

December 11, 2023 Regular Meeting

## MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the City of Combes Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 7:00 pm Monday, December 11, 2023, at **Combes Municipal Complex**, 21626 Hand Road, Combes Texas to consider the following.

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Public comments may be e-mailed to [jduarte@townofcombes.com](mailto:jduarte@townofcombes.com) by the meeting date at 4:00 pm.

Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Mayor Silvestre Garcia requested roll call.

### 1. Roll Call.

By City Secretary Jo Ann Nino

Mayor Silvestre Garcia – Present  
Commissioner Olga H Montes- Present  
Commissioner Mary David- Present  
Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar- Present  
Commissioner Ann Forbes- Present  
Commissioner Carlos Cordova – Present

### 2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Ann Forbes led the Invocation.  
Commissioner Carlos Cordova led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Public Comments:** At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak, or any person may speak on any item on the agenda for a maximum of three (3) minutes. No formal action can be taken on these items. Action for Approval or Disapproval

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the City Council that there are no people to speak with business before the council not scheduled on the agenda or any item on the agenda. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked to skip agenda item #4 and return later during the meeting.

### 4. Mayor Silvestre Garcia- Presentation of Proclamation to Mr. Walter Schumacher Proclaiming- City of Combes “Honey Capital of Texas.”

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

City of Combes Administrator Aida Gutierrez read the proclamation to Mr. Walter Schumacher proclaiming City of Combes “Honey Capital of Texas”.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Presentation of Proclamation to Mr. Walter Schumacher Proclaiming- City of Combes “Honey Capital of Texas.”

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve Presentation of Proclamation to Mr. Walter Schumacher Proclaiming- City of Combes “Honey Capital of Texas.” Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

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**5. Second and Final Public Hearing- Annexation of Woods Road (AKA Templeton Road). A 4.73-acre tract of land being all that portion of the Woods Road (AKA Templeton Road) Right-of-way from east**

**Right-of-way Line of IH 69E (U.S. Highway 77) and the centerline of Nixon Road, also being a portion of the north 20.00 feet of Georgetown Railway Survey 22.**

Action to open and close public hearing.

The City of Combes Administrator Aida Gutierrez informed the city council that it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Public hearing, and confirmed the city complied with all the process to include notifying surrounding property owners within 200 feet and all other agencies, one of them to be Cameron County, the road is in their inventory, but they do not maintain the road and are aware of the annexation.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to enter a Public Hearing. Commissioner Ann Forbes made a motion to enter a public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for any discussion and/or questions. Mr. Cody Scoggins asked a question in behalf of family members who reside in the surrounding area. His question was If any additional land was going to be taken or if annexation pertained to only to the Cameron County right of way. Mayor Silvestre Garcia answered the question and asked for any further discussion and/or questions. With no further discussion from the public or city council he asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.  
(Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked to return to Item #4 on the agenda.)

#### **6. Consideration and Possible Action of**

- a) Ordinance 2023-5 Approving Annexation of Woods Road (AKA Templeton Road)**
- b) An Interlocal Agreement with Cameron County for Woods Road Construction**

#### **Improvements.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of a) Ordinance 2023-5 Approving Annexation of Woods Road (AKA Templeton Road) b) An Interlocal Agreement with Cameron County for Woods Road Construction. Commissioner Olga H Montes /Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of a) Ordinance 2023-5 Approving Annexation of Woods Road (AKA Templeton Road) b) An Interlocal Agreement with Cameron County for Woods Road Construction. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

#### **7. First Public Hearing- Re-Zone Request from San Mateo Investments, LLC from Agriculture to Residential -A 19.00 Acre Tract of land more or less out of the east half of Block 29, Wilson Tract Subdivision- Northwest corner of Rio Rancho and Cragon Road. CAD Id# 211083 and 211086**

Action to open and close public hearing.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to open the First Public Hearing. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to open public Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes.

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Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to close the First Public Hearing. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to close the First Public Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**8. Mayor Silvestre Garcia- Consideration and Possible Action-**

**a) Department Updates-**

**b) Food Bank for City of Combes**

**c) Nixon Road Construction Update**

**d) TxCDBG Drainage and Street Improvements-Orange, Lime & Hollida St.**

**e) Street Assessment Testing Update.**

**Action for Acknowledgement.**

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council that as of last update on November 13, 2023 the city has accomplished items a) to f) for update. The City of Combes Administrator Aida Gutierrez is working on a utility rate study and will request assistance from the TRWA (Texas Rural Water Association Board).

a) Update for Annexation of Woods Road -already discussed and approved.

b) Update for Proposals, an item on the agenda for approval.

c) Update Proposal from Contractor Rhyner construction services \$10464 for driveway, drainage pipes on Nixon Road (County Side)

d) Update Requesting Services for a new Utility Rate Study

e) Update on the drainage improvements to Nixon Road and Hand Rd by Cameron County Drainage District #5

f) Update on Light Assessment in Combes

**9. R.E Garcia & Associates- Consideration and Possible Action of Preliminary and/or Final Plat San Marcos Subdivision- Cragon Road**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

City of Combes Engineer Mr. R.E. Garcia informed the city council a memo was provided on their agenda packets and explained his recommendations on approving the Preliminary and/or Final Plat. Mr. Alfonso Quintanilla from Quintanilla Headley & Associates presented a plat for the city council and explained the work to be done. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of Preliminary and/or Final Plat San Marcos Subdivision- Cragon Road. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**10. Consideration and Possible Action- Minutes- November 13 & 27, 2023- Regular Meetings.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action- Minutes- November 13 & 27, 2023- Regular Meetings. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action- Minutes- November 13 & 27, 2023- Regular Meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Olga H Montes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**11. Consideration and Possible Action of Proposals for Banking Services Received for City of Combes Bank Accounts and recommendation to award.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

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Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to award the proposal for banking services to First Community Bank. Commissioner Mary David made a motion to award the proposal for banking services to First Community Bank. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

## 12. Consideration and Possible Action

- a) **Invoices for Approval-General, Waterworks, Special Funds.**
- b) **Check Registers & Debit Card Transactions-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for October-November 2023.**
- c) **Financial Statement Reports-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for November 2023.**
- d) **Rhyner Construction Services, Inc. Application No.1- \$29,702.92 for Nixon Road Street and Drainage Improvements American Rescue Plan (ARP) Project. (ARP Fund)  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of. (Items A-D)**

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council there would be no deliberation on items a) through c). He questioned item d) regarding the invoice. The City of Combes City Administrator Aida Gutierrez answered the question informing the city council the invoice was reviewed and it did coincide with the specifications.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for any discussion and/or questions pertaining to items a) to c). Commissioner Mary David asked a question regarding a vendor. The City of Combes Police Chief replied to her question. Commissioner Olga H. Montes made a motion to approve items a) Invoices for Approval-General, Waterworks, Special Funds. b) Check Registers & Debit Card Transactions-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for October-November 2023. c) Financial Statement Reports-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for November 2023. d) Rhyner Construction Services, Inc. Application No.1- \$29,702.92 for Nixon Road Street and Drainage Improvements American Rescue Plan (ARP) Project. (ARP Fund)  
Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

## 13. Discussion and Possible Action of

- a) **Budget Line-Item Expense for City of Combes Festivity and process on purchasing for FYE 2024.**
- b) **City of Combes Festivity Events for FYE 2024.**
- c) **“Combes Rocks” Painting Event with City Administrator**
- d) **Christmas Donation Received of \$400.00 dollars for Childrens gifts-  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.**

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to enter Discussion and Possible Action of

- a) Budget Line-Item Expense for City of Combes Festivity and process on purchasing for FYE 2024.
- b) City of Combes Festivity Events for FYE 2024.
- c) “Combes Rocks” Painting Event with City Administrator
- d) Christmas Donation Received of \$400.00 dollars for Childrens gifts-  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Commissioner Olga H. Montes made a motion to enter Discussion and Possible Action of

- a) Budget Line-Item Expense for City of Combes Festivity and process on purchasing for FYE 2024.
- b) City of Combes Festivity Events for FYE 2024.
- c) “Combes Rocks” Painting Event with City Administrator
- d) Christmas Donation Received of \$400.00 dollars for Childrens gifts-

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Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

- A) Mayor Silvestre Garcia recommended having a plan for the budget and request to designate the City Administrator Aida Gutierrez to determine how it will get done. Commissioner Mary David made a
- B) motion to assign the City Administrator Aida Gutierrez. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to acknowledge the way it works. Commissioner Mary David made a motion to acknowledge the way it works. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.
- C) The City of Combes Administrator Aida Gutierrez informed the city council that this item was placed on the agenda to obtain feedback on the Events to be held for this fiscal year and begin the donation process. Mayor Silvestre Garcia acknowledged the city administrator's recommendation to have the City staff determine festivity events for FYE 2024.
- D) The City of Combes Administrator Aida Gutierrez's idea of rock painting is to interact with the children of Combes and bring the community together.
- E) Citizen of the City of Combes Sandra Vela donated \$400 to be used for Christmas Toys.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve items c) and d). Commissioner Mary David made a motion to approve items c) and d). Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**14. Consideration and Possible Action to void City of Combes 1991 Ordinance No.100-40-Disturbance of Public Peace and Adopt Ordinance No. 2023-4 An Ordinance of the City of Combes, Texas Adopting a Prohibition on Noise Disturbances within the City and Providing Exceptions; Providing a Penalty for Violation; Providing a Severability Clause, Providing or Publication; and Providing an Effective Date.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked the City of Combes Police Chief Patrick Quill to address the city council regarding the agenda item. The Chief of Police Patrick Quill explained the void of 1991 Ordinance would have no effect and no portion would be affected and provided the city council with a sample of an ordinance constructed by him. Discussion among the city council regarding the current issues pertaining to the ordinance. Legal Counsel Gilberto Hinojosa's recommendation to table voiding the ordinance until 3 readings to approve the new ordinance is done.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to table voiding the ordinance until 3 readings to approve the new ordinance is done. Commissioner Ann Forbes made a motion to table voiding the ordinance until 3 readings to approve the new ordinance is done. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**15. Consideration and Possible Action of Tu Salud Si Cuenta Program Agreement between The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston on behalf of its School of Public Health in Brownsville (University) and the City of Combes for Fiscal Year Ending 2024.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

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Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of Tu Salud Si Cuenta Program Agreement between The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston on behalf of its School of Public Health in Brownsville (University) and the City of Combes for Fiscal Year Ending 2024. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of Tu Salud Si Cuenta Program Agreement between The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston on behalf of its School of Public Health in Brownsville (University) and the City of Combes for Fiscal Year Ending 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**16. Consideration and Possible Action of Assessment of City of Combes Street Lights Project- Phase I- Engineer Assessment and Quote of \$49,907.00 from Fonroche Lighting America.**  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

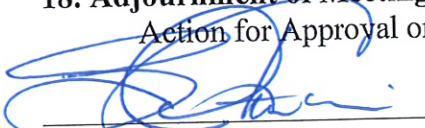
Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to table Consideration and Possible Action of Assessment of City of Combes Street Lights Project- Phase I- Engineer Assessment and Quote of \$49,907.00 from Fonroche Lighting America until full report is obtained. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to table Consideration and Possible Action of Assessment of City of Combes Street Lights Project- Phase I- Engineer Assessment and Quote of \$49,907.00 from Fonroche Lighting America. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

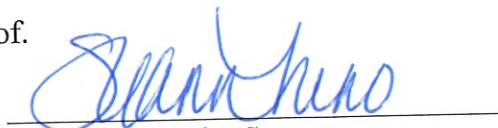
**17. City of Combes next Special Meeting date due to Christmas Holidays.**  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion for the next Special Meeting on December 18, 2024. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve for the next Special Meeting on December 18, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia adjourned the meeting.

**18. Adjournment of Meeting.**  
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

  
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Silvestre Garcia, Mayor

  
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JoAnn Nino, City Secretary