



**MINUTES
OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO
SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

On April 22, 2019 the City Commission met for a Special Meeting at the San Benito Municipal Building, Cesar Gonzalez Meeting Hall, 401 North Sam Houston Boulevard, San Benito, Texas at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present including the following:

HONORABLE BENJAMIN GOMEZ, MAYOR, WAS THE PRESIDING OFFICER

CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS

**Benjamin Gomez - Mayor
Carol Lynn Sanchez - Mayor Pro Tem
Antonio Gonzales - Commissioner, Place 1
Rene Villafranco - Commissioner, Place 2
Ricardo Guerra - Commissioner, Place 3**

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Mark Sossi - City Attorney
Manuel De La Rosa - City Manager
Fred Bell - Assistant City Manager
Ruth McGinnis - City Secretary**

ABSENT

Carol Lynn Sanchez, Mayor Pro Tem

ITEM 1. WELCOME.

Mayor Benjamin Gomez called the meeting to order. "The City Commission and I welcome you to this Special City Commission Meeting. The time is 5:30 p.m. and we have a quorum."

THE CITY COMMISSION CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:30 P.M. AND ADJOURNED AT 5:42 P.M.

ITEM 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Consultation with City Attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.071(2) to receive legal advice relating to the proposed merger between the Brownsville MPO, the Harlingen-San Benito MPO, and the Hidalgo County MPO.

GENERAL SESSION:

ITEM 3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-0004, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A METROPOLITAN PLANNING

ORGANIZATION MERGER BETWEEN THE BROWNSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, THE HARLINGEN-SAN BENITO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, AND THE HIDALGO COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.

Mayor Benjamin Gomez requested a motion, Commissioner Antonio Gonzales moved to approved. Commissioner Rene Villafranco seconded the motion. Voting Aye; Mayor Benjamin Gomez, Commissioner Antonio Gonzales, Commissioner Rene Villafranco, and Commissioner Ricardo Guerra. Motion carried to APPROVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-0004, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION MERGER BETWEEN THE BROWNSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, THE HARLINGEN-SAN BENITO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, AND THE HIDALGO COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.

ITEM 4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-0005, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SAN BENITO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM TO PROMOTE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF WATER AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES AND/OR THE DISCONNECTION OF WATER SERVICE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE WATER CONSERVATION PLAN.

City Manager Manuel De La Rosa addressed the City Commission recommending to approve Resolution 2019-0005 as this resolution requires the city manager to submit a water conservation implementation report. I have filed as part of this agreement. We have also reviewed the drought contingency plan and the water conservation plan. Those have been adopted previously by City Commission. All of that is part of this resolution. I have the City Engineer and the Water Planning staff review these documents to make sure that they are compliant with TCEQ and the Texas Water Development Board. Since, it is an existing ordinance, we attached it all for you. I suggest that you take everything in tab form with you that way you can study the drought contingency plan, the water conservation plan and the water conservation implementation report that we are required to submit. All of these are compliance with one; the water regulatory agency, TCEQ and the other, the Texas Water Development Board. Mayor Benjamin Gomez, stated, I am just wondering, the print is very light, did you run out of ink or what. City Manager Manuel De La Rosa advised the file was so large, we will try and get it off pdf, it was so large we could not even email it to each other. We printed all pdf off the old ordinances, we had to go back to the originals but we can pull out for you. We made copies of the old ordinances to review them. Mayor Benjamin Gomez requested a motion. Commissioner Rene Villafranco moved to approved. Commissioner Antonio Gonzales seconded the motion. Voting Aye. Mayor Benjamin Gomez, Commissioner Antonio Gonzales, Commissioner Rene Villafranco, and Commissioner Ricardo Guerra. Motion carried to approve RESOLUTION NUMBER 2019-0005, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A WATER CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SAN BENITO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM TO PROMOTE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF WATER AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES AND/OR THE DISCONNECTION OF WATER SERVICE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE WATER CONSERVATION PLAN.

ITEM 5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2556 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO CREATING A HOTEL OCCUPANY TAX ADVISORY BOARD, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION, MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENT, TERMS, ATTENDANCE, OFFICERS, DUTIES, MEETINGS, RULES AND BYLAWS AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

Martha McClain, Public Relations Director, addressed the City Commission advising this document is to provide advisory opinion to the City Commission on matters to the prioritization of making the city's expenditure of hotel/motel funds for actual purposes. The only change is the membership appointments which are highlighted, the bylaws are included. City Manager Manuel De La Rosa addressed the City Commission advising he wanted to tie down the hotel motel information as to whom they were. We wanted someone who was either a hotel owner so they may or may not be from the city and operators. Hotels sometimes are owned by somebody else or a corporation when they are operators or some senior management of that hotel as a representative that can speak on behalf of them. As you know, there is about five hotels, chances are that we will reach out to them and generate an application form and then the City Commission will be able to choose two representatives from those hotels on a future date once we get going. Also, when we said citizen, we didn't define if it was with the city; the country; the state, we narrowed it to being the city and being a city citizen that has been living for six months within the city limits. Mayor Benjamin Gomez questioned, it does not matter whether they vote or not. City Manager Manuel De La Rosa responded, no, it does not and it is his recommendation to approve this ordinance. Mayor Benjamin Gomez, requested a motion, Commissioner Rene Villafranco moved to approve. Commissioner Antonio Gonzales seconded the motion. Voting Aye; Mayor Benjamin Gomez, Commissioner Antonio Gonzales, Commissioner Rene Villafranco, and Commissioner Ricardo Guerra. Motion carried to APPROVE THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2556 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO CREATING A HOTEL OCCUPANY TAX ADVISORY BOARD, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION, MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENT, TERMS, ATTENDANCE, OFFICERS, DUTIES, MEETINGS, RULES AND BYLAWS AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Benjamin Gomez, requested motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rene Villafranco moved to approved. Commissioner Antonio Gonzales seconded the motion. Voting Aye; Mayor Benjamin Gomez, Commissioner Antonio Gonzales, Commissioner Rene Villafranco, and Commissioner Ricardo Guerra. Motion carried to ADJOURN AT 5:47 P.M.

Note: The City of San Benito does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, treatment of, or employment in its programs, activities, or public meetings. Any individual with a disability in need of an accommodation is encouraged to contact the City Secretary at (956) 361-3800, Extension 103, by Monday, no later than 5:00 P.M., to make proper arrangements.

CITY OF SAN BENITO

HONORABLE BENJAMIN GOMEZ
MAYOR

ATTEST:

RUTH MCGINNIS
CITY SECRETARY