

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
CITY OF NAVASOTA, TEXAS  
JULY 20, 2022**

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the governing body of the City of Navasota will be held on the 20th of July, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the City Hall in the City Council Chambers, Room No. 161, located at 200 E. McAlpine Street, Navasota, Texas 77868, at which time the following subjects will be considered, to wit:

To watch the City Council meeting live please visit the City of Navasota's Youtube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCltnx7BQt0TCIYJRiZ14g5w>

- 1 Call to Order.
- 2 Workshop training on the Robert Rules of Order.
- 3 Adjourn.

**DATED THIS THE 14TH OF JULY, 2022**

**/JW/**

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**BY: JASON WEEKS, CITY MANAGER**

**I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of meeting of the governing body of the CITY OF NAVASOTA, is a true and correct copy of said notice and that I posted a true and correct copy of said notice in the glass bulletin board, in the foyer, on the south side of the Municipal Building as well as in the bulletin board on the north side of the Municipal Building of the City of Navasota, Texas, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and said notice was posted on the 14th of July, 2022 at 01:24 PM and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting. Agendas may be viewed at [www.navasotatx.gov](http://www.navasotatx.gov).**

***The City Council reserves the right to convene in Executive Session at any time deemed necessary for the consideration of confidential matters under the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071-551.089.***

**DATED THIS THE 14TH OF JULY, 2022**

**/SMH/**

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**BY: SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY**

**THIS FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS OR INTERPRETIVE SERVICES MUST BE MADE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (936) 825-6475 OR (936) 825-6408 OR BY FAX AT (936) 825-2403.**

**CITY OF NAVASOTA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.:**   2        **AGENDA DATE:** July 20, 2022

**PREPARED BY:** Susie M. Homeyer, City Secretary

**APPROVED BY:** JW

**ITEM:** Workshop training on the Robert Rules of Order.

**ITEM BACKGROUND:**

Attached you will find a bio on Thomas A. Gwosdz who will be the presenter for this training.

**BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY:**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Gwosdz Bio



# ROBERTS, ODEFEY, WITTE & WALL, LLP

## Attorneys At Law

Anne Marie Odefey  
Sandra Witte  
*Board Certified Property Owners Association Law*  
*Texas Board of Legal Specialization*  
Carly W. Wall

John T. Villafranca  
Dennis Arriaga  
Thomas A. Gwosdz  
David Roberts, *Of Counsel*

Thomas has represented local governments for 20 years, and still skips breakfast most mornings because he can't wait to get to work.

Before becoming a lawyer, Thomas was an English teacher at Needville High School, where he taught American Literature and AP Language and Composition, sponsored the National Honor Society, and occasionally helped coach the Speech and Debate teams.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in English, and his teaching certificates in Secondary English and Speech Communication from Southwest Texas State University, in San Marcos, Texas, and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Houston Law Center in 2001.

Thomas started his legal career representing private corporate clients in the Houston office of the New York firm Leboeuf, Graham, Greene & McRae, LLP, but quickly returned to public service, representing public school districts and municipalities. He was a staff attorney at the Texas Association of School Boards for five years, and the City Attorney of Victoria for thirteen.

Thomas is a Fellow in the Society for Legal Scholars, an award presented to him by the Texas Bar College in 2022. The Fellowship signifies a decade of commitment to providing his clients with the best possible representation. He has taught attorneys, school trustees, and city council members at over two dozen local, regional and state-wide conferences, and he is the author of *The Executive Summary*, a periodic newsletter on local government laws, governance, and leadership.

Outside of work, Thomas enjoys time with his family, including his wife, five kids and one grandbaby. He is an avid fisherman and cyclist, and has been Scoutmaster of Troop 364, President of the Kiwanis Club of Victoria, Chair of the Riverside Ride, and “beanmaster” for Our Lady of Victory Cathedral’s annual church festival.



## Awards/Honors:

- Fellow in the Society of Legal Scholars – 2022, Texas Bar College
- Merit Certification in Municipal Law – 2018, Texas City Attorneys Association

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2206 Highway 35 North  
P.O. Box 9  
Port Lavaca, TX 77979

• 361.552.2971  
• 361.552.5368 FAX  
• [www.portlavacalaw.com](http://www.portlavacalaw.com)  
•

• 106 N. Main St.  
• Suite 200  
• Victoria, TX 77901  
•

# Publications

- *Nepotism and Conflicts of Interest, a Pocket Guide -- 2007 Update*
- *An Introduction to the Texas Open Meetings Act -- 2006 (Video)*
- *Comprehensive Legal Guide to Term Contract Nonrenewal – 2007*
- “Sex Offenders: an Update,” *Texas Lone Star Magazine*
- “Attorneys as Board Members: Special Considerations,” *Texas Lone Star Magazine*
- “Salary Schedules: How low can you go?” *Texas Lone Star Magazine*
- “Foreign Students: Your District’s Role and Responsibilities,” *Texas Lone Star Magazine*

# Presentations:

## Statewide Conferences

- Homelessness and Panhandling – 2022 UT-CLE Land Use Conference
- Using Roberts Rules Effectively – 2021 TML Conference, 2022 TML Elected Official’s Conference, 2022 TML Small Cities Conference
- Do it (for) Yourself: Creating a legislative program – 2021 City Secretary’s Conference
- A Strategic Look at Robert’s Rules for Council Meetings – 2021 TCAA Summer Conference
- Using 380 Agreements Effectively – 2017 TML Economic Development Conference
- Ethics in Disaster Response – 2017 Texas Coalition of Cities for Utility Issues Seminar, 2020 Advanced Government Law Conference
- Game Room Regulation: A Success Story – 2017 TCAA Fall Meeting
- Regulating the Homeless – 2017 TCAA Summer Conference
- Ethics in Cloud Computing –2016 UT-CLE Texas Water Law Institute
- Working with your Attorney: 2016 Riley Fletcher Basic Law Conference
- Terminating an Employee for DWI – 2015 TCAA Fall Meeting
- Who is your client? – 2015 Riley Fletcher Basic Law Seminar
- Ethics: Should you be using your cell phone? – 2014 TCAA Summer Conference
- The Windshield and the Bug – 2013 TCAA Summer Conference
- Enforcement of Economic Development Agreements – 2012 TCAA Summer Conference
- HIPAA and FERPA, Privacy in the Front Office – 2008, TASB/TASA State Convention
- You’ve got Mail, Now How Long do you have to Keep it? – 2007 TASB/TASA State Convention

## Regional Conferences

- Required Internet Postings for Texas Public School Districts – 2008, ESC-III School Board Conference
- Meeting Mania – 2007, El Paso
- Extracurricular Activities – 2007, TASB Fall Seminar Series
- School Law Basics TASB ISD Level One Boardmanship Basics – 2006, TASB Fall Seminar Series
- An Overview of the Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act – 2006 TASB Winter Legal Seminars
- Top Ten Employment Issues of the Year – 2005, TASB Winter Legal Seminars (Tyler, El Paso)
- Advanced Open Meetings Act – 2005, TASB Winter Legal Seminars (Tyler, El Paso)
- Public Participation In and Out of Meetings – 2005 TASB Fall Seminar Series
- Conflicts of Interests for School Board Trustees – 2005, Summer Leadership Institute

- Basics of the Open Meetings Act – 2005, Summer Leadership Institute

## **Internal Training**

- Streamlining Council Meetings – 2022, City of De Soto
- Robert’s Rules of Order – 2022, City of Nacogdoches, Texas
- Public Speaking MasterClass – 2022, City of Victoria, Texas
- Ethics in Cloud Computing – 2015 City of Dallas, Texas
- Legal Update – 2007, Iraan Sheffield ISD