

MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE:

Monday, January 23, 2017

TIME:

5:30 p.m.

PLACE:

San Juan Memorial Library
Multipurpose Meeting Room
1010 S. Standard
San Juan, Texas 78589

MEMBERS PRESENT:

San Juanita Sanchez, Mayor
Mario Garza, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Raudel Maldonado, Commissioner
Jesse Ramirez, Commissioner
Pete Garcia, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. INVOCATION

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager led the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sanchez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

V. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Consider and Approve the Appointment, Compensation and Duties of Interim City Secretary for the City of San Juan, Texas. (Commissioner Raudel Maldonado and Mayor Pro-Tempore Mario Garza)

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Garcia made a Motion to appoint Ms. Cepeda as Interim Secretary. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez stated that it had been moved to put Ms. Palmira Cepeda as Interim and asked if anyone would second. Mayor Sanchez seconded the motion. (2-3)

Commissioner Ramirez stated he would like to make a motion to nominate Denisse Quintanilla as Interim City Secretary to execute all duties for the City charter and the job description for the City of San Juan and for the compensation to meet but not to exceed that of what is paid to the City Secretary of the City of San Juan. Mayor Sanchez stated that it had been moved and questioned.

Commissioner Garcia stated that on the previous meeting they had it on the agenda to accept the resignation of the City Secretary but yet the Commission had voted against it. So now, Commissioner Garcia stated, we are going to appoint somebody else when we have already denied the resignation, I just want this to be on record.

Mayor Sanchez responded that they had not voted on that yet. She went on to say that presently Ms. Quintanilla was a record keeper and Ms. Cepeda had actually taken a course in Elections. She was the Elections Administrator who was carrying out all duties. Ms. Cepeda also applied for the position because she was qualified to be the City Secretary and Ms. Quintanilla does not have the qualifications. She does not meet the qualifications we are looking for in a City Secretary, Interim at that. Now, I know that she is associated to someone close to your campaign. She is Ralph Quintanilla's wife and perhaps that is why you are doing this. If you look at the person that can sit in that position, she is definitely not it and you know that. I would like for you to go back and look at the Records and see how they are being kept, because they are not. We had that conversation with the City Manager last week and that's the job description. So what you are recommending is that we put the least qualified of the three for the one that has worked with me in meetings and minutes, which is Ms. Palmira Cepeda. I believe that this is definitely political and that is why you have picked her. Mayor Sanchez asked if that is what he wanted.

This Commission has made a decision and let it stand tonight. A City Secretary according to our requirements has to have a degree or at least have the experience. We find someone with no degree, no

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experience and also not evaluated her performance, checked for any complaints, it doesn't surprise me you would still like to move forward with the nomination of Denise Quintanilla as City Secretary. This is political and I have spoken what I have spoken. There has been a Motion, a first and a second. (3,2)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Commission Raudel Maldonado motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:39 pm and it was seconded by Commissioner Pete Garcia. Motion passed. (5-0)

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS

Mario Garza, Mayor

ATTEST:


Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary