

**THE STATE OF TEXAS** §  
**COUNTY OF DIMMIT** §  
**CITY OF CARRIZO SPRINGS** §

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the City Council of the City of Carrizo Springs, Texas has called a **Special Session** at the City Hall Municipal Building Street, Carrizo Springs, Texas, 78834 on **Monday, July 24, 2023**, commencing at **5:30 p.m.** for considering the following items of business:

### **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente called the meeting to order at approximately 5:31 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

The Council conducted their own roll call and declared the following Councilmembers present:

<b>Oscar E. Puente</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Mario Ruiz</b>	<b>Mayor Pro Tem</b>
<b>Noel Galván</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
<b>Estanislado Z. Martinez</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
<b>Melissa M. Guerra</b>	<b>Interim City Manager/City Clerk</b>

#### **Absent:**

<b>Sofia Morones</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
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A quorum was established.

### **WELCOME & RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente welcomed and recognized all guests present.

Patsy M. Galván, Selvia Rodriguez, Francisco R. Ponce, Anna Morones, Oscar Morones, Rene Hernández, Claudia McDaniel, Guadalupe Navarro, Julie Ochoa, Lorena R. Cerna, Chris Plaster, Yvonne Carrizales, Francisco Ponce, Pat Vásquez

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

**Francisco Ponce** states to the Council that they are rules, regulations, the charter and we have what is right and what is wrong. Mr. Ponce asks the Council as a taxpayer to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects our true intentions and what is in the best interest of the city.

**Gracy M. Ponce** recommends to Council to keep Francisco R. Ponce as the city municipal judge, he has been the judge for 12 years and has done his job. Mrs. Ponce suggests the Council make their decision based on his qualifications and experience.

**Elvia Munoz** recommends the Council to keep Francisco R. Ponce as the municipal judge.

**Rene Hernandez** states that a 2 year contract is in the best interest of the city. Mr. Hernandez agrees that creating a contract after twelve years is a good idea to have accountability. He states that the current municipal judge could reapply and agree with the contract, or the city could move forward with someone else.

**Julie Ochoa** states that Municipal Judge Francisco R. Ponce has been a good role model for the youth of Carrizo Springs.

**Francisco R. Ponce** states that he had a formal request for the last meeting but did not have enough time to prepare for it. Mr. Ponce states to Council to follow the city charter and local government code and requests to have his item in Open Session. Mr. Ponce states that as far as Mr. Rene Hernandez comment is exactly why you need educated people to prevent people from misleading you because a contract is not needed for a Municipal Judge.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RESCIND ADVERTISING OF THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED IN REGULAR SESSION, JULY 11, 2023**

Motion made by Councilor Estanislado Martinez, seconded by Councilor Noel Galvan to rescind the advertisement of the Municipal Judge position previously approved in Regular Session, July 11, 2023.

Vote for approval 4-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

**Mayor Oscar E. Puente moved to open session.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*CITY COUNCIL WILL CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING AS AUTHORIZED BY THE PROVISION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE. THIS CLOSED SESSION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074: PERSONNEL; 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY*

- 2. DISCUSSION REGARDING DIRECTING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO DISCLOSE TO ANY REQUESTING COUNCIL MEMBER WHAT ANOTHER COUNCIL MEMBER HAS REQUESTED TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA**
- 3. DISCUSSION REGARDING REQUIRING ALL COUNCIL MEMBER'S AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS BE IN WRITING AND SHARED WITH ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AFTER THE REQUEST IS MADE**
- 4. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION**
  - A. ADVERTISE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION**
  - B. MUNICIPAL JUDGE 2-YEAR CONTRACT**
  - C. REAPPOINTING MUNICIPAL JUDGE WITH A 2-YEAR CONTRACT**

## **OPEN SESSION**

- 5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO DISCLOSE TO ANY REQUESTING COUNCIL MEMBER WHAT ANOTHER COUNCIL MEMBER HAS REQUESTED TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente dismissed Item 2, 3, 5 and 6.

**6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REQUIRE ALL COUNCIL MEMBER'S AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS BE IN WRITING AND SHARED WITH ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AFTER THE REQUEST IS MADE**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente dismissed Item 2, 3, 5 and 6.

Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz stated that he would still like to update Resolution No. 581 to state that a council member should disclose to any requesting council member what he/she has requested to be placed on the agenda.

Special Counsel Bobby Maldonado states that the Resolution can be amended at a later time and placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Estanislado Z. Martinez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz to dismiss Item 2, 3, 5 and 6 to include that the resolution be amended and placed on the agenda at a later time.

Vote for approval 4-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

**7. DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION**

**A. ADVERTISE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION**

**B. MUNICIPAL JUDGE 2-YEAR CONTRACT**

**C. REAPPOINTING MUNICIPAL JUDGE WITH A 2-YEAR CONTRACT**

Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz claims that the Council dropped the ball because the Municipal Judge was not evaluated and has not had any misconduct. Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz recommends reappointing the Municipal Judge because he is an attorney and it's a benefit for the city.

Councilor Estanislado Z. Martinez states that he wants to be fair and have a contract since it's been twelve years and the terms may not apply anymore.

Mayor Oscar E. Puente asks Special Council Bobby Maldonado if options A., B., and C. need be discussed separately or together. Special Counsel Bobby Maldonado states the options can be discussed together or separately and the Council is free to make a motion on any item and that are the choices Council can make.

Councilor Noel Galvan recommends a contract and to give other people an opportunity to apply. Mayor Oscar E. Puente it's not a performance issue the Municipal Judge may apply for the position.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz to reappoint the Municipal Judge with a 2-year contract.

Motion dies from lack of a second.

Motion made by Councilor Noel Galvan, seconded by Councilor Estanislado Martinez to advertise for the Municipal Judge position and the position will be filled after the current term expires.

Vote for approval 3-1. Mayor Pro Tem Mario Ruiz voted against.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FOOD TRUCKS**

Motion made by Councilor Estanislado Martinez, seconded by Councilor Noel Galvan to table item.

Vote for approval 4-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Councilor Noel Galvan , seconded by Councilor Estanislado Martinez to adjourn.

Vote for approval 4-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:56 p.m.

Oscar E. Puente  
**Oscar E. Puente, Mayor**  
**City of Carrizo Springs**

**ATTEST:**

/s/Melissa M. Guerra  
**Melissa M. Guerra, City Clerk**  
**City of Carrizo Springs**