

MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the City of Combes Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 7:00 pm Monday, November 13, 2023, at **Combes Municipal Complex**, 21626 Hand Road, Combes Texas to consider the following;

Public comments may be e-mailed to agutierrez@townofcombes.com or 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 Mr. Steve Holten -Sunshine (Iowa Ave) would speak with business not scheduled on the agenda or any item on the agenda. Mr. Steve Holten informed the council he had a couple of questions 1. He asked if any of the annexations areas previously mentioned to offset utility bills were brought into the city and 2. He asked if there would be a way to flag individuals who leave out of town to be billed on the 1st and 30th of each month.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed Mr. Steve Holten a response could not be made but would address his questions later. With no further comments/questions the meeting would go into the next agenda item.

4. Mayor Silvestre Garcia – Consideration and Possible Action

a) Update regarding Annexation of Woods Road.

The City Administrator Aida Gutierrez updated the city council that notice was provided to surrounding areas within that road informing them of the two Public Hearings regarding the annexation of Woods Road. Mayor Silvestre Garcia explained that the annexation is in process. The first public hearing will be held at the next meeting scheduled for Monday November 27,2023 and second public hearing on Monday December 11,2023. After sixty (60) days if there are no issues, the road can be annexed.

b) Update regarding City of Combes Request for Proposals-Banking Services.

The City Administrator Aida Gutierrez updated the city council that advertising was made available on November 08,2023 to any financial institution interested in submitting a proposal can do so up until the deadline of November 30,2023. Review and selection can be made by the city council in the next meeting scheduled for Monday December 11,2023.

c) Proposal from Contractor Rhyner Construction Services \$10,464.00 dollars for Driveway Drainage Pipes-Nixon Road County Side.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia explained to the city council that for the project is not delayed, Rhyner Construction was contacted for an estimate on fixing pipes and driveways not inside the City of Combes but within the cities ETJ. To avoid the project being held back the city will do the work needed and the cost of repairs done will be based on Ordinance that allows to charge the homeowner.

d) Update on requesting services for a new Utility Rate Study.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia updated that a rate study was previously mentioned after May 5th which he has not seen but there is a need for a new rate study. The rate study would determine if there is the capacity to service future residents and then increase to 4 inch meters.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia explained how prior retirement set areas have turned into family residential and the water usage is higher than previous usage and the fees being charged are not adequate to the water that is being used. He asks the Utility Study includes the capacity of waterworks, the rate study, and the areas with the same issue.

e) Update on Drainage Improvements to Hand Road and Nixon Road by Cameron County Drainage District #5.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia Thanked District #5 for coming out and fixing an issue the city needed help with and doing an awesome job.

f) Conduct a Street Light Assessment in Combes.

Action for Approval, Disapproval, or Acknowledgement- (Items A-F)

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for City Staff to do an assessment of all the streets in the neighborhoods in the City of Combes and obtain location and number of lights needed. He will review the assessment and bring it back to the city council later.

Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action-

a) Update regarding Annexation of Woods Road.

b) Update regarding City of Combes Request for Proposals-Banking Services.

c) Proposal from Contractor Rhyner Construction Services \$10,464.00 dollars for Driveway Drainage Pipes-Nixon Road County Side.

d) Update on requesting services for a new Utility Rate Study.

e) Update on Drainage Improvements to Hand Road and Nixon Road by Cameron County Drainage District #5.

f) Conduct a Street Light Assessment in Combes.

Seconded by Commissioner Olga H Montes. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked if not further discussion/comments, All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

5. Dawn R. Sealy-Leonard, 4309 N. Minnesota-Sunshine Country Club Estates- Transfer Water Service to Harlingen Waterworks.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council that this agenda item was brought back in May, and it has been reviewed and researched. Ms. Dawn R Sealy- Leonard confirmed that the City of Harlingen is requesting a letter to release service with City of Combes to be able transfer service to Harlingen Waterworks.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve the letter with contingent that everything has been approved with the City of Harlingen. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve the letter with contingent that everything has been approved with the City of Harlingen. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motioned passed due to unanimous vote.

6. Chief P. Quill-Consideration and Possible Action of Ordinance 2013-(1) Regulating Wrecker Rotation List- Amendment to reduce Five Wrecker Services on Rotation to Three-for Combes Police Department.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia addressed the city council with current issues with the Wrecker Services and discussion among the city council was made on Ordinance regarding compliance that are to be met by Wrecker Service. The Chief of Police Patrick Quill explained to the city council that after reviewing last year's activity for services provided by all wrecker services the sum was 46 for the year in which would leave 5 vehicles per wrecker for this reason his request was for reduction of Wrecker services to be three (3). Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked that he recommend four (4).

Commissioner Mary David recommended for current fees charged to wrecker services be revised and updated if needed. The Chief of Police Patrick Quill recommended table the item.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to Table Consideration and Possible Action of Ordinance 2013-(1) Regulating Wrecker Rotation List- Amendment to reduce Five Wrecker Services on Rotation to Three-for Combes Police Department until revisions are brought back. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to Table Consideration and Possible Action of Ordinance 2013-(1) Regulating Wrecker Rotation List- Amendment to reduce Five Wrecker Services on Rotation to Three-for Combes Police Department until revisions are brought back. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

7. Consideration and Possible Action for City to approve proposal from MEG Engineers for material and core testing for Nixon Road Street and Drainage Improvements-ARP Project.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

The City Administrator Aida Gutierrez has been in contact with MEG Engineers and involved SWG Engineers to make sure the material testing is part of the project to avoid additional fees. The agreement will be reviewed.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve the Consideration and Possible Action for City to approve proposal from MEG Engineers for material and core testing for Nixon Road Street and Drainage Improvements-ARP Project.

Commissioner Ann Forbes made a motion to approve the Consideration and Possible Action for City to approve proposal from MEG Engineers for material and core testing for Nixon Road Street and Drainage Improvements-ARP Project. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David, All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

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

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to enter the executive session at 7:51 pm. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to enter executive session at 7:51pm. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to exit the executive session and return to regular meeting at 8:57 pm. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to exit executive session and return to regular meeting at 8:57pm. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

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

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to allow the City Attorney Gilberto Hinojosa to proceed as discussed in the executive session. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve to allow the City Attorney Gilberto Hinojosa to proceed as discussed in the executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

10. Executive Session-To Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Matters. Reassignment Duties- City Administrator and Office Staff. - Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to enter the executive session. Commissioner Ann Forbes made a motion to enter executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to exit the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to exit the executive session and return to regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

11. Action following Executive Session- To Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Matters. Reassignment Duties- City Administrator and Office Staff. - Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to proceed and acknowledge the discussion in executive session. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to proceed and acknowledge the discussion in executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes/ Commissioner Kenneth P Stolar. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

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12. Adjournment of Meeting.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion Adjournment of Meeting. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion Adjournment of Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.



Silvestre Garcia, Mayor

Aida Gutierrez, City Administrator