



MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO CITY COMMISSION

On March 22, 2022, the City Commission convened for a Special Meeting at the San Benito Municipal Building, Cesar Gonzalez Meeting Hall, 401 North Sam Houston Boulevard, San Benito, Texas.

City Commission Members Present: Ricardo Guerra, Mayor; Carol Lynn Sanchez, Mayor Pro Tem, Commissioner, Place 4; Rene Garcia, Commissioner, Place 1; Rene Villafranco, Commissioner, Place 2; Pedro A. Galvan, Commissioner, Place 3; Mark Sossi, City Attorney.

City Administration Personnel Present: Manuel De La Rosa, City Manager; Fred Bell, Assistant City Manager; Ruth McGinnis, City Secretary.

ITEM 1. WELCOME.

Mayor Ricardo Guerra called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. confirming a quorum.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS. (Speakers/Remarks limited to three minutes. Not more than three speakers on one topic.)

Lynn Pare, a resident of San Benito, thanked City Commission and City staff for keeping services running through the pandemic. Requested live stream the special meetings including the budget workshops.

Mayor Ricardo Guerra addressed City Attorney Mark Sossi regarding a telephone call he received from a citizen on water rates. The citizen asked if the water rates were going to be discussed and Mayor Guerra confirmed. The citizen stated the people should know what's going on and that it was probably illegal to do city business, when it pertains to the city, as far as what the city commission, so I am asking you on this executive session with the water rates are we just discussing, as far as I understand, there is no legal just discussion. **City Attorney Mark Sossi** responded by clarifying what the parameters of the Executive Session are, the City Commission first of all, when you enact an ordinance the first and second reading of an ordinance are public as is the discussion or the enactment of the ordinance, which is public. However, at any issue, in which the City Commission wishes to confer with its attorney about legal questions, legal invocations, about things like that, including legal issues or implications or related legal issues regarding the enactment of an ordinance, they can consult with their attorney and the purpose of the Executive Session is to have that consultation with legal counsel concerning those issues, so you do have a legal as a by call to meet with your attorney, to confer with your attorney about any legal issues intended to the enactment of the ordinance. **Mayor Ricardo Guerra** asked City Attorney Sossi, so we do have the right to enter into Executive Session. **City Attorney Mark Sossi** confirmed, under the parameters I just discussed.

ITEM 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A) CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §551.071(2) PERTAINING TO A WATER RATE ORDINANCE.

THE CITY COMMISSION CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:36 P.M. AND ADJOURNED AT 6:27 P.M.

GENERAL SESSION:

ITEM 4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM 3(A).

Mayor Ricardo Guerra announced **DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROCEED AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

ITEM 5. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Ricardo Guerra requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rene Garcia moved to approve. Commissioner Rene Villafranco seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Mayor Ricardo Guerra, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Lynn Sanchez, Commissioner Rene Garcia, Commissioner Rene Villafranco, and Commissioner Pedro A. Galvan. Motion carried to ADJOURN AT 6:28 P.M.

CITY OF SAN BENITO

HONORABLE RICARDO GUERRA
MAYOR

ATTEST:

RUTH MCGINNIS
CITY SECRETARY