

LOUIS RIGBY
Mayor
JOHN ZEMANEK
Councilmember At Large A
STEVE GILLETT
Councilmember At Large B
DANNY EARP
Councilmember District 1
CHUCK ENGELKEN
Councilmember District 2



BILL BENTLEY
Councilmember District 3
KRISTIN MARTIN
Councilmember District 4
JAY MARTIN
Councilmember District 5
NANCY OJEDA
Councilmember District 6
Mayor Pro-Tem

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE MARCH 25, 2019

The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 25, 2019, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 6:00 p.m., with the following in attendance:

Councilmembers present: Louis Rigby, Steve Gillett, Danny Earp, Chuck Engelken, Bill Bentley, Kristin Martin, Jay Martin, Nancy Ojeda

Councilmembers absent: John Zemanek

Council-appointed officers present: Corby Alexander, City Manager; Lee Woodward, City Secretary; Clark Askins, Assistant City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

INVOCATION – The invocation was given by Councilmember Jay Martin.

PLEDGES – The pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags were led by Councilmember Mayor Rigby.

3. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

(a) Proclamation – La Porte Special Olympics Shrimp Boil Day. [Mayor Rigby]

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Limited to five minutes per person.) – Chuck Rosa offered public comment on City ordinances; Michael Swain offered public comment on animal adoptions; and Thomas Garza offered public comment on upcoming non-City events, campaign sign placement, and items from the Council budget retreat.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA** (*Approval of Consent Agenda items authorizes each to be implemented in accordance with staff recommendations provided. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion upon request by a member of the Council present at this meeting*)

(a) **Approve minutes of the City Council meeting held on March 11, 2019.** [Lee Woodward, City Secretary]

(b) **Approve an Interlocal Agreement between Harris County and the City of La Porte for local bus transit services for a twelve- (12-) month term.** [Jason Weeks, Assistant City Manager]

Councilmember Engelken moved to approve the consent agenda; the motion was adopted, 8-0.

6. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) **Receive presentation concerning the City of La Porte's code enforcement process.** [Teresa Evans, Director of Planning and Development]

Councilmember Jay Martin moved to authorize an update to the relevant ordinance for Ch. 58, Article II, so that garbage should not be placed outside earlier than 5 a.m.; the motion was adopted, 7-1, Councilmember Gillett voting against. City Manager Alexander agreed to bring the Council information on the tree removal permit and fencing permit requirements.

7. **REPORTS**

(a) **Receive a report on the La Porte Development Corporation Board meeting. [Councilmember Ojeda]**

Councilmember Ojeda reported the EDC Board approved a final incentive payment of \$100,000.00 to *Pipeline Grill*, denied a payment to *Texas Snowbirds Daiquiris and Grill*, and considered an incentive for a new/expanded business enterprise at 1230 Independence Parkway, and approved a grant for signage in the 700 Block of West Main Street.

8. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- Drainage and Flooding Committee Meeting, Monday, April 8, 2019
- City Council Meeting, Monday, April 8, 2019
- Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, Thursday, April 18, 2019
- City Council Meeting, Monday, April 22, 2019
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, Thursday, April 25, 2019

City Manager Corby Alexander confirmed Mr. Swain's remarks that the Council had made arrangements for funding veterinarian services in the last year and that he would follow up on the issue.

9. **COUNCIL COMMENTS regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.**

Councilmembers thanked the Mayor for his presiding over the meeting, thanked the Code Enforcement staff for their presentation and diligence, asked the City Manager to follow up on design information from Saturday's retreat concerning the fitness center, noted the drainage project occurring in the north area of the City, expressed pleasure at judging chili at the Seniors events on Friday, asked the City Manager to report back on Mr. Swain's comments earlier, and requested all remember the staff and responders working on the ITC issues.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – The City Council reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item, should the need arise, and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:**

Texas Government Code – Section 551.071(1)(A) – Pending or Contemplated Litigation: Meet with the City Attorney and City Manager to discuss Tradebe Environmental Services, LLC vs. City of La Porte

Texas Government Code – Section 551.072 – Deliberation regarding purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property: Meet with City Manager and City Attorney to discuss value of real property in industrial districts, concerning negotiations with industry representatives for terms of new Industrial District Agreements.

(Councilmember Earp has a Conflict of Interest affidavit on file for the IDA item, did not participate in the deliberation for it, and left the meeting as the Council discussed this second item in executive session.) The Council adjourned into executive session at 8:33 p.m.

11. **RECONVENE into regular session and consider action, if any, on item(s) discussed in executive session.**

The Council reconvened into open session at 9:15 p.m. No action was taken but the Mayor confirmed the City Manager, Asst. City Attorney, and City's legal counsel had been given direction to continue seeking resolution on both items.

12. **ADJOURN – Without objection, Mayor Rigby adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.**

Lee Woodward, City Secretary