



REGULAR MEETING

TAKE NOTICE THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE CITY OF EDCOUCH WIL BE HELD
AT 211 W. SOUTHERN AVE., EDCOUCH, TEXAS, ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28,2021
COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

- A. **Call Meeting to Order**
- B. **Roll Call**
- C. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. **Invocation**
- E. **Public Comments**
- F. **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. **Budget Workshop October 04, 2021**
 - 2. **Special Meeting Minutes of October 04,2021**
- G. **Discussion and Possible Action on approval to extend depository bid with Texas National Bank.**
- H. **Discussion and Possible Action to approve resolution for grant with Texas Water Development Board for the “CFO to Go Program” which assigns a CFO to the City of Edcouch to establish finance procedures. This is at no cost to the City of Edcouch.**
- I. **Discussion and possible to Approve interlocal between the City of Edcouch and Urban County for Fiscal Year 2021 -2022**
- J. **Adjournment**

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT THE PUBLIC MEETING

City Hall is Wheelchair accessible & accessible parking spaces are available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this Meeting. Please contact the City Secretary’s Office at 956-262-2140 or Fax 956-262-2920 for further information. Braille is not available.

If during the course of the meeting, The City Council should determine that a Closed Session or meeting is authorized by section 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076, 551.084, 551.086 of the Government Code or Vernon’s Texas Codes Annotated, notice of Closed or Executive Session will be given after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice pursuant to Section 551.101 of the

Local Government Code. Should any final motion, decision, or vote be required in the opinion of the council with regards to any item during the meeting, then such final action, decision, or vote shall be made during the open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of the Public Meeting.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of said Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Edcouch was posted on the main entrance to Edcouch City Hall on the 13th day of September 2021 at 5:00 pm and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled time of said meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated (Open Meetings Act).

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, THIS 13th DAY OF September 2021.

Victor H. De La Cruz
City Manager



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

TAKE NOTICE THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE CITY OF EDCOUCH WIL BE HELD
AT 211 W. SOUTHERN AVE., EDCOUCH, TEXAS, ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28,2021
COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

- K. Call Meeting to Order** Meeting was called to Order by **Mayor Gonzalez** at **6:03 p.m.**
- L. Roll Call** Roll call was called by **Mr. Victor H De La Cruz** as follows:

	Present	Absent	City Staff:
Mayor: Virginio Gonzalez Jr.	_X_	___	Victor H. De La Cruz, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem: Flores	_X_	___	
Alderman: Joel Segura	_X_	___	Interim Chief: J. Quintana
Alderman: John Chapa	_X_	___	
Alderman: Robert Gutierrez	_X_	___	
Alderman: Lorenzo Cabrera	_X_	___	
City Attorney: Orlando Jimenez			

Mayor, we have a quorum.

- M. Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance was led **OJ Jimenez**
- N. Invocation:** Invocation was led by **Deacon De La Cruz**
- O. Public Comments:** No public comments
- P. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Budget Workshop October 04, 2021**
- 2. Special Meeting Minutes of October 04,2021**

A motion to table 1. Budget Workshop October 04,2021 Minutes & 2. Special Meeting Minutes of October 04, 2021 Minutes was made by Alderman Chapa , 2nd by Alderman Cabrera . All Voted Aye/ Motion Carried.

- Q. Discussion and Possible Action on approval to extend depository bid with Texas National Bank.**

Mr De La Cruz: Mayor, as you know, for the past almost 2 ½ years we have been working with Texas National Bank. Originally, we had started off with Rio Bank. You all made the decision of going with Texas National Bank for many reasons. One, because they are local people and it facilitated the payroll and all of that. We work really well with them. For us to go depository we

would have to go out for bids and all of that. Another option that we have is for us to extend their service for one year. So I am recommending that we extend the service for one year. The letter is there for the extension of the depository account. It is on your folder.

Mayor: Any issues, Mr. Jimenez?

OJ Jimenez: No, none at all. In the original contract there was also a provision in there that called for an extension, so this is exactly in line with the contract.

A motion to approve to extend depository bid with Texas National Bank.

was made by Alderman Gutierrez , 2nd by Alderman Chapa . All Voted Aye/ Motion Carried.

R. Discussion and Possible Action to approve resolution for grant with Texas Water Development Board for the “CFO to Go Program” which assigns a CFO to the City of Edcouch to establish finance procedures. This is at no cost to the City of Edcouch.

Mr De La Cruz: Mayor, this is something that we have been working really really hard on accomplishing. For the first time I think in ever, the City of Edcouch is going to have the most transparency that you can imagine when it comes to finances. Why? Because the CFO to Go Program offers that to any entity. It is a new program that the Texas Water Development Board offers. Its worth anywhere, if you want to put monetary value to this. It is worth anything from \$60,000 to \$120,000 in services for CPA firm. So what they do is they assign a firm to the city. The firm comes in and takes a snapshot of the city. They go and they look at all our financials. They take a look at everything, sort of like an audit but they also help with procedures, Procedures like I will give you an example, one of the things that I want to start implementing was for every meeting, I want you guys to have a list of everything, all the expenditures for that month. That way you can see what was spent for that month. Little things like that, procedures like that, is what this program offers. To accomplish that we also have NAD Bank. NAD Bank from the past meetings, we went, just to kind of fill you in what was going on, the reason I am bringing in both of them is because one is working with the other. NAD Bank is going to refinance our biggest bond that we have. This bond has been hurting the city, at least in the three years that I have been here. In June it is a dreadful month because we get a \$180,000 bond payment that we have to make. When you have payroll and all that stuff, it gets scary. So, with thus refinancing it is going to lower the payment to \$50,000. That is a lot of breathing room. For us to be able to work with NAD Bank, we must approve the CFO to Go. So, you can't do one without the other. If you have any questions, I added on to your booklet a list of different contracts that mayor and I will have to go through. Also, there is a corrective action plan. If you have the time, go through this corrective action plan and it will show you all the deficiencies on the audit, which were only 6 deficiencies. In those deficiencies tow or three of those deficiencies are covered.

Commissioner Cabrera: What page?

Mr De La Cruz: Its towards the middle. Ok, so this is a corrective action plan that I designed. This is going to the Texas Water Development Board. This is also going to allow the Water Development Board to release over \$300,000 to the city that were held back. This right here is just a little snapshot of our audit and this a way for us to be able to go back mayor and track our progress. If you notice, a lot of these thy say not started. There is some that are in process. What I propose to do is that every month that we have a meeting I will bring this report back to you so I can show you the progress that we are making. We are fixing the issues on the audit. It was bad

enough that we had to catch up 5 audits. I don't know how people in the past did not think that was important. It was bad enough they were behind in audits. Now we are in a point where we are there now. Where we are caught up and now, youtube1I want to fix the issues that the audit is showing. There are some deficiencies, and they are fixable. We can fix them.

Mayor: Your recommendation?

Mr De La Cruz: I am recommending that we approve the CFO to Go Program resolution so we can move on with this process.

Commissioner Cabrera: And it is not going to cost the city nothing?

Mr De La Cruz: No, not at all sir.

Commissioner Cabrera: No interest nothing like that?

Mr De La Cruz: Not at all sir. As a matter of fact, once we start this program if the city needs anything, like lets say for instance the city needs a software program, which I think we do, a software program may cost us up to \$50,000, NAD Bank will give us the money to buy it.

Mayor: And then if we approve this. This person would cost us like \$70,000 to hire. So, by doing this, now we can get the Water Development money that we are missing, 300,000 or 400,000 and then we will refinance so it will be additional. So by this alone it is probably like half a million dollars worth of either money that we receive or services that are getting paid for.

Mr De La Cruz: And not only that but you all are going to be probably one of the first group to be as transparent in this as this is going to be because this is for you all. This is for you all and the community because for CFO to be, and sometimes in a lot of cases, and I don't know if council can add to that, but sometimes in many cases CFO is more important than the city manager or whatever. A CFO is the one that says yes you can spend or no you can't spend.

OJ Jimenez: With this program you are actually getting a full finance department not just one person.

Commissioner Flores: Free of cost.

OJ Jimenez: You are getting support staff, CFO

Commissioner Flores: How much do our audits cost?

Mr De La Cruz: Our audits cost us \$25,000 a year.

Commissioner Flores: So in the past four years or three years how much have we spent to catch up?

Mr De La Cruz: We spent over \$100,000

Commissioner Flores: Just to catch up?

Mr De La Cruz: Just to catch up and we still have to do this one and we are done.

A motion to approve to resolution for grant with Texas Water Development Board for the “CFO to Go Program” which assigns a CFO to the City of Edcouch to establish finance procedures. This is at no cost to the City of Edcouch.

2020 was made by Alderman Chapa , 2nd by Alderman Gutierrez . All Voted Aye/ Motion Carried.

S. Discussion and possible to Approve interlocal between the City of Edcouch and Urban County for Fiscal Year 2021 -2022

Mr De La Cruz: A few pages down you will see the Urban County which I s pretty much the rest of the package. This is an interlocal that we have on a yearly basis with Urban County. It is pretty much the same. This is for the funds that we get on a yearly basis. So the good news about what is going on with Urban County right now is that we are going to have a repeat of the past years where we are going to double up on the amounts. We are looking at close to half a million dollars in Urban County funds that we will be able to use. Now what they are recommending is that when we use it to get away from the streets and lets use it for something else. So start thinking about what we can do for the city.

A motion to approve interlocal between the City of Edcouch and Urban County for Fiscal Year 2021 -2022 was made by Alderman Cabrera, 2nd by Alderman Chapa . All Voted Aye/ Motion Carried.

T. Adjournment

At 6:14 pm, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman: Chapa 2nd by Alderman: Gutierrez . All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Take Notice that this are the true and correct minutes taken of the Regular Meeting of the City of Edcouch held on Thursday, October 28, 2021.

Passed and Approved by the Board of Aldermen on this 04th day of November 2021.

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Victor H. De La Cruz
City Manager