

LOUIS RIGBY  
Mayor  
BRANDON LUNSFORD  
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  
Mayor Pro-Tem  
THOMAS GARZA  
Councilmember District 4  
JAY MARTIN  
Councilmember District 5  
NANCY OJEDA  
Councilmember District 6

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE  
MAY 9, 2020**

The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a special meeting on Saturday, May 9, 2020, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 8:30 a.m., with the following in attendance:

**Councilmembers present:** Louis Rigby, Steve Gillett, Danny Earp, Chuck Engelken, Bill Bentley, Thomas Garza, Jay Martin

**Councilpersons attending remotely:** Nancy Ojeda

**Councilmembers absent:** Brandon Lunsford

**Council-appointed officers present:** Corby Alexander, City Manager; Lee Woodward, City Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**2. CITIZEN COMMENT** (*Generally limited to five minutes per person; in accordance with state law, the time may be reduced if there is a high number of speakers or other considerations.*)

Chuck Rosa spoke in opposition to several of the items on the agenda and asked the Council to assist local businesses affected by COVID-19.

Mayor Rigby reminded the Council of the rules of procedure and noted a motion, second, and vote would be necessary to establish the interest of the Council to consider an item.

**3. STATUTORY AGENDA** The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and formulate City Council and staff plans, operations, policies, and/or future projects, including the following:

**(a) Financial Overview. [Michael Dolby, Finance Director]**

City Manager Corby Alexander gave a brief update on COVID-19, saying the City would be okay, provided there was only a single round of the restrictions experienced. Mr. Dolby shared the annual financial overview.

**(b) Utility Rate Comparison and Update (Requested by Councilmember Engelken). [Michael Dolby, Director of Finance]**

Councilperson Engelken moved to have the item discussed for information only; the motion was adopted, 8-0.

**(c) Employee Compensation, Retention & Training Update (Requested by Mayor Pro-tem Bentley & Councilmember Earp). [Matt Hartleib, Human Resources Manager]**

Mayor Pro Tem Bentley moved to have the item considered; the motion was adopted, 8-0. Mr. Hartleib provided the report.

**(d) Medical Plan Update. [Matt Hartleib, Human Resources Manager]**

Councilperson Garza moved to have the update presented; the motion was adopted, 8-0. Mr. Hartleib presented the update.

**(e) Property Tax Waiver for Volunteer Firefighters (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Michael Dolby, Director of Finance]**

Councilperson Garza moved to postpone the item indefinitely; the motion was adopted, 8-0.

**(f) Utility Bill Waiver for First Responders (i.e. Fire, EMS, Police & Dispatch) (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Michael Dolby, Director of Finance]**

Councilperson Garza moved to consider a utility bill waiver for first responders. The motion did not receive a second and was not considered.

**(g) New City Hall (Requested by Mayor Rigby). [Ray Mayo, Director of Public Works]**

Mayor Rigby moved to consider plans for a new City Hall; the motion was adopted 7-1, Councilperson Garza voting against. Mr. Mayo gave a presentation on condition and next steps in order to proceed.

**(h) EMS Billing Fees and Collection Options. [Lisa Camp, EMS Chief]**

Mayor Pro Tem Bentley moved that the item be considered; the motion was unanimously adopted, 8-0. Chief Camp provided a report recommending third-party billing. The Council adjourned for lunch at 11:42 a.m. and reconvened at 12:17 p.m.

*(Without objection, item I was taken out of order.)*

**(i) Wrought-iron Fence to Replace Chain-link Fence area at Bay Forest Golf Course (Requested by Mayor Rigby). [Billy Stoker, General Manager]**

The Mayor moved that the item be considered; the motion was adopted, 8-0. Mr. Stoker provided an overview.

**(j) Parking Logistics at Pecan Park (Requested by Councilmember Engelken). [Ray Mayo, Director of Public Works]**

Councilperson Engelken moved to discuss the item; the motion was unanimously adopted, 8-0. Mr. Mayo provided several options.

Councilperson Garza moved to fix the time to which to adjourn to Saturday, May 16, at 8:30 a.m.; the motion was unanimously adopted, 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

**(k) Fairmont Park West Park and Pool Update (Requested by Mayor Pro-tem Bentley). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**

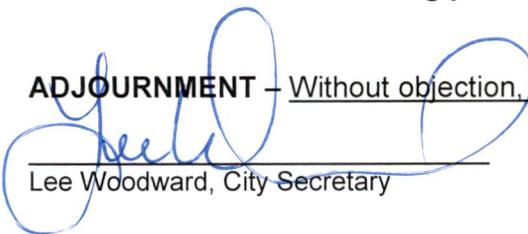
**(l) Recreation and Fitness Center Update (Requested by Councilmember Earp). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**

*(Without objection, item I was taken out of order, following lunch.)* Councilperson Earp moved to consider the report on the Recreation and Fitness Center; the motion was adopted, 8-0. Paul Bonnette of PGAL provided the presentation.

- (m) **Drainage Concerns: Ditch F101 clean-out and fix to get over pipeline corridor, East end of H Street at Sens Road flooding solution, Detention ponds on north side of airport, and Drainage for Battleground Estates (Requested by Councilmember Earp). [Lorenzo Wingate, Assistant Director of Public Works]**
- (n) **Mobile Animal Adoption Program (Requested by Councilmember Ojeda). [Matt Daeumer, Assistant Police Chief]**
- (o) **Decorative Street Lights on Main Street (4th Street to Broadway) (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Ray Mayo, Director of Public Works and Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (p) **Decorative Traffic/Street Signs on Main Street (2 Phases - 4th Street to Broadway and SH146 to 4th Street) (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Ray Mayo, Director of Public Works]**
- (q) **Benches on Main Street - 4th Street to Broadway (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (r) **Plant 1,000 Trees (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (s) **Live-stream City Council Meetings (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Grady Parker, IT Manager]**
- (t) **Animal Shelter Vet (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Matt Daeumer, Assistant Police Chief]**
- (u) **Traffic (Speed) Enforcement Cameras (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Doug Ditrich, Assistant Police Chief]**
- (v) **SPORT Uniforms (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (w) **La Porte ISD Intergovernmental Agreement for Use of School Gym(s) (Requested by Councilmember Garza). [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (x) **Dispatch Console Radio Replacement. [Matt Daeumer, Assistant Police Chief]**
- (y) **Planning and Inspections Software. [Grady Parker, IT Manager]**
- (z) **San Jacinto Pool Renovations. [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**
- (aa) **Wave Pool - Pool House. [Roz Epting, Director of Parks & Recreation]**

**4. 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.**

**ADJOURNMENT** – Without objection, Mayor Rigby adjourned the meeting at 2.07 p.m.

  
 Lee Woodward, City Secretary