

MINUTES FROM A REGULAR MEETING ON March 4, 2025

The Government Body of the City of Rio Hondo, Texas met in a Regular Meeting on March 4, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, with Mayor- Gustavo Olivares Presiding- Present, Mayor Pro-Tem- Margaret Perez , Present and Commissioners, Juan Garza- Present, Esteban Bocanegra- Present, Olga Gallegos- Present, and Jose Cavazos- Present

ALSO PRESENT: Ben Medina - City Administrator, Ana Hernandez - Assistant City Administrator, Robert Drinkard - City Attorney, Chief Bilokury, Sgt Michael Rodriguez, Murl Kemmerling – Public Works Director

Call meeting to Order (City Commission) at 6:00 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

UNITED STATES PLEDGE

INVOCATION: **Led by Commissioner Margaret Perez**

Regular Agenda:

1. Mayor's and Commissioners' Reports

- **Commissioner Cavazos had questions about PD system crashing, he stated that someone that needed a police report communicated this to him because she tried getting a police report and wasn't able to because the PD system crashed. Mr. Medina and the Mayor stated there was an item that will be going over this.**
- **Mayor reported he met with NINO's Headstart which is partnering City of Rio Hondo, Red Cross, and School District. He reported that New Horizon is looking to opening a clinic here in Rio Hondo. The other thing that is being looked at by the Red Cross is for Rio Hondo to become a City Food Pantry.**

2. Reports: Administrator Report

Mr. Medina reported the following:

- **Getting ready for our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**
- **The application for the Master Plan was approved and signed for \$165,000 from General Land Office.**
- **Lighting Program are looking at our bills and doing some recommendations. 1st phase they are going to see where we are spending the most and will work together with TXU to get us the best possible rate. LED lights will be installed in all City-owned facilities this will also save us some money. This is a \$250,000 grant.**
- **Sidewalks should be done by beginning of May. A sidewalk is also being built that will run into the the school so the students will be away from traffic.**

3. Public Comment Period: Please Note- The Public Comment Period is designated for hearing concerns regarding City of Rio Hondo Public Policy or City of Rio Hondo business that is or is not on the agenda or items listed on the agenda.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Consideration and Action on approving February 11, 2025, City Commission minutes.
 - **Commissioner Perez made a motion to approved the minutes of the February 11, 2025 Commission Minutes. Commissioner Gallegos seconded the motion, all voted “aye to approve”, motion carried.**
5. Financial Report October 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025.
 - **The Mayor requested this item be place on the agenda since we have been having additional costs especially on attorney fees.**
 - **Mr. Medina reported that we have already collected \$486,000 which includes about \$460,000 in property tax the rest is for Sales Tax. We have collected \$1,068,360.70 in revenues including Parks & Wildlife and the Legacy. We are pending a draw in the amount of \$78,000. Expenses are \$630,000 to date. Fund Balance is \$437,840.70. Mid year Budget amendments: Increase in legal fees, library roof, AC Unit, Streets reconstruction, Old High School, and street lighting.**
 - **Server crashed at the PD Department this will cost us \$13,000 - \$15,0000; looking into going cloud based.**
 - **Mr. Medina stated that we need to work on Robinson; the Mayor wants to know if it could be put on the ballot as a bond issue.**
 - **Mr. Medina has a proposal of \$158,000 from Roberto Garza to the Highway**
 - **Mr. Medina wants to purchase a street sweeper**
6. Status Report on the Spotted Sea Trout Park Ribbon Cutting Project.
 - **Ribbon Cutting set for March 6, 2025**
 - **The plaque has arrived**
 - **Several vendors have confirmed their assistance they will be giving out some promotional items.**
 - **Office will be closed during Ceremony.**
 - **Bird Blind is up**
 - **The City has ordered promotional items to give away**
 - **Menu has been chosen; chicken salad croissants, fruit, vegetables, cookies, cake.**
 - **Speakers and audio set to go**
7. Public Hearing and Action on Ordinance 2025 -03 amending Ordinance Number 374 to set the City Commission meeting time at 6:00 pm on every fourth (4th) Tuesday of every month.

Public Hearing opened at 6:50 pm

Commissioner Garza requested that we keep better track of projects. Mr. Medina replied that he is already working on this the program is called Brightly.

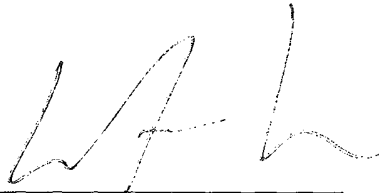
Commissioner Perez made a motion to close Public Hearing at 6:52 pm. Commissioner Gallegos seconded the motion; all voted “aye” to approve, motion carried

Public Hearing closed at 6:52 pm

8. Adjournment

- **Commissioner Perez made a motion to adjourn meeting at 6:55 pm. Commissioner Gallegos seconded the motion; all voted “aye” to approve, motion carried.**

Approved:



Gustavo Olivares, Mayor

Date: 03/25/205

Attest:

Ben Medina, City Administrator

Date: _____