

City Council

520 E Ocean Blvd.

Regular Meeting

Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<http://citylf.cloudaccess.net/en/>

~ Minutes ~

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

6:00 PM

City Hall

Agenda

- A. Call meeting to order

Mayor Alejandro Flores called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- B. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Gabriela Fernandez gave the invocation and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Visitors remarks-To speak you must sign in with the City Secretary prior to the meeting you have a limit of 5 minutes to speak.

There were none.

Consent Agenda (All matters listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the City Council. The item may subsequently be removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.)

Mayor Flores asked the council if they had any questions or comments on the consent agenda, there were none.

Consideration and ACTION to approve the minutes from October 8, 2024.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from October 8, 2024.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve the Quarterly Investment Portfolio Report ended as of September 30, 2024.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Quarterly Investment Portfolio Report ended as of September 30, 2024.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Approval or rejection of Resolution 19-2024 adopting a comprehensive policy of guidelines and criteria for governing tax abatement incentives within the City of Los Fresnos and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 19-2024 adopting a comprehensive policy of guidelines and criteria for governing tax abatement incentives within the City of Los Fresnos and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve funding to repair alley behind 309 E Ocean Blvd as approved by CDC.

Motion was made and seconded to approve funding to repair alley behind 309 E. Ocean Blvd. as approved by CDC.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve a change order for drainage for the Veterans Memorial Project as approved by the CDC Board.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a change order for drainage for the Veterans Memorial Project as approved by the CDC Board.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve a change order for drainage for the Veterans Memorial Project.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a change order for drainage for the Veterans Memorial Project.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Larry Stambaugh from the October 21, 2024 Planning and Zoning meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to approve excuse the absence of Larry Stambaugh from the October 21, 2024 Planning and Zoning Meeting.

RESULT: ADOPTED [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Vinson
RECUSED: Luis Gonzalez

Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Gabriela Fernandez October 8, 2024 City Council meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the absence of Gabriela Fernandez on October 8, 2024 City Council meeting.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Albert Escobedo October 8, 2024 City Council meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the absence of Albert Escobedo on October 8, 2024 City Council Meeting.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Action Items

Consideration and ACTION to approve construction bid for the TxDot FM 1575 Utility Conflicts Project.

Mr. Milum gave a brief history on the project and advised we received a bid for \$276.840 from Jimmy Closner & Sons Construction. He explained ARPA funds would be used for the project and utility funds would be used if needed. He recommended approval.

Motion was made and seconded to approve construction bid from Jimmy Closner & Sons Construction for the TXDOT FM 1575 Utility Conflicts Project.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve LRGVDC Area Agency on Aging Contract and budget amendment for the Senior Citizen Program.

Mr. Milum advised the board the Area Agency on Aging grant for the Senior Citizen Grant had been cut from \$102,000 to \$40,000. He provided the council 2 options on how to handle the cut. Mr. Milum and the council discussed the options presented and other suggests from the coucil.

Motion was made and seconded to approve LRGVDC Area Agency on Aging Contract and budget amendment for the Senior Citizen Program adjusting the Senior Citizen Manager position from full-time to part-time.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [5 TO 1]
MOVER:	Luis Gonzalez, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Escobedo, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
NAYS:	Juan Munoz

Consideration and ACTION to approve the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Los Fresnos, Cameron County, Texas amending Chapter 48, Zoning, Article II, District Regulations, Division 7, Additional Standards, Subdivision Iv, Signs, Sec. 48-275 Signs Permitted by Zone, E. Off-Premises (Billboard) Regulations and Repealing All Ordinances and Parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith.

Mr. Milum explained the proposed amendment to the council. He answered questions from the council and discussed suggestions made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Luis Gonzalez and seconded by Council Member Juan Munoz. Council Member Terry Vinson, Council Member Gabriela Fernandez, Council Member Albert Escobedo and Mayor Alejandro Flores voted no, motion died.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Los Fresnos, Cameron County, Texas amending Chapter 48, Zoning, Article II, District Regulations, Division 7, Additional Standards, Subdivision Iv, Signs, Sec. 48-275 Signs Permitted by Zone, E. Off-Premises (Billboard) Regulations and Repealing All Ordinances and Parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 2]
MOVER:	Alberto Escobedo, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Alejandro Flores, Alberto Escobedo, Gabriela Fernandez, Terry Vinson
NAYS:	Juan Munoz, Luis Gonzalez

Consideration and ACTION to approve proposed options for Harvey Escalante Road access including engineering services to upgrade the Harvey Escalante Road portion in the city limits.

Mr. Milum explained the proposed options for the road and answered questions from the council. Mayor Flores thanked Mr. Milum for the work he has done to keep the project going.

Motion was made and seconded to approve proposed options for Harvey Escalante Road access including engineering services by Jim Rose in the amount of \$9,800 to upgrade the Harvey Escalante Road portion in the city limits.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Alberto Escobedo, Councilman
SECONDER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Discuss, consider and adopt a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the 2025-2026 Community Development Fund.

Mr. Milum explained this resolution was for the 2025-2026 CDBG funding cycle, the maximum amount of funding would be \$750,000 with a match of \$75,000.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant program application on the Texas Department of Agriculture for the 2025-2026 Community Development Fund.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Alberto Escobedo, Councilman
SECONDER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to approve an agreement for a Risk Management Plan and Maintenance Program for the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Milum explained the TCEQ requirements for the Risk Management Plan for the water and wastewater treatment plant. He answered questions from the council.

Motion was made and seconded to approve an agreement for a Risk Management Plan and Maintenance Program for the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Escobedo, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson

Consideration and ACTION to partner with Cameron County Water Improvement District #10 and Bayview Irrigation District #11 to place the irrigation canal underground from Nogal Street to the east city limits.

Mr. Milum gave an explanation about the project and listed the entities involved. He answered questions from the board and recommended approval.

Council Member Albert Escobedo left at 6:54 p.m.

Motion was made and seconded to approve to partner with Cameron County Water Improvement District #10 and Bayview Irrigation District #11 to place the irrigation canal underground from Nogal Street to the east city limits.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT: Alberto Escobedo

Consideration and ACTION to appoint a member to the Los Fresnos Housing Authority.

No action was taken.

RESULT: NO ACTION

Consideration and ACTION to approve a Resolution casting votes for candidate(s) to serve on Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Mayor Flores asked the board if they had any nominations.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a Resolution casting 15 votes for candidate Alejandra Aldrete and 15 votes for candidate Daniella Lopez Valdez to serve on Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Luis Gonzalez, Councilman
AYES: Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT: Alberto Escobedo

Discussion and possible ACTION to choose an individual for 2024 Citizen of the Year Program.

Council discussed possible candidates.

Motion was made and seconded to approve to Barbara Rodriguez for 2024 Citizen of the Year Program.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Juan Munoz, Councilman
SECONDER: Alejandro Flores, Mayor
AYES: Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT: Alberto Escobedo

Acknowledgement of City Manager's Report

City Manager Report A. Waste Water Collection System & Upgrade B. Water Treatment Plant Expansion C. Street Project D. Drainage E. Whipple Road F. COVID-19 G. Veteran's Memorial H. Water Funding I. Wastewater Funding J. Boys & Girls Club

Mayor Flores asked Mr. Milum if there were any projects he would like to discuss. Mr. Milum gave an update on the street repair project, water funding, wastewater funding and the Veterans Memorial project. He answered questions for the council.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Acknowledgement of Department Head Reports

Mayor Flores asked the council if they had any question son the department head reports, there were none.

Financial Report 1. Monthly 2. Year to Date 3. Sales Tax

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Financial Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Public Works Report 1. Water and Wastewater Activity 2. Calls for Service 3. Building Permits 4. Recycling 5. Waste Water Treatment Plant Discharge Monitoring Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Public Works Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Police Department October 2024 1. Calls-By Type 2. Calls-By Date & Time 3. Incidents-By Violation 4. Arrests-By Type 5. Accidents-By Streets & Intersection September 2024 1. Magistrates 2. Index Crimes by Zone

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Police Department Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Municipal Court 1. City Monthly Report- September 2. Linebarger Monthly Report - September

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Municipal Court Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Library Report 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Library Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

Fire Marshal's Report 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Fire Marshal's Report.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Vinson, Councilman
SECONDER:	Gabriela Fernandez, Councilwoman
AYES:	Flores, Munoz, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Vinson
ABSENT:	Alberto Escobedo

H. Adjournment

The meeting was closed at 7:19 p.m..

Presiding Officer of the Council

Recorder