

**LOUIS RIGBY**  
Mayor  
**BRANDON LUNSFORD**  
Councilperson At Large A  
**STEVE GILLETT**  
Councilperson At Large B  
**DANNY EARP**  
Councilperson District 1  
**CHUCK ENGELKEN**  
Councilperson District 2



**BILL BENTLEY**  
Councilperson District 3  
**THOMAS GARZA**  
Councilperson District 4  
**JAY MARTIN**  
Councilperson District 5  
**NANCY OJEDA**  
Councilperson District 6  
Mayor Pro-Tem

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE  
JUNE 10, 2019**

**The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a regular meeting on Monday, June 10, 2019, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 6:00 p.m., with the following in attendance:**

**Councilpersons present:** Louis Rigby, Brandon Lunsford, Steve Gillett, Danny Earp, Bill Bentley, Thomas Garza, Nancy Ojeda

**Councilpersons absent:** Chuck Engelken, Jay Martin

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **INVOCATION** – The invocation was given by Rev. Alan Neel, Life Community Church.

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

3. **PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS**

- (a) Presentation of Oath of Office and Certificate of Election to newly elected Councilperson Jay Martin. [Mayor Rigby] (*Councilperson was not in attendance, this item was pulled.*)
- (b) Proclamation in recognition of June as Fair Housing Month in the City of La Porte. [Mayor Rigby]
- (c) Proclamation in recognition of Ryan Schoppe Day. [Mayor Rigby]

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Limited to five minutes per person.) Chuck Rosa spoke about the fifth and fourteen amendment due process clauses in reference to item 6e. David Janda congratulated Ryan Schoppe and offered approval of item 6f as a member of the LPISD Board of Trustees. Kerri Taylor, Executive Director, UnBound Houston, commented in support of items such as 6g to aid the fight against human trafficking.

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 the minutes of the special meeting held on May 10, 2019, and the regular meeting held on May 13, 2019.** [Lee Woodward, City Secretary]
- (b) **Award Bid #19010 to Greenscapes Six, LLC for the Annual Concrete Sidewalk Replacement Project and authorize the City Manager to execute a construction contract, based on unit prices bid, in the amount of annual budget amounts approved by City Council for sidewalk replacement and infill.** [Don Pennell, Public Works Director, Lorenzo Wingate, P.E., City Engineer]
- (c) **Adopt Resolution 2019-09 indicating the City's agreement to adopt the policies outlined within the proposed resolution, in connection with the City's participation in federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Projects.** [Lorenzo Wingate, P.E., City Engineer]
- (d) **Approve the nomination of Pat McCabe to an open position on the La Porte Zoning Board of Adjustment.** [Mayor Rigby and Councilperson Bentley]
- (e) **Approve the nomination of Mark Goodwin to an open position on the La Porte Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number One (TIRZ) Board of Directors/La Porte Redevelopment Authority Board of Directors.** [Mayor Rigby]

Councilperson Gillett moved to approve consent agenda items; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

## 6. STATUTORY AGENDA

- (a) **Presentation, discussion, and possible action to include the South 7<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements in the 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Budget and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Cobb Fendley for the survey phase of work at \$45,770 and the preliminary engineering report phase at \$93,570. [Don Pennell, Public Works Director]**

Councilperson Garza moved to include the South 7<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements in the 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Budget and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Cobb Fendley for the survey phase of work at \$45,770 and the preliminary engineering report phase at \$93,570; the motion was adopted, 6-1, Councilperson Earp voting against.

- (b) **Presentation, discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance 2019-3745 electing a Mayor Pro Tem. [Mayor Rigby]**

Councilperson Garza nominated Councilperson Bentley. Councilperson Garza moved to adopt Ordinance 2019-3745 electing Councilmember Bentley as Mayor Pro Tem; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

- (c) **Presentation, discussion and possible action to appoint a Councilperson to serve on each of the La Porte Animal Shelter Advisory Committee, the La Porte Drainage and Flooding Committee, and the Fiscal Affairs Committee. [Mayor Rigby]**

Councilperson Ojeda moved to appoint Councilperson Lunsford to serve in an open position on the La Porte Animal Shelter Advisory Committee; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

Councilperson Earp moved to appoint Councilperson Gillett to serve as the alternate to the La Porte Drainage and Flooding Committee; the motion was adopted 7-0.

Councilperson Garza moved to appoint Councilperson Ojeda to serve in an open position on the Fiscal Affairs Committee; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

Councilperson Earp moved to appoint Councilperson Garza to serve as Alternate to the Fiscal Affairs Committee; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

- (d) **Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the nomination of Councilmember Gillett to an open position on the La Porte Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District Board of Directors. [Councilpersons Martin, Gillett, and Bentley]**

Councilperson Earp moved to appoint Councilperson Gillett to the open position on the La Porte Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District Board of Directors; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

- (e) **Presentation, discussion, and possible action on proposed changes to city regulations pertaining to construction of new warehouses and distribution centers in the City of La Porte. [Councilpersons Garza, Lunsford, and Bentley]**

Councilperson Earp moved to leave the relevant ordinance [*Ordinance 2019-3736 amending Chapter 106, "Zoning" of the City of La Porte Code of Ordinances in connection with a review and update to Chapter 106, "Zoning.", April 8, 2019, City Council meeting*] as it is; the motion was adopted, 6-1, Councilperson Garza voting against.

- (f) **Presentation, discussion, and possible regarding a joint workshop between the La Porte City Council and the LPISD Board of Trustees. [Councilpersons Garza, Lunsford, and Bentley]**

Councilperson Garza moved to instruct City staff to coordinate a meeting of the Council with the Board of Trustees with agenda items to be determined at a future date; the motion failed, 2-5, Councilpersons Garza and Lunsford voting in support.

- (g) **Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding proposed amendments to city massage business regulations. [Councilpersons Garza, Lunsford, and Bentley]**

Councilperson Earp moved to request staff consider what suggested items were not included in the proposed document (especially signage about trafficking, preventing darkened windows, and banning ATMs) and return an updated draft for consideration; the motion was adopted, 7-0.

- (h) **Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding compensation rates for election judges and clerks for elections conducted by the City of La Porte. [Lee Woodward, City Secretary]**

Councilperson Bentley moved to fix the hourly rate of election workers at \$15.00; the motion was adopted, 6-1, Councilperson Ojeda voting against.

**7. REPORTS**

- (a) **Receive a report on the Drainage and Flooding Committee Meeting. [Councilperson Martin]**

The Drainage and Flooding Committee meeting was cancelled.

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, Thursday, June 20, 2019
- City Council Meeting, Monday, June 24, 2019
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2019

City Manager Corby Alexander said there was no report.

- 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.**

Councilpersons congratulated Ryan Schoppe; encouraged acceptance of social media engagement; congratulated appointees made during tonight's meeting and the Class of 2019; asked for a status report for fitness center evaluation/study; a status report on the 6<sup>th</sup> Street/Madison to Main Streets project; further consideration of the regulation of political signs on public property; thanked Parks and Roz Epting for clearing up poison ivy at Five Points; noted pleasure with the operation of the City and the myriad ways in which the public can share concerns; urged Councilpersons to understand the many ways in which the public can engage; said Parks did a great job at the Seabreeze Park event; passed along very positive comments about La Porte from the Sylvan Beach Triathlon organizers; gave kudos to Kristin Gauthier for her hurricane workshop; acknowledged the success of the Chamber's *State of the Restaurant Industry* lunch; praised those who served on the USS Texas and were recognized by the French Consul General for their service on D-Day; thanked Councilperson Ojeda for her service as Mayor Pro Tem; asked the City Manager to report back on legislation that was signed this session; and took exception to comments implying the Council was out of touch with the citizenry.

- 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION – City Council will meet in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.072 – consultation with counsel on legal matters - concerning value of real property in industrial districts and negotiations with industry representatives for terms of new Industrial District Agreements.**

*(Councilperson 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. The Council adjourned into executive session at 8:13 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 8:40 p.m.

**ADJOURN – Without objection, Mayor Rigby adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.**

---

Lee Woodward, City Secretary