

CITY OF FORT STOCKTON, TEXAS

MINUTES OF: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DATE OF MEETING: DECEMBER 11, 2023  
TIME OF MEETING: 5:30 PM  
PLACE OF MEETING: 121 WEST SECOND STREET FORT STOCKTON, TX 79735

ROLL CALL WAS ANSWERED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: DARREN HODGES, JAMES WARNOCK, PAUL CASIAS, RUBEN J BERNAL, RUBEN FALCON, PAUL JEROME CHAVEZ

CITY MANAGER: FRANK RODRIGUEZ III  
CITY SECRETARY: MARINA CANTU  
CITY ATTORNEY: PUJA BOINPALLY

**Mayor Paul Casias** called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 p.m. after declaring a quorum present.

**Mayor Paul Casias** read the Mission Statement:

**"The Mission of the City of Fort Stockton Municipal Government is to Promote & Value Public Confidence and Trust by the Accountable and Responsible Use of Community Resources; to Ensure Public Safety; Improve Public Services; Promote Local Recreation and Entertainment; and Generate Economic Development.**

**Council Member Darren Hodges** gave the Invocation.

**Council Member Ruben J. Bernal** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America Flag & the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

**Mayor Paul Casias** recessed from the Regular City Council Meeting to Convene into the following Public Hearing at 5:33 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. Application Request from Property Owner Fabiola Gonzalez Ortiz to consider Disannexing Approximately 0.782 Acres, being all of Lots One to Eleven (1-11) All in Block 15, ORIENTA PARK ADDITION to the City of Fort Stockton, Per Subdivision on file in Plat Cabinet 7B, Plat Records of Pecos County, Texas. **(City Atty.)**

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained there was miscommunication between the previous property owner and the current property owner when the sale of the property was underway. There is no desire to have the property annexed. In accordance with the City of Fort Stockton's Home Rule Charter we are able to disannex if it is in the best interest of the City.

She recommended disannexing this area.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Paul Casias closed the public hearing to reconvene into the Regular City Council Meeting at 5:34 p.m.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

2. **Chief of Police Ernesto Velasquez with Fort Stockton Police Department----**
  - Statistics Report for November 2023

### **November Calls for Service**

Total Calls for Service: 1,373  
FSPD Calls: 923  
FSFD Calls: 5  
City: 2  
County: 3  
PCEMS Calls: 123  
PCSO Calls: 309

### **November Traffic Statistics**

Traffic Stops: 227  
City: 227  
Other Agency: 94  
Traffic Citations Issued: 29  
Motor Vehicle Accidents: 66  
City: 28  
Other Agency: 38

### **November Cases Filed for Prosecution:**

Juvenile Probation: 0  
County Attorney: 20  
83rd District Attorney: 10  
112th District Attorney: 0

**November Arrest Statistics:**

Total Arrests: 39

**Charges:**

Arson: 0

Assault: 4

Burglary: 1

Criminal Mischief: 1

Criminal Trespass: 3

Disorderly Conduct: 1

Duty on Striking: 0

Driving While Intoxicated: 5

Driving While License Invalid: 0

Evading Arrest: 1

Failure to ID: 0

Family Violence: 1

Murder: 1

Outstanding Warrant: 23

Possession of Controlled Substance: 7

Possession of Marijuana: 3

Public Intoxication: 0

Racing: 1

Resisting Arrest: 0

Sexual Assault: 0

Smuggling of Persons: 0

Terroristic Threat: 1

Theft: 2

Undocumented Migrants: 0

Unlawful Carry: 1

Injury to Child/Elderly: 0

Reckless Driving: 2

Deadly Conduct: 1

Forgery: 1

- Statistics Report for Year To Date

**Year To Date Calls for Service**

Total Calls for Service: 15,514

FSPD Calls: 10,220

FSFD Calls: 182

City: 42

County: 140

PCEMS Calls: 1,893

PCSO Calls: 3,420

**Year To Date Traffic Statistics**

Traffic Stops: 3,588  
City: 2,456  
Other Agency: 1,132  
Traffic Citations Issued: 395  
Motor Vehicle Accidents: 589  
City: 312  
Other Agency: 277

**Year To Date Cases Filed for Prosecution:**

Juvenile Probation: 21  
County Attorney: 368  
83rd District Attorney: 273  
112th District Attorney: 51

**Year To Date Arrest Statistics:**

Total Arrests: 304

**Charges:**

Arson: 1  
Assault: 15  
Burglary: 7  
Criminal Mischief: 6  
Criminal Trespass: 19  
Disorderly Conduct: 5  
Duty on Striking: 7  
Driving While Intoxicated: 34  
Driving While License Invalid: 8  
Evading Arrest: 11  
Failure to ID: 4  
Family Violence: 17  
Murder: 1  
Outstanding Warrant: 193  
Possession of Controlled Substance: 55  
Possession of Marijuana: 18  
Public Intoxication: 26  
Racing: 5  
Resisting Arrest: 11  
Sexual Assault: 1  
Smuggling of Persons: 8  
Terroristic Threat: 5  
Theft: 13  
Undocumented Migrants: 3

Unlawful Carry: 9  
 Injury to Child/Elderly: 1  
 Reckless Driving: 4  
 Deadly Conduct: 1  
 Forgery: 1

## RESOLUTION:

3. Discuss/Act upon Resolution No. 23-121 R, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fort Stockton Authorizing the Appointment of a City Representative to the Pecos County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 Term. **(Mayor)**

**Council Member Ruben Falcon** explained his term is expiring and he advised everyone that the meetings are held on the same day as City Council Meetings. He recommended appointing AJ Franco as the City Representative to the Pecos County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and passed to approve Resolution No. 23-121 R, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fort Stockton Authorizing the Appointment of AJ Franco as the City Representative to the Pecos County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 Term. Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye. Council Member Darren Hodges abstained from the motion.**

4. Discuss/Act upon Resolution No. 23-122R, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fort Stockton, Texas making the Following Changes to the City's General Election Pursuant Senate Bill 2258, Eighty-Eighth Regular Legislature: Changing the City of Fort Stockton's Election Date from the May Uniform Date Established by Law to the November Uniform Date Established by Law and Providing for the Holdover of the Mayor and City Council Members to Conform to the November Uniform Election Date; Adopting Length of Terms for the Mayor and City Council Members, Establishing Election Procedures for Future Municipal General Elections, Providing for Severability and Providing for an Effective Date. **(City Sec./City Atty.)**

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained this is the Resolution making the changes to the City's General Election moving it from May to November in accordance with SB 2258.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, seconded by Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 23-122R, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fort Stockton, Texas making the Following Changes to the City's General Election Pursuant Senate Bill 2258, Eighty-Eighth Regular Legislature: Changing the City of Fort Stockton's Election Date from the May Uniform Date Established by Law to the November Uniform Date Established by Law and Providing for the Holdover of the Mayor and City Council Members to Conform to the November Uniform Election Date; Adopting Length of Terms for the Mayor and City Council Members, Establishing Election Procedures for Future Municipal General Elections, Providing for Severability and Providing for an Effective Date. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

#### **ORDINANCES:**

5. Discuss/Act upon Ordinance No. 23-138, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8 Titled Elections\* of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Stockton; and Repealing All Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for an Effective Date. (City Sec/City Atty.)

City Attorney Puja Boinpally explained the Code of Ordinances have been changed to reflect the current and newly adopted laws governing the City of Fort Stockton's General Elections.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Council Member James Warnock, and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 23-138, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8 Titled Elections\* of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Stockton; and Repealing All Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for an Effective Date. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

6. Discuss/Act upon Ordinance No. 23-139, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 Titled Buildings and Building Regulations\*, Article II. Building Code\*, Article IV. Plumbing and Gas Code\* and Article VII. Mechanical Code\* of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort

Stockton; and Repealing All Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for an Effective Date. **(Bldg. Offl.)**

**Building Official Roy Mendoza** explained he was requesting permission to change the building codes from the 2018 version to the 2021 version.

**City Secretary Marina Cantu** clarified that the request included adopting the 2023 version of the Electrical Code.

**Building Official Roy Mendoza** advised City Council the 2023 version of the Electrical Code was the newest version.

**Council Member Ruben Falcon** inquired if the contractors have been notified of the changes.

**Building Official Roy Mendoza** confirmed all Electrical Contractors, Plumbing Contractors and General Contractors have been made aware of the building code changes.

**Council Member Ruben Falcon** inquired if the City would be adopting the State Code or if anything would be added or taken away from it.

**Building Official Roy Mendoza** explained they would be adopting the State Code, as is.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 23-139, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 Titled Buildings and Building Regulations\*, Article II. Building Code\*, Article IV. Plumbing and Gas Code\* and Article VII. Mechanical Code\* of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Stockton; and Repealing All Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for an Effective Date. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

7. Discuss/Act upon Ordinance No. 23-140, An Ordinance of the City Council of Fort Stockton, Pecos County, Texas Disannexing 0.782 Acres, being all of Lots One to Eleven (1-11) All in Block 15, of the ORIENTA PARK ADDITION a Subdivision of Pecos County, Texas, according to the Map or Plat Thereof Record in the Office of the County Clerk of Pecos County, Texas within the Corporate Limits of the City of Fort Stockton, Texas. **(City Sec./City Atty.)**

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained this ordinance would be to disannex the property, as previously recommended. She further explained the process has been changed for annexation when a sale is underway.

**Council Member Darren Hodges** inquired if the City would be installing lines.

**City Secretary Marina Cantu** explained at the request of the current property owner, they would only receive water, which would be provided at an outside city limits rate.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, seconded by Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez, and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 23-140, An Ordinance of the City Council of Fort Stockton, Pecos County, Texas Disannexing 0.782 Acres, being all of Lots One to Eleven (1-11) All in Block 15, of the ORIENTA PARK ADDITION a Subdivision of Pecos County, Texas, according to the Map or Plat Thereof Record in the Office of the County Clerk of Pecos County, Texas within the Corporate Limits of the City of Fort Stockton, Texas. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

8. Discuss/Act upon Ordinance 23-141, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Fort Stockton Titled Traffic and Vehicles; and Creating Article VIII. ~~Recreational-Off Highway Vehicles~~ Golf Carts; Repealing all Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for its Publication and Effective Date. (City Mgr./City Atty.)

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained this Ordinance would be titled Article VIII. Golf Carts. This ordinance is to authorize the use of golf carts within city limits.

She highlighted the following:

- Definitions for ROV's, UTV's, ATV's and Sand Rails are provided so the community has an understanding of what is prohibited (NOT ALLOWED).
- Operator must be 21 years of age or over.
- Can be driving during the period from one-half hour before sunrise or after sunset.
- Can not operate on alleys or sidewalks accept when enroute through alley or sidewalk to enter a garage or parking structure.



- Golf carts shall cross from the north side of the city to the south of the city or vice versa by crossing at the intersections of Colpitts and Dickinson & Nelson and Dickinson. *(They are less congested and have traffic lights)*

**Council Member Ruben J. Bernal** recommended adding signage advising the public of crossing areas.

**Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez** advised everyone that golf carts would not be allowed on TxDOT Right-of-ways except at these crossing locations. He explained his thought was to introduce everyone to the slow-moving vehicles first.

**Council Member Ruben Falcon** inquired if helmets were required.

**Mayor Paul Casias** responded although helmets are not required, seatbelts are required.

**Council Member Ruben Falcon** reiterated the ordinance only allows for the use of golf carts during daylight hours.

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained individuals wishing to drive golf carts inside city limits would need to apply for a registration permit, which would have a first-time fee of \$150.00 and a subsequent renewal fee of \$75.00.

The Registrant would have to provide proof of financial responsibility and a copy of the insurance.

The Police Department would inspect the golf cart after receipt of the application.

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained this ordinance would allow the Police Department to enforce and regulate the laws established within. If the applicant is found in violation, the permit could be revoked, and the applicant would not be allowed to reapply for a 2-year period.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez, and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance 23-141, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Fort Stockton Titled Traffic and Vehicles; and Creating Article VIII. Golf Carts; Repealing all Other Ordinances or Portions Thereof in Conflict, A Severability Clause and Providing for its Publication and Effective Date. Council Member Darren Hodges,**

**Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

9. All matters listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

**Minutes: (Mayor)**

- Regular Meeting Minutes of Fort Stockton City Council, 11/13/2023
- Special Meeting Minutes of Fort Stockton City Council, 12/05/2023
- Special Meeting Minutes of Economic Development 4A Corporation, 10/26/2023
- Regular Meeting Minutes of Economic Development 4B Corporation, 08/17/2023
- Special Meeting Minutes of Economic Development 4B Corporation, 10/26/2023
- Special Meeting Minutes of Fort Stockton Housing Authority Board, 10/23/2023
- Regular Meeting Minutes of Intergovernmental Recreation Board, 10/18/2023
- Regular Meeting Minutes of Tourism Advisory Board, 10/17/2023
- Regular Meeting Minutes of Animal Control Advisory Board, 08/24/2023

**Accounts Payable Grand Total:**

**\$594,959.63**

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Membe Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

10. Discuss/Act upon 5-Year Pitney Bowes Lease Agreement. (City Mgr.)

**Director of Finance Maria Rodriguez** explained the current equipment is considered obsolete; therefore, she requested permission to enter a new 5-year lease. This lease is \$4.00 cheaper.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and carried unanimously to approve the 5-Year Pitney Bowes Lease Agreement. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

11. Discuss/Act upon Police Department Dispatch Console Agreement between the City of Fort Stockton and Tri-Star Communications. **(City Mgr./City Atty.)**

**City Attorney Puja Boinpally** explained Tri-Star Communications is requesting 15% upfront and the rest upon completion of the project.

She stated there is not a completion date as it depends on when the equipment is received. Therefore, Tri-Star Communications is required to inform the City of the date of receipt and they would be required to install the equipment within a reasonable amount of time.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, and carried unanimously to approve Police Department Dispatch Console Agreement between the City of Fort Stockton and Tri-Star Communications. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

12. Discuss/Act upon Solicitation of Proposals for the New Construction of a Shade Awning at the Hodges Pavilion. **(City Mgr.)**

**City Manager Frank Rodriguez** explained everyone was e-mailed the schematics. He explained the awning would cover the area as you enter the Hodges Pavilion by the theater and would extend beyond the restrooms. This would make the area rentable regardless of the weather.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, and carried unanimously to approve the Solicitation of Proposals for the New Construction of a Shade Awning at the Hodges Pavilion. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

13. Discuss/Act upon Solicitation of Sealed Bids for Belding Water Well #6 Replacement Well Services. **(City Mgr./R.O. Plant Sup.)**

**City Manager Frank Rodriguez III** explained the City Previously solicited bids for this project; however, the bid was costly.

He explained we would like to extend the reach of the solicitation to see if they could obtain a lower bid.

**Council Member Ruben J. Bernal** inquired if all the materials would be provided by the contractor submitting the bid.

**City Manager Frank Rodriguez III** explained the contractor would be responsible for materials.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ruben Falcon, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and carried unanimously to approve Solicitation of Sealed Bids for Belding Water Well #6 Replacement Well Services. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.**

14. Discuss/Act upon Roof Repairs to the Fort Stockton Convention Center located at 2181 SW IH 10 Frontage Road, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735 through D&G Quality Roofing with The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Purchasing Cooperative, Contract No. RCSP 21060302 ROOFING (JOC). (Asst. City Mgr.)

**Assistant City Manager Jesse Gonzales** requested permission to approve the proposal from D&G Quality Roofing. He explained they have done work within the area and their references have been checked.

**City Manager Frank Rodriguez III** explained the venue tax would be utilized to pay for the roof repairs. In addition, EDC may provide financial assistance for this project.

**Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, seconded by Council Member Ruben J Bernal, and carried unanimously to approve Roof Repairs to the Fort Stockton Convention Center located at 2181 SW IH 10 Frontage Road, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735 through D&G Quality Roofing with The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Purchasing Cooperative, Contract No. RCSP 21060302 ROOFING (JOC). Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul**

Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.

15. Questions from Media.

There were no questions from the media.

16. Adjourn.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, seconded by Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez, and carried unanimously to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting at 6:10 p.m. Council Member Darren Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem James Warnock, Mayor Paul Casias, Council Member Ruben J Bernal, Council Member Ruben Falcon, Council Member Paul Jerome Chavez voted aye.



*Paul Casias*

Paul Casias, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Marina A. Cantu*

Marina A. Cantu, City Secretary