



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM

City Hall – 520 East Ocean Blvd. Los Fresnos, TX 78566

<https://cityoflosfresnos.com/meetings>

NOTICE OF SAID MEETING IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF LOS FRESNOS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TITLE 5 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Flores called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Milum gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. 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.

Guadalupe Garcia, Senior Citizen Program Manager introduced herself to the council. She gave a brief summary about the program. She was in agreement with reopening the center for in house meals but stated members would be lost. She explained she knew the part time demotion was not due to her performance or a funding cut but the commissioners being misinformed. She stated it was a big disappointment to her so close to retirement she felt she was being pushed out.

Yvette Munoz introduced herself to the council and thanked the council for allowing her to speak. She began by quoting her grandfather stated he said Los Fresnos was a city that valued generosity, compassion, altruism, loyalty, integrity and also believed it was the responsibility of the citizens to uphold these values and those in position of authority to demonstrate them. She continued to explain the strong commitment and hard worker Ms. Garcia was.

Manuel Abrego explained he was here because he was concerned about the Senior Citizen Program. He explained the program has been active for many years and he knew because he was there when it first started. He understood that the funding cut was no one's choice and he looked at the budget to see how it could be funded. He stated if there was a sacrifice that can be made to make it. He gave the example of the Volunteer Fire Department dollar donation program. He spoke to CDC Consultant Desi Martinez about the cut and Mr. Martinez said he would assist to find ways to fund the program.

D. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1. Presentation of Certificate of Achievement for Excellence Financial Reporting.

Mr. Milum explained the Finance Department led by Director of Finance, Pablo Garza were awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 16th year in a row.

Mayor Flores and the council thanked Mr. Garza for his hard work and congratulated him on the award.

E. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing for citizens of Los Fresnos to review performance and obtain comments regarding its 2021 Texas CDBG Program Community Development Contract CDV21-0095.

Public hearing opened at 6:16 pm.

Mr. Milum listed the alleys that were paved and the sewer lines and manholes that were replaced.

Mr. Milum and the City Engineer, Richard Riggins answered questions from the council.

Public hearing closed at 6:21 pm.

F. 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 and if there were any they would like to pull for additional discussion. Council Member Luis Gonzalez requested item 3 be pulled.

1. Consideration and ACTION to approve the minutes from November 11, 2024 & November 19, 2024.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from November 11, 2024 & November 19, 2024.

Motion made by Place 2 Munoz, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

2. Consideration and ACTION to approve the final plat of Pomelo Bend Subdivision.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the final plat of Pomelo Bend Subdivision.

Motion made by Place 2 Munoz, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

3. Consideration and ACTION to approve the second 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.

Council member Luis Gonzalez expressed his concern in approving the ordinance prohibiting billboard in the city limits. He felt that the discussion during the first reading did not meet his standards.

Mr. Milum answered question and discussed the proposed ordinances change with the council.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the second 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.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 3 Fernandez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 5 Vinson

Voting Nay: Place 2 Munoz, Place 4 Gonzalez

4. Consideration and ACTION to approve a Certificate of Resolution adopting the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for city employees.

Motion was made and seconded to approve a Certificate of Resolution adopting the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for city employees.

Motion made by Place 2 Munoz, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

5. Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Claudia Villareal from the November 4, 2024 Community Development Corporation meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to excuse the absence of Claudia Villareal from the November 4, 2024 Community Development Corporation meeting.

Motion made by Place 2 Munoz, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

6. Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Javier Rodriguez from the November 18, 2024 Planning & Zoning meeting.

Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Javier Rodriguez from the November 18, 2024 Planning & Zoning meeting.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 2 Munoz.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

7. Consideration and ACTION to excuse the absence of Albert Escobedo from the November 19, 2024 Special City Council meeting.

Motion was made and seconded to excuse the absence of Albert Escobedo from November 19, 2024 Special City Council meeting.

Motion made by Place 2 Munoz, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

G. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration and ACTION to reconsider the action taken on the LRGVDC Area Agency on Aging Contract and budget amendment for the Senior Citizen Program.

Mayor Flores asked Mr. Milum if this is the program where we would receive a certain amount in grant funds which we budgeted for but then were told the cut would be made from about \$102,000 to \$40,000. He also asked if the program was going to be less due to the funding cut or any seniors that would not have access to the resources provided. Mr. Milum stated there would be no changes to the senior citizen program. Council member Munoz explained he had a problem with removing the senior citizen program because it was a good program for the city. Mayor Flores explained the program was not being removed.

Mr. Milum and the council discussed possible options to fund the program and fund to keep the current full time employee as full time.

Motion was made and seconded to reconsider the action taken on the LRGVDC Area Agency on Aging Contract and budget amendment for the Senior Citizen Program until the month of June and provide detailed information on the program.

Motion made by Place 1 Escobedo, Seconded by Place 3 Fernandez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

2. Consideration and ACTION to approve funding for engineering work on the Whipple Road Improvements.

Mr. Milum explained preliminary engineering reports have been completed but final engineering is needed. This would be done with Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority and TXDOT with a total cost of \$892,217.96, \$400,000 will be funded by CCRMA and the city of Los Fresnos would fund \$492,217.96 using TIRZ 1 fund.

Motion was made and seconded to approve funding for engineering work on Whipple Road improvements in the amount of \$492,217.96.

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 5 Vinson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

3. Consideration and ACTION on the selection of Mayor Pro-tem for a one-year term.

Mayor Flores explained there are times when he could not attend events and he would need someone in this position to be able to step in when he is not available. He stated he has seen Council member Escobedo and Fernandez participation in city events.

Motion was made and seconded to appoint Council Member Gabriela Fernandez as Mayor Pro-tem for a one-year term.

Motion made by Mayor Flores, Seconded by Place 4 Gonzalez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

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

Motion was made and seconded to appoint Claudia Rocha to Los Fresnos Housing Authority for an unexpired term to end October 2025.

Motion made by Place 4 Gonzalez, Seconded by Place 5 Vinson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

Voting Nay: Place 2 Munoz

H. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. City Manager Report
 - A. Wastewater 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

Mr. Milum gave an update on the street project and discussed drainage due to recent rains. Council member Munoz asked if the palm trees in front of the memorial were needed, Mr. Milum answered they were part of the project. Mr. Milum answered questions from the council.

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the City Manager Report.

Motion made by Mayor Flores, Seconded by Place 4 Gonzalez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

I. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

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

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Financial Report.

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

2. 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.

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

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

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

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

4. Municipal Court 1. City Monthly Report- October 2. Linebarger Monthly Report - October

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

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

5. Library Report 1. Monthly Report

Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge the Library Report.

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

6. Fire Marshal's Report 1. Monthly Report

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

Motion made by Place 3 Fernandez, Seconded by Place 1 Escobedo.

Voting Yea: Mayor Flores, Place 1 Escobedo, Place 2 Munoz, Place 3 Fernandez, Place 4 Gonzalez, Place 5 Vinson

J. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Alejandro Flores, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Moya, City Secretary