

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



DARYL LEONARD
Councilmember District 3
KRISTIN MARTIN
Councilmember District 4
JAY MARTIN
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember District 5
MIKE CLAUSEN
Councilmember District 6

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE
FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a regular meeting on **Monday February 8, 2016**, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at **6:00 p.m.** to consider the following items of business:

Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members of Council present: Councilmembers Engelken, Earp, Zemanek, Kaminski, K. Martin, J. Martin and Leonard. Absent: Councilmember Clausen. Also present were City Secretary Patrice Fogarty, City Manager Corby Alexander, and Assistant City Attorney Clark Askins.

2. **INVOCATION** – The invocation was given by Clark Askins.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Danny Earp.
4. **PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, and RECOGNITIONS**
 - (a) Recognition – Retirement of Sgt. Steven Ermel (City of La Porte Police Department) – Mayor Rigby

Mayor Rigby recognized Steven Ermel for 22 years of services with the City of La Porte.
 - (b) Recognition – Retirement of Lt. Gary Rice – (City of La Porte Police Department) – Mayor Rigby

Mayor Rigby recognized Gary Rice for 42 years of services with the City of La Porte.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Limited to five minutes per person.)

Chuck Rosa, 812 S. Virginia St., addressed Council and suggested artwork/design of Emily West for the Main Street elevated water tank.

Charlie Perry, 127 N. 4th St., addressed Council and reminded them of Black History Month and invited everyone to the Soul Food Cook-off Friday, February 12, 2016, and the Home Grown Black Educators Celebration on Friday, February 27, 2016, at the Jennie Riley Community Center.

Claus Nielsen, 3101 S. Broadway, addressed Council and requested Windsail Bay Apartments be saved, he would buy them, and reinvest in the City.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** *(All consent agenda items are considered routine by City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests an item be removed and considered separately.)*
- (a) Consider approval or other action regarding the minutes of the City Council Meeting held on January 11, 2016 – P. Fogarty
 - (b) Consider approval or other action awarding Bid No. 16006 for Tractors and Mowers – D. Pennell
 - (c) Consider approval or other action regarding an Ordinance vacating, abandoning and closing the West “N” Street Right-Of-Way and repealing Ordinance No. 2006-2890 – T. Tietjens
 - (d) Consider approval or other action regarding a Resolution adopting Civil Rights Policies and forms for the Historic Colored School – T. Tietjens
 - (e) Consider approval or other action regarding an Ordinance amending the City of La Porte Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget – M. Dolby

Councilmember Engelken moved to approve Consent Agenda items pursuant to staff recommendations. Councilmember Leonard seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0. Councilmember Clausen was absent.**

Prior to council action, Assistant City Attorney Clark Askins read the caption of **Ordinance 2015-3622: AN ORDINANCE VACATING, ABANDONING AND CLOSING THE WEST “N” STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY, TOWN OF LA PORTE, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS; FINDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW CONTAINING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.**

Prior to council action, Assistant City Attorney Clark Askins read the caption of **Ordinance 2015-3623 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THEIR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LA PORTE, TEXAS, FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2015 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2016; FINDING THAT ALL THINGS REQUISTE AND NECESSARY HAVE BEEN DONE IN PREPARTION AND PRESENTMENT OF SAID BUDGET; FINDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW CONTAINING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.**

7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- (a) Discussion and possible action an Ordinance amending Chapter 70 “Traffic and Vehicles” of the City Code of Ordinances, to change speed limit change on S. Broadway from N. Forrest Avenue to Wharton Weems and on Wharton Weems to SH 146 – T. Leach

Assistant City Manager Traci Leach presented a summary.

Councilmember Leonard moved to bring back an Ordinance at the next meeting for 45 mph on Wharton Weems. Councilmember J. Martin seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 8/0. Councilmember Clausen was absent.**

8. **REPORTS**

- (a) Receive report of the La Porte Development Corporation Board – Councilmember Engelken

Councilmember Engelken provided a report of the La Porte Development Corporation Board meeting held prior to the City Council Meeting.

9. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

City Manager Corby Alexander sent kudos to retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel and reported the City received a ruling in its favor on the trucking lawsuit. Mr. Alexander commented the court relied heavily on the testimonies of Police Chief Ken Adcox and Planning and Development Director Tim Tietjens.

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

Councilmember Earp congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel and reported the performance of "Oklahoma" at La Porte High School was great; Councilmember J. Martin congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel; Councilmember K. Martin congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel; reminded everyone of Mardi Gras on Main Street; Councilmember Kaminski congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel; asked everyone to attend the Soul Food Cook-off and thanked Police Chief Ken Adcox and Planning and Development Director Tim Tietjens for their testimonies; Councilmember Zemanek congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel and commented he would like to see the City meet with Harris County to move forward with the study on Fairmont Parkway; Councilmember Leonard congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel; Councilmember Engelken congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel and requested City Manager Corby Alexander provide an update on the grant for Fairmont Parkway; and Mayor Rigby congratulated retirees Gary Rice and Steven Ermel.

11. **ADJOURN** - There being no further business, Councilmember Engelken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 p.m. Councilmember Zemanek seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Councilmember Clausen was absent.**

Patrice Fogarty, City Secretary

Passed and approved on February 22, 2016.

Mayor Louis R. Rigby