

MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the City of Combes Commissioners met in a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm Monday, May 13, 2024, at Combes Municipal Complex, 21626 Hand Road, Combes Texas to consider the following.

Public comments may be e-mailed to jduarte@townofcombes.com by the meeting date at 4:00 pm.

Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Mayor Silvestre Garcia requested roll call.

1. Roll Call.

By City Secretary Jo Ann Nino

Mayor Silvestre Garcia – Present

Commissioner Olga H Montes- Present

Commissioner Mary David- Present

Commissioner Ann Forbes- Present

Commissioner Carlos Cordova – Present

2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Ann Forbes led the invocation.

Commissioner Carlos Cordova led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Canvassing Election Results for May 4, 2024, City of Combes General Election: to Elect Three (3) Commissioners Place 1, 3 and 5; and Proposition “A” Reauthorization of Local Sales Tax Street Maintenance.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council the #3 item on the agenda was the Canvassing of Election Results for the May 04, 2024, City of Combes General Election for the election of three (3) Commissioners Place one (1), Place three (3) and Place five (5) and Proposition A- Rehabilitation of local sales tax for street maintenance.

The City Administrator Ms. Aida Gutierrez informed the city council that an official summary of the results was provided in their packets and a hardcopy was made available by the Election Administrator Mr. Remi Garza’s office.

The City Administrator canvassed the results: For City of Combes Commissioner Place one (1) Jerry Santos & Olga H Montes. Mr. Jerry Santos received One hundred Forty-Nine (149) votes – Six (6) mailed, One hundred three (103) early election, Forty (40) election day.

Ms. Olga H Montes received One hundred Eighty-Six (186) votes. Six (6) mailed, One hundred Forty (140) early election, Forty (40) election day. Total Votes Casted Three Hundred Thirty-Five (335)

For City of Combes Commissioner Place three (3) Kenneth P Stolar & J.J. Herrera. Mr. Kenneth P Stolar received One hundred Fifty-Five (155) votes- Seven (7) mailed, One hundred nine (109) early election, Forty (40) election day.

Mr. J.J. Herrera received One hundred Eighty (180) votes. Five (5) mailed, One hundred Thirty-four (134) early election, Forty-one (41) election day. Total Votes Casted Three Hundred Thirty-Five (335).

For City of Combes Commissioner Place five (5) Mr. Carlos Cordova – Unopposed. Mr. Carlos Cordova received Two hundred Fifty-Four (254) votes. Nine (9) mailed, One hundred Eighty-Five (185) early election, Sixty (60) election day.

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For Proposition A: Two hundred Thiry Eight (238) FOR & Sixty-Two (62) AGAINST

Commissioner Ann Forbes asked a question related to confirmation on Over votes and Under votes. Mr. Jared Hockema explained Over votes are when a voter who votes for two candidates in a contest that permits only one vote and Under vote occurs when there are no votes for a single choice contest.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia Thanked the citizens of Combes for coming out exercising their right to vote. Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to canvas of votes presented by the Election's Department. Commissioner Ann Forbes made a motion to approve Canvassing Election Results for May 4, 2024, City of Combes General Election: to Elect Three (3) Commissioners Place 1, 3 and 5; and Proposition "A" Reauthorization of Local Sales Tax Street Maintenance. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

4. Swearing-In & Oath of Office for Re-Elected Commissioners Olga H. Montes (Place 1), Carlos Cordova (Place 5) and Newly Elected Commissioner Jose Javier Herrera (Place 3) for City of Combes.
Action for Approval.

The City of Combes Legal Counsel Mr. Gilberto Hinojosa acknowledged the Re- Elected & Newly Elected Commissioner with words of encouragement and job responsibilities as servers for the community. The voters have elected entrusted individuals to hold a position and be the voice on their behalf. The Commissioners with their oath promise to make decisions for the benefit of the community. The City of Combes Legal Counsel Mr. Gilberto Hinojosa performed the Swearing In & Oath of Office for Re- Elected Commissioners Olga H Montes, Commissioner Carlos Cordova, and Newly Elected Commissioner Jose Javier Herrera. The Re-Elected and Newly Elected Commissioners addressed the public and thanked everyone for their support. Mayor Silvestre Garcia congratulated the commissioners and moved to item #5.

5. UT Health-Presentation of Combes Mid-Year Report Tu Salud Si Cuenta Program-
Action for Acknowledgement.

Ms. Rebecca Losoya, employed with UT Health Houston & UT Health in Brownsville introduced herself and presented to the city council the 2023 Annual Report for Tu Salud Si Cuenta program for the City of Combes. The program is an evidence -based community – wide campaign focused on improving health. The priorities include Fruit & Vegetable intake and Physical Activity, Policy & Environmental Change, Chronic Disease Prevention & Control for Underserved populations. Tu Salud Si Cuenta has reached approximately 4,483 Snaped participants throughout Cameron and Hidalgo Counties. Eight-Five-point seven percent (85.7%) of Combes participants improved their fruit and vegetables intake and improved their physical activity. Seventy-four-point five percent (74.5%) decreased their blood pressure and Nine-point Eighteen percent (9.18%) changed from hypertension to normal. Online resources are made available through Combes Tu Salud Si Cuenta Facebook.

Recommendation and Discussion among the city board regarding an Adult Day Care & Transportation for the City of Combes.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to acknowledge the report presented. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to acknowledge the report. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

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6. Public Comments: At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak, or any person may speak on any item on the agenda for a maximum of three (3) minutes. No formal action can be taken on these items. Action for Approval or Disapproval

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council at this time there is no one before the council not scheduled on the agenda to speak or any person to speak on any item on the agenda for a maximum of three (3) minutes.

7. Consideration and Possible Action of Minutes April 8th. & April 29th. 2024, Regular Meetings.
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of Minutes April 8th. & April 29th. 2024, Regular Meetings. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of Minutes April 8th. & April 29th. 2024, Regular Meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

8. Mayor Silvestre Garcia- Consideration and Possible Action-Department & City Updates April 2024.
a) Building Permit Department
b) Municipal Court
c) Waterworks Department
d) Police Department
e) City of Combes Project Updates-
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked the City Administrator Ms. Aida Gutierrez to update the city council on the items listed on item #8.

Update: Nixon – Mr. Jacob from SWG was present for any questions and/or discussions. As of April 29, 2024, the project will be finalized on May 21, 2024. Section of FM 508 has been patched, a section of East Rio Hondo Water Supply ten (10) inch water line was repaired. Cameron County Drainage District #5 has made their payment for the installation of additional two (2) 30' RCP on FM 508. Project is practically 100% completed, pending a final walk through.

Update: B.R.I.C.S Grant – FEMA is requesting additional information due by June 08, 2024 and will determine whether the city will receive 100% of the grant to be funded. The city met with State Representative Vicente Gonzalez, Harlingen School District, and Cameron County Drainage District #5 assisting with the approval for funding.

Update: Home Grant- Six (6) additional homes approved by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Contracts have been signed by Property Owners and pending construction. The City will receive over Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$750,000) worth of grants with no match to the city. Applications are still available for residents.

Update: Orange/Tangerine – Rhyner Construction currently on jobsite. Completion due date by August 29, 2024 for Tangerine and Orange St. Minor setbacks, issues have been fixed and moving forward.

Update: Hand Rd Lights – Seventeen (17) streetlights have been received. The Lighting Company provided engineering assistance for location of lights for proper lighting throughout Hand Rd. The layout is available upon request. Proposals for installation are in progress. The Lighting Company is requesting a Ribbon Cutting for the project in the near future.

Update: The City Secretary explained to the city council the board had previously requested an assessment of all the streets within the city's comprehensive plan. An engineering report was received from MEG who was

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hired for the assessment. A decision will be made on the streets based on the urgent need for a repair report that will be done by Engineer Mr. R.E. Garcia and available in late May or early June.

Update: The 2018-2019 Contracts have been signed by Mayor Silvestre Garcia and finalized. The projects are for Sewer system improvements and Lift Stations. The deadline of the project is May 2026. The City's contribution is twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for the necessary infrastructure within the city.

Update: Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation - A letter of intent was initiated by the City Administrator Ms. Aida Gutierrez for the construction of a walking trail along the easement of Camron County District Drainage #5. The city received approval to proceed on subsequently comprehensive application submitted where the easement will be provided for the walking trail. The intention is to connect to the sidewalk on FM 508. The Caracara trails were notified about the project and are excited.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia informed the city council the State Representative Mr. Vicente Gonzalez is assisting the city with trying to get the grant funding.

9. Consideration and Possible Action.

- a) Invoices for Approval-General, Waterworks, Special Funds May 2024.
 - b) Check Registers & Debit Card Transactions-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for April 2024
 - c) Financial Statement Reports-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for April 2024.
 - d) Rhyner Construction-Pay Application No. 6- \$94,977.10 Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds)
 - e) SWG Engineering LLC-Invoice#10371, \$13,899.42 ARP Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds)
 - f) Grantsworks- Inv# 04 \$8,272.00- Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds)
- Action for Approval or Disapproval of. (Items A-F)

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve a) Invoices for Approval-General, Waterworks, Special Funds May 2024. b) Check Registers & Debit Card Transactions-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for April 2024 c) Financial Statement Reports-General Fund, Waterworks, and Police Department Special Funds for April 2024. d) Rhyner Construction-Pay Application No. 6- \$94,977.10 Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds) e) SWG Engineering LLC-Invoice#10371, \$13,899.42 ARP Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds) f) Grants works- Inv# 04 \$8,272.00- Nixon Road & Drainage Improvements (ARP Funds)

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve (Items A-F). Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

10. Consideration and Possible Action of.

- a) Police Vehicles Financing Options & Analysis provided by D&M Leasing Government Fleet Services for Combes Police Department.
 - b) Police Vehicle Pursuit Policy Update
 - c) Updated Racial Profiling Policy.
- Action for Approval or Disapproval of. (Items A-C)

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve items a) Police Vehicles Financing Options & Analysis provided by D&M Leasing Government Fleet Services for Combes Police Department. b) Police Vehicle Pursuit Policy Update c) Updated Racial Profiling Policy.

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve a) Police Vehicles Financing Options & Analysis provided by D&M Leasing Government Fleet Services for Combes Police Department. b) Police Vehicle



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Pursuit Policy Update c) Updated Racial Profiling Policy. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

11. Consideration and Possible Action of process to grant Mr. Arthur and Carolina Ball Release of Area by Petition of Landowner from Extraterritorial Jurisdiction- 8.72 acres out of Lot 1, Block 4, Country Estates North Subdivision- 21326 Briggs Coleman Road, Harlingen, Texas 78550. (Tabled April 29, 2024)

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

The City of Combes Legal Counsel Mr. Gilberto Hinojosa informed the city council that if the petition is correct in terms of the legality of the area to be moved from extraterritorial jurisdiction in terms of percentage of value, then it would be an automatic move.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of process to grant Mr. Arthur and Carolina Ball Release of Area by Petition of Landowner from Extraterritorial Jurisdiction- 8.72 acres out of Lot 1, Block 4, Country Estates North Subdivision- 21326 Briggs Coleman Road, Harlingen, Texas 78550. (Tabled April 29, 2024)

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve Consideration and Possible Action of process to grant Mr. Arthur and Carolina Ball Release of Area by Petition of Landowner from Extraterritorial Jurisdiction- 8.72 acres out of Lot 1, Block 4, Country Estates North Subdivision- 21326 Briggs Coleman Road, Harlingen, Texas 78550. (Tabled April 29, 2024). Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

12. Executive Session-Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-to discuss Hanna Development & Silva Otting Silva, Silva Management, pursuant to Texas Government Code 55.087.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for a motion to Table Executive Session-Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-to discuss Hanna Development & Silva Otting Silva, Silva Management, pursuant to Texas Government Code 55.087.

Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to Table Executive Session-Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-to discuss Hanna Development & Silva Otting Silva, Silva Management, pursuant to Texas Government Code 55.087. Seconded by Commissioner Ann Forbes. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.

13. Action following Executive Session- Consultation with Attorney as per Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071-to discuss Hanna Development & Silva Otting Silva, Silva Management, pursuant to Texas Government Code 55.087.

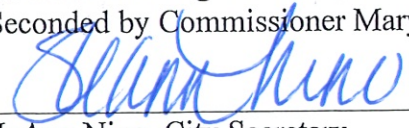
Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

14. Adjournment of Meeting.

Action for Approval or Disapproval of.

Mayor Silvestre Garcia asked for Adjournment of the meeting. Commissioner Olga H Montes made a motion to approve the Adjournment of the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Mary David. All in favor. Motion passed due to unanimous vote.


Silvestre Garcia, Mayor


JoAnn Nino, City Secretary

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