayor Rigby adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Lee Woodward, City Secretary