

MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the City of Combes Commissioners met in a Special Session at 7:00 pm Monday, June 26, 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 [agutierrez@townofcombes.com](mailto:agutierrez@townofcombes.com) by the meeting date at 4:00 pm.

Meeting began at 7:08 pm

Mayor Silvestre Garcia requested roll call.

1. **Roll Call.**

By City Administrator Aida Gutierrez

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

Mayor Silvestre Garcia- Quorum established, meeting goes on to the next item on the agenda.

2. **Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.**

Commissioner Olga H. Montes 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 advised there were two persons to speak before the City Council.  
Mr. Dennis Pagel from 21399 Rusty Lane- Suggested the possibility of Bicycle Patrol in the early hours for better observation and to detect odd orders that might be an issue in surrounding areas.

Director Mr. Jorge Castillo from 21988 Young Rd- Subject is Agriculture lot on Young Rd & Intersection of Young Rd and Jordan. Concern with Palm trees on property, questioned if 1. They are allowed? Causing rodent issue. 2. Dip on intersection of Young Rd & Jordan – Filled with Asphalt, continues to be an issue.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the citizens of Combes that he volunteered the Chief of Police to have a Block Meet and Greet possibly every Friday on a different location for our citizens to get familiar with our Police Department.  
Commissioner Olga H Montes asked Mayor Silvestre Garcia if she could make a comment and suggested to have a neighborhood watch.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to acknowledge the items and to close public comments. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to acknowledge the items and close public comments. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**4. Presentation by-Mr. Tom Hushen, Cameron County Emergency Management- Hurricane Preparedness**

Action for Acknowledgement.

(Mr. Tom Hushen not present) – Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to table Presentation by-Mr. Tom Hushen, Cameron County Emergency Management- Hurricane Preparedness until next meeting on July 10,2023. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to table Presentation by-Mr. Tom Hushen, Cameron County Emergency Management- Hurricane Preparedness. Seconded by Commissioner Carlos Cordova. All in Favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**5. LeFevre Engineering- Consideration and Possible Action:**

- a) Update- FM 508 Expansion Project as per Walk-through with TxDot June 22, 2023.
  - b) Change Order #2-Ryner Construction- City of Combes FM 508 Road Widening Project (Bonds 2021 Project).
- Action for Approval or Disapproval of. (Items A-B)

**(#8)**

City Administrator Aida Gutierrez asked to move item #8 to be discussed before entering #5. Mayor Silvestre Garcia made acknowledgement to move item #8. Mr. Jose Abarca- Consideration and Possible Action of Second Variance Request-18377 Hollida- Parking Requirements as per Combes Zoning Ordinance 2016-2 & Drainage Pipes for proposed Multi-Family Housing.

City Administrator Aida Gutierrez explained Mr. Jose Abarca is requesting to go against City Inspectors recommendation as per Zoning Ordinance 2016-2, section 6-2.02 “Driveways”. Mr. Jose Abarca is requesting to construct six (6) parking lots, and eight are required per ordinance. Secondly, he is requesting a variance to exclude drainage pipes under parking lot as per Ordinance No. 2008-3 (A) 2, which requires drainage pipes.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia explained to Mr. Jose Abarca the issue with building the parking lot without the concrete pipes and recommended for the pipes to be placed at time of construction to avoid any future issues. Discussion between the city council and Mr. Jose Abarca was conducted to make the correct decision on the matter.

Commissioner Mary David made a motion to acknowledge and abide by the recommended changes made by Inspector Luis Ramos for the parking lots according to city ordinances. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to deny the variance at this time. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve to deny the variance.

**(#5)**

June 26, 2023 Special Meeting

Mr. Richard LeFevre requesting proposal of Lump Sum \$17,193.00 for change order number two (2). The change order includes the following.

Placement of items No. 166,168,164 for south side of FM 508 \$8,091.00

Replacement of 8" RCP on south side of FM 508 with 18" RCP and Safety End Treatment Labor only \$4,280.00

Replacement of ADA Ramps with 5% Concrete Transition Ramps on both sides of Love's East Driveway \$3,655.00

Addition of Concrete voids between inlet and sidewalk on north side of FM 508 \$1,167.00

Mayor Silvestre Garcia introduced the original change order that was made to remove items that was presented to the city council on a previous meeting (months prior) that was amended and was never presented to TxDot for approval. Discussion given by Mr. Richard Lefevre explaining the new change order in question.

Commissioner Mary David asked to speak and explained her findings on proposed amounts prior and previous that were not accurate.

Commissioner Mary David made a motion to table b) Change Order #2-Ryner Construction- City of Combes FM 508 Road Widening Project (Bonds 2021 Project). Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion Passed due to unanimous vote.

**6. Consideration and Possible Action- Minutes- June 19, 2023, Special Meeting.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action- Minutes- June 19, 2023, Special Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**7. Consideration and Possible Action- to Award to a Selected Engineering Firm(s) for City of Combes.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

City Administrator Aida Gutierrez informed the city council that there were three (3) RFQ that were received, and All Commissioners evaluated and scored on each statement of qualifications to select a City Engineer. After reviewing the scores, the following scores were obtained.

1. R.E. Garcia & Associated received score of 437.
2. Cruz- Hogan Engineers/Planners received score of 406.
3. Hinojosa Engineering Inc. received score of 433.

Recommendation by City Administrator Aida Gutierrez for one (1) City Engineer and one (1) City Engineer for Special Projects as needed. Commissioner Olga H. Montes made a motion to award as selected engineer firm for City of Combes as R.E. Garcia & Associates and Hinojosa Engineering as Special Projects Engineer as needed. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**8. Mr. Jose Abarca- Consideration and Possible Action of Second Variance Request-18377 Hollida- Parking Requirements as per Combes Zoning Ordinance 2016-2 & Drainage Pipes for proposed Multi-Family Housing.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

(Agenda item was moved up before item #5)

9. **Chief P. Quill- Consideration and Possible Action:**

**a) Cellular and Data Provider for Combes Personnel & Equipment-Proposal from AT&T.**

City of Combes Chief of Police Patrick Quill explained his proposal request to change service provider from T-Mobile to AT&T. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve the Cellular and Data Provider for Combes Personnel & Equipment-Proposal from AT&T. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**b) City Vehicle Disposition to Spot My Part; Two (2) 2009 Ford Ranger trucks, One (1) 2001 Chevrolet Pickup truck, and One (1) 2013 Dodge Ram**

City of Combes Chief of Police Patrick Quill recommended to keep 2013 Dodge Ram for City Maintenance use and the 2009 Ford Ranger truck and 2001 Chevrolet Pick up to be sent to Spot My Part to be recycled. Commissioner Olga H. Montes made a motion to approve b) City Vehicle Disposition to Spot My Part; Two (2) 2009 Ford Ranger trucks, One (1) 2001

Chevrolet Pickup truck, and One (1) 2013 Dodge Ram. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**c) Traffic Warrant Collections**

City of Combes Chief of Police explained to the city council the collection status for current collection agency MVBA and made recommendations for the Police Department to work with the Combes Municipal Court on other options to assist to increase revenue on warrant collection. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion for Police Department to work with the Combes Municipal Court and Sixty (60) day notice to MVBA current collection agency to terminate contract agreement on cause. Commissioner Olga H. Montes made a motion to approve Police Department to work with the Combes Municipal Court and issue a Sixty (60) day notice to MVBA to terminate contract agreement on cause. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**d) Safety Lighting quote from Cap Fleet-Buy Board contract #698-23 for City Vehicles-Water, Maintenance and Animal Control Department.**  
**Action for Approval or Disapproval of (Items A-D)**

City of Combes Chief of Police explained on current City vehicles not equipped with safety lights and how equipping them would be a benefit for the safety of the drivers. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve the d) Safety Lighting quote from Cap Fleet-Buy Board contract #698-23 for City Vehicles-Water, Maintenance and Animal Control Department. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve the d) Safety Lighting quote from Cap Fleet-Buy Board contract #698-23 for City Vehicles-Water, Maintenance and Animal Control Department. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

10. **Update- First Annual Fourth of July Event to be held July 2<sup>nd</sup>. for City of Combes.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

City Administrator Aida Gutierrez gave status on vendors and items on agenda for the event. Commissioner Olga H Montes gave an update on contracted vendors that have confirmed.

June 26, 2023 Special Meeting

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to acknowledge the Update- First Annual Fourth of July Event to be held July 2<sup>nd</sup>. for City of Combes. Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to acknowledge the Update- First Annual Fourth of July Event to be held July 2<sup>nd</sup>. for City of Combes. Seconded by Commissioner Carlos Cordova. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**11. Executive Session- Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-Discussion regarding G&G Contractors-Combes Public Warehouse & Animal Shelter Bond Project 2021.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for motion to enter executive session at 8:45pm. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to enter executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**12. Action following Executive Session- Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-Discussion regarding G&G Contractors-Combes Public Warehouse & Animal Shelter Bond Project 2021.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to return to regular session at 9:00pm. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to return to regular session. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to acknowledge Attorney's Report on action following executive session – Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-Discussion regarding G&G Contractors-Combes Public Warehouse & Animal Shelter Bond Project 2021. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to acknowledge report. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

**13. Adjournment of Meeting.**

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion of Adjournment of Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Carlos Cordova. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.



Silvestre Garcia, Mayor



JoAnn Duarte, City Secretary