

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Let it be remembered that the City Council of El Cenizo, Texas met Thursday October 24, 2024 at the Council Chambers located inside the El Cenizo City Hall at 507 Cadena St., El Cenizo, Texas 78046 at 6:30pm with the following members present to wit:

**Honorable Carina Hernandez, City Mayor
Honorable Juany Valdez, City Commissioner
Honorable Daisy Perez, City Commissioner**

Thus constituting a quorum, the City Council proceeded to act upon the agenda as posted in the meeting notice of October 24, 2024.

Item 1. Call to order by the Honorable Mayor, Carina Hernandez.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hernandez at 6:35pm. Mayor Hernandez announced that as per Section 3 of the Predominant Language Ordinance the meeting was to be conducted in Spanish.

Mayor Hernandez moved to proceed with the meeting in English. Commissioner Valdez seconded the motion. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 2. Roll Call.

Present were: Mayor Carina Hernandez, Commissioner Juany Valdez and Commissioner Daisy Perez.

Item 3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hernandez led the pledge of allegiance.

Item 4. Communications.

Mayor Hernandez informed the council and community members present of the Vaccination clinic being held on Saturday October 26, 2024 at the El Cenizo Community Center. She also informed the council and community that the city would be absorbing the cost of registration and microchipping of domestic pets.

Item 5. Public Comments.

No speaker cards were presented therefore there were no public comments made.

PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Item 6. Departmental Reports.

Mr. Reyes informed the council that monthly reports would now be submitted by department heads and would be forwarded prior to the city council meetings. He also advised that the Mayor had the discretion to call upon department heads to give a verbal presentation of their submitted report. City Commissioner could ask questions from Department Heads during this period.

EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE

The City Council of El Cenizo reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed below as authorized by the Texas Government Code Sections:

551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)

551.072 (Deliberation about Real Property)

551.073 (Deliberation about Gifts and Donations)

551.074 (Personnel Matters)

The City Council will reconvene to take any final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 7. Approval of the minutes.

Item 8. Approval of bills, payroll and monthly reports.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Commissioner Perez. The motion was approved without objection.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS – INTRODUCTIONS & PUBLIC HEARINGS

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING
CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS – RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

MAYOR CARINA HERNANDEZ

COMMISSIONER JUANY VALDEZ

Item 9. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on authorizing the opening of Facebook pages for city departments who need one in compliance with the city's Social Media Use Policy; and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to approve the authorizing of opening Facebook pages for city departments under the guidelines of the city's Social Media Use Policy was made by Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Valdez. The motion was approved without objection.

COMMISSIONER DAISY PEREZ

Item 10. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on accepting a grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars and zero cents) from the Mellon Foundation for the Cultura Fronteriza Preservation Project which will finish developing the local public library and engage El Cenizo and Rio Bravo residents through cultural programming through partnership with Border Philanthropy Partnership (BPP); and any other matters incident thereto.

A motion to formally accept a grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Mellon Foundation was made by Commissioner Valdez and seconded by Mayor Hernandez. The motion was approved without objection.

BUDGET

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

Item 11. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on soliciting applications for City Secretary/Clerk; and any other matters incident thereto. [The City Secretary/Clerk maintains official records, prepares meeting agendas, records minutes of City Council meetings, manages elections, and ensures compliance with open government laws.]

Lengthy discussion was held with respects to the job description and required qualifications. Mr. Reyes advised the council that the current budgeted hourly rate for the position is \$13.00 and that if the council wished to increase the rate that formal budget amendment would be needed.

A motion to set the hourly rate range from \$13.25 to \$15.00 with modifications to the qualifications to include changes to reflect a change only requiring a high school diploma and 1 year of office experience and reintroducing the item after necessary budget amendments was made by Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Valdez. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 12. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on adopting a Comprehensive Policy for Governance and Operations; and any other matters incident thereto.

After lengthy inquiry and discussion about the accruals under the current employee policy a motion to adopt the Comprehensive Policy for Governance and Operations as presented was made by Valdez and Mayor Hernandez. Commissioner Perez inquired whether that would mean that everything would

stay the same to which Mr. Reyes said that the motion indicated yes. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 13. Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the council Mayor Hernandez moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez.

CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE AND POSTING

I, the undersigned, City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above notice of meeting of the City Council of El Cenizo, Texas, is a true and correct copy of said notice, and that I posted a true and correct copy of said notice at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times on the 21st day of October, 2024 at _____ a.m. / p.m. and said notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

DATED THIS 21st DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.

CARINA HERNANDEZ, CITY MAYOR, EL CENIZO, TEXAS

BY: _____
Honorable Carina Hernandez, City Mayor