

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §
TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA §

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE LAGUNA VISTA TOWN COUNCIL**

DATE: January 28, 2025
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Town of Laguna Vista City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Carter, Mayor
Johvonne Howard, Council Member Place 2
Kenneth Cornelius, Council Member Place 4
Teresa Bryant, Council Member Place 5
Miguel Hernandez, Council Member Place 6

Greg Cruz, Police Chief
Norma Barbosa, City Secretary
Crystal Chapa, Finance Director
Karla De La Pena, City Clerk
Liz Baldwin, Library Clerk
John Reyes, Police Officer

ORDER OF BUSINESS

• **Call to Order**

Mayor Carter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

• **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation led by Teresa Bryant.

• **Roll Call/Excused Absences**

Excuse Dr. Christopher Romero

OPEN FORUM - At this time, audience is allowed 3 minutes per person to address the Council on any topic. There will be no discussion or formal action taken during this agenda item. The speaker must

identify themselves before speaking. A Speaker Request Form must be presented to the City Secretary prior to the meeting.

Natalie Ruiz from 15 Bethpage Dr approached the Town Council and the Mayor with a question about the timing to communicate to the community the City Charter requirement to hold a special election to fill the vacancy of Town council member Bettina Tolin (place 3). She states that nowhere in tonight's agenda was a topic of the required special election mentioned. She then states the only thing on the agenda tonight is the executive session. She then states that according to the State election division chapter 26 dictates that for a home rural city vacancies are to be filled in accordance to the city charter which is 120 days after the vacancy occurs. She then asked the Town Council what is the plan or the timing to advise the town about this. She requested these questions to be answered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION– Executive closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, regarding any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to Section 551.071 – consultation with Town Attorney; 551.072 – deliberation regarding real property; 551.074 – deliberation regarding personnel matters; and 551.087 – deliberation regarding economic development negotiations.

Sec. 551.071- consultation with Town Attorney regarding requirements for special election to fill vacancy

Motion was made by Council Member Bryant to go into executive session.
Second was made by Council Member Cornelius.

VOTE

Council Member Howard	Aye	Council Member Bryant	Aye
Council Member Cornelius	Aye	Council Member Hernandez	Aye
		Mayor Carter	Aye

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned for Executive Session at 6:07 p.m.
Meeting resumed at 6:42 p.m.

As a result of the Executive Session, Administration should proceed as directed in Executive Session. Mayor also informed the audience that City finally and barely today got the information from Cameron Election Position and that it will be discussed next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Council Member Bryant to adjourn.

Second was made by Council Member Hernandez.

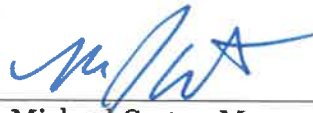
VOTE

Council Member Howard Aye
Council Member Cornelius Aye

Council Member Bryant Aye
Council Member Hernandez Aye
Mayor Carter

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 6:46 pm



Michael Carter, Mayor

Attest:



Norma Barbosa, City Secretary