

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY,
TEXAS, JANUARY 6, 2009**

The City Council of the City of Leon Valley, Texas, met on the 6th day of January 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Leon Valley City Council Chambers, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING - 6:00 p.m.

Call to order.

Mayor Riley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked that the minutes reflect that the following members of Council were present: Reyna, Baldrige, Dean, and Nelson. Councilman Manea was not present.

City Manager Lambert, City Secretary Feutz, Community Development Director Flores, Deputy Fire Marshal Valdez, and Assistant City Attorney Onion were also present.

Convene into executive session in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 "Consultations with Attorney" to discuss with City Attorney litigation with The Elijah Group, Inc. (Mayor Riley/F. Onion).

Mayor Riley announced that Council would convene into closed executive session at 6:02 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 "Consultations with Attorney" to discuss with the City Attorney litigation with "The Elijah Group, Inc."

Councilman Manea joined that meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Reconvene into open session and consider discussion and any action as appropriate from executive session.

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Riley reconvened the Council into open session. She announced that no action was or would be taken at this time.

Adjourn.

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Reyna, seconded by Councilmember Dean, to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Riley announced the Special Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 7:00 P.M.

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Riley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked that the minutes reflect that the following members of Council were present: Manea, Reyna, Baldrige, Dean, and Nelson.

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City Manager Lambert, City Secretary Feutz, Public Works Director Vick, and Assistant City Attorney Onion were also present.

Mayor Riley asked resident Dr. John Thom to lead the assembled group in the pledge of allegiance.

Citizens to be heard and time for objections to the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Riley asked Councilmembers if they wished for anything on the Consent Agenda to be removed from that agenda for further discussion. Hearing no requests, Mayor Riley then asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Council.

Dr. Thom announced that he was recently elected President of the Leon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce. He announced plans for new programs for the Chamber and a Businessman of the Year and a Veteran Businessman of the Year programs in 2009.

Seeing no one else to come forward for the "Citizens to be heard" portion of the meeting, Mayor Riley asked for a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

Consent Agenda

Consider action to approve minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of December 16, 2008 (Feutz).

Consider action on M&C # 01-01-09 - a request to waive fees for the Northwest Little League to use the conference center for one weekday evening in exchange for the Northwest Little League allowing parking at their facility for Trade and Market Day vendors and visitors (Lambert).

Consider action on M&C # 01-02-09 - a request to approve City sponsorship of the San Antonio Chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) to waive fees for use of Conference Center (Vick).

Consider action on a Resolution of support for the partnership of the U.S. Office of Economic Adjustment and the City of Leon Valley in the Lackland Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study.

A motion was made by Councilman Reyna, seconded by Councilman Manea, to approve the Consent Agenda Items as listed above. Upon vote, Mayor Riley announced that the motion carried and all Consent Agenda items were approved.

Discussion Agenda

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Discussion to consider appointments to the Lackland Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study Executive Committee and Advisory Committee to represent the City of Leon Valley (Mayor Riley).

Mayor Riley announced that the proposed resolution was in response to a request by Bexar County for Leon Valley's support of the Lackland Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) and for support with appointments to its Executive and Advisory Committees. Mayor Riley announced that the Advisory Committee involved a commitment of 20 hours over 12-18 months and the Executive Committee involved a 10-hour commitment over 12-18 months.

Councilman Reyna volunteered to serve on the Executive Committee and Councilmember Nelson volunteered to serve as an Alternate for the Executive Committee. There were no objections to the volunteers.

Michele Parlett with Bexar County's Economic Development Department stated that Bexar County is sponsoring the JLUS for Lackland Air Force Base and is looking for committee members who will collaborate with the Base personnel and who have expertise in engineering or planning. City Manager Lambert suggested the Community Development Director or the Stormwater Management Committee Chairman serve on the Advisory Committee to help the consultant get data on the City and to express the concerns of the consultant and the City between the parties.

City Manager Lambert asked for clarification from Ms. Parlett comparing his previous experience with a JLUS at Dyess AFB which worked on such issues in the flight path zones with building height restrictions, an overlay no-construction zone, and soundproofing requirements within the zone. Ms. Parlett added that frequency restrictions would also be included in those types of discussions with the Lackland AFB JLUS.

Discussion on pursuing a once-a-week refuse collection option from Waste Management Inc.(Lambert/Perez - Waste Management, Inc.).

City Manager Lambert addressed Council stating that he had invited Waste Management's Albert Perez to bring information to Council regarding any options for once-a-week garbage pick-up rather than twice weekly pickup and any savings that this change could bring to Leon Valley citizens. He stated that a citizen had brought this request to the Mayor's attention.

Albert Perez, from Waste Management, Inc., addressed Council stating that reducing pickups only for some residents would not save money, as the trucks would still have to cover the entire City for those who wanted to continue with twice weekly pickups. He explained that once weekly trash pickup and once weekly recycling pickup, would allow the citizens to use the 95-gallon trash containers and 95-gallon recycling containers, but savings would be about the same as it is now, because the service charge for the large containers would offset the savings for the less frequent pickup schedule.

Discussion continued on the reduced garbage pickup schedule with the new larger recycling containers, less pollution with less pickups, recycling being encouraged and the appearance of uniform containers along the streets presenting a nicer appearance in the neighborhoods. Mr.

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Perez agreed and stated that he could prepare costs and return the information to the City. He also stated that the City's contract could be amended with any changes the Council wished.

Councilmember Nelson expressed her concern about those with disabilities or who are unable to roll out the larger containers and Mr. Perez said that some exceptions could be made. City Manager Lambert advised that Council may expect that reducing the number of weekly garbage pickups could result in some citizen complaints, but from his experience, within six months, everyone was happier with the larger containers and a once weekly pickup after they got used to the new schedule.

Discussion on a tree planting initiative to meet goal of 10,000 trees planted by 2020 (Lambert).

City Manager Lambert explained that this initiative would respond to one of the recommendations of the Sustainable Design Assessment Team. Mr. Lambert stated that there were three issues that he was asking for input from Council for this program: a name for the program, how to fund the program, and do they wish to establish a formal tree board. He stated that he used the National Arbor Foundation for ideas and he proposed various suggestions for names for the program given to him.

Councilman Reyna recommended that citizens be allowed to vote for the name.

Mr. Lambert tied the program goals to the "El Verde by 2020" program, stating that the goal would be to plant one new tree per citizen in Leon Valley by 2020; that would be 10,000 new trees by 2020. He explained that the tree canopy surveyed by the American Forests Organization in 2002 estimated Leon Valley having a 32% tree canopy, but they identified Leon Valley as having an "aging" tree canopy and indicated that the City could lose many trees per year from age and disease. The City Manager provided information from various sources highlighting the added value trees give to the City. Mr. Lambert outlined idea where citizens would be asked to plant one tree in the City - on private property, in city and state-owned right-of-ways, on public property and on City properties - with permission. He added that the tree planter will assume responsibility of watering and maintaining the tree for a minimum of two years. The City Manager outlined some proposed duties of a new "City Tree Board" which would oversee, regulate, encourage, sponsor, raise funds, support and assist with the tree initiative by performing duties such as: organize Arbor Day ceremonies, oversee enforcement of City's tree preservation ordinances, organize a community tree survey to identify heritage trees, participate in Earthwise Living Day, and promote tree education to the public.

Council discussed funding of the program, needs for new trees planted for the two-year commitment, developing a suggested list of planting sites, grant funding avenues explored, pursuing opportunities for partnerships with AACOG or the Texas Forestry Board and local landscapers/nurseries, asking for volunteers in the next issue of the Lion's Roar, and incorporating the City Tree Board as a subcommittee of the Park Commission.

Mayor Riley asked staff to investigate information from a Leon Valley Forestry Committee from several years ago. Council agreed to Mr. Lambert's suggestion to ask the citizens to name the program using the Lion's Roar for publicity.

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Discussion on National Stimulus Package Response from Leon Valley (Lambert).

Mayor Riley informed Council that other local cities and school districts are putting together requests for federal funds for a stimulus package for their entities. City Manager Lambert presented a list of ideas for Council to consider including in a Leon Valley request for stimulus funding by identifying the existing Capital Improvements Plans and street maintenance projects that could be included in Leon Valley's request.

Mayor Riley suggested that we ask for a \$10,000 grant for each household for energy efficiency measures such as double pane windows to tighten homes to save energy. She also suggested that streets and hike and bike trails be included in the request for federal funding.

Councilman Manea suggested that the Huebner-Onion Homestead Museum be added to the list. Councilmember Baldrige recommended that sidewalks be added for consideration as it is a safety issue. Councilmember Nelson asked that revitalization of Bandera Road be added. Discussion continued among members of Council on how best to submit their request to Washington, D.C. Consensus was to draft the letter, have it returned to Council for review before sending it to our Congressman.

Resident Uvietta stated that he suspects that projects which create jobs and strengthen infrastructures will be weighed highly.

City Manager's report (Lambert).

A. Update on the 2009 Community Leadership Program - Feb. 7 and 21, 2009 applications.

Mr. Lambert reported that only three citizens signed up for the program and he recommended that the three people be given a one-day program during the week, rather than using two Saturdays in February. He stated that he would coordinate a date with the three individuals for the future.

B. Update on SDAT final report.

The City Manager reported that he still has not heard anything back from the SDAT but a report was promised by the end of January 2009. He did however, report that on January 20, 2009, a workshop from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. would be held to begin review of economic development issues.

C. Update on Rabies Clinic to be held on Jan. 24, 2009 from 9 am-1 pm.

Mr. Lambert reminded everyone of the January 24, 2009 Rabies Clinic to be held at the Community Center.

Citizens to be heard.

Resident Pedro Esquivel reported that he had contacted the City Manager about a street light missing on the corner of Evers at Forest Meadow. He stated that within two weeks the light was fixed and he then thanked the City Manager for such prompt action. Mr. Lambert reported that Jim McAden at CPS Energy was his contact to get that light fixed.

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Announcements.

A. Workshop dates to be scheduled for Jan - Feb 2009

Mayor Riley asked that Council keep Saturday, January 31, 2009 for a workshop on the SDAT recommendations.

B. Christmas Tree Recycling

Mayor Riley reported that the Public Works Department would continue to accept live Christmas Trees for recycling until January 15th and the mulch would be used on city landscaping.

C. Earthwise Living Day Update

Mayor Riley reminded everyone of the Earthwise Living Day to be held on February 28, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. She stated that there would be electronics' recycling available for attendees - computers, cell phones, and televisions.

D. TML Training Sessions 2009

Mayor Riley announced TML training for elected officials and a legislative update would be held February 6 - 9, 2009 and additional legislative updates in April and June were announced.

E. Report on Polar Bear Plunge with FOCA on January 3, 2009

Councilman Reyna reported that he attended the Polar Bear Plunge. Councilmember Nelson also reported that she attended the event.

Adjourn.

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Reyna, seconded by Councilmember Dean, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, Mayor Riley announced the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chris Riley

Mayor

Marie Feutz

City Secretary

Approved by majority vote of City Council at the Regular City Council Meeting on January 20, 2009.