CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP ON THE PROPOSED FY 1995-96 BUDGET

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1995

FIESTA MOTOR INN, FIESTA ROOM 5240 SAN BERNARDO, LAREDO TX (210) 723-3603

MINUTES

AUGUST 10 -12, 1995

M95-W-22

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Saul N. Ramirez called the Budget Workshop to order.

II. IN ATTENDANCE

SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR., MAYOR

JOSE R. PEREZ, COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT I
LOUIS H. BRUNI, , DISTRICT II
ALFONSO I. "PONCHO" CASSO, , DISTRICT III
CECILIA MAY MORENO, , DISTRICT IV
BLAS CASTANEDA, , DISTRICT V
JOE A. GUERRA, , DISTRICT VI
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ, , DISTRICT VII
FELIPE CARDENAS, , DISTRICT VIII
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR., CITY SECRETARY
PETER H. VARGAS, CITY MANAGER
CARLOS R. VILLARREAL, ASST. CITY MANAGER
JESUS NAVA, ASST. CITY MANAGER
FAUSTO SOSA, CITY ATTORNEY

ABSENCES:

Cm. Blas Castaneda was absent on August 10, 1995.

III. GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING PRACTICES - Gonzalez, Farias and Guerra, P.C.

Ms. G.G. Flores of the independent auditing firm of Gonzalez, Farias and Guerra made the presentation to the council.

IV. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LAREDO TO OTHER TEXAS CITIES - First Southwest Company

Mr. Raul Villaseñor of the First Southwest Company, Investment

Bankers, presented a comparative analysis on assessed valuation, tax debt, ratings, sales tax, water & sewer debt, and garbage rates to the council.

V. THE FY 1994-95 ANNUAL BUDGET & THE MEXICAN PESO DEVALUATION - Jesus Nava, Assistant City Manager

- A. REVENUE COLLECTIONS & SHORTFALLS
- B. THE CONTINGENCY PLAN
- C. IMPACTS ON THE NEW BUDGET
- D. CITY COUNCIL MOTIONS FOR THE PAST YEAR

VI. THE CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 1995-96 Peter Vargas, City Manager

- A. BUDGET VIDEO
- B. AD-VALOREM TAX RATE
- C. PROPOSED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
- D. MAJOR BUDGET GOALS & ISSUES
- E. PROPOSED NEW POSITIONS

Motion to pursue the establishing of a policy allowing other than nonprofit corporations to solicit funds for historical preservations of buildings or sites within the City of Laredo. The motion was amended by the maker and was concurred by the second that this motions becomes site specific to San Agustin Church.

Moved : Cm. Guerra Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 (Cm. Castaneda was absent and Cm. G. Perez not present to vote.)

Motion to allow the overhire of 3 more 911 operators at the Police Department.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

(Cm. Castaneda was absent.)

VII. PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR FY 1996 - Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer

Motion to reinstate the curb and gutter projects that were on hold in the contingency plan into the coming budget.

Moved: Cm. Perez (There was no seconding of the motion.)

Motion to instruct staff that for next year's 1996-1997 fiscal

year CDBG Program Grants we allocate monies for sidewalk paving programs within the CD areas.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. ENGINEERING SERVICES - Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer

- A. STATUS OF THE SIX-YEAR STREET PAVING PROGRAM
- B. STREET RECYCLING & RECONSTRUCTION
- C. STATUS OF THE 1993 G.O. BOND PROJECTS

IX. THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CONSOLIDATED PLAN WITH APPROVAL TO SUBMIT THE PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT - Cindy Collazo

- A. CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR FY 96
- B. MUNICIPAL HOUSING
- C. DAY CARE
- D. PROJECT HOME

Motion authorizing the Community Development Department to submit the consolidated plan as presented by staff to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 (Cm. G. Perez was not present to vote, Cm. Castaneda was absent)

Motion to organize a neighborhood association as part of the new home construction program that would be able to insure that all city ordinances are complied with in the affordable housing program done thorough the CDBG Program.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct staff to provide the council with an analysis on single family housing units at India and Cortez, and that it not be limited to single units, but to include duplexes and triplexes for Municipal Housing.

Moved: Cm. Casso Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

X. RECESS FOR DAY ONE

Motion to recess for Friday, August 11, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. at The Fiesta Inn, Fiesta Room at 5240 San Bernardo.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Workshop recessed at 4:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1995

I. THE FOLLOWING ARE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD ON THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST 1995, AND WHICH WAS CONTINUED FROM THE 10TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1995.

II. ABSENCES

III. FIRE DEPARTMENT - Mike Perez, Fire Chief

- A. FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION
- B. EMS & AMBULANCE SERVICES
- C. STATUS OF PROPOSED NEW FIRE STATIONS

Motion that staff look into the concern that Unitec provides an alternate entrance in case the railroad blocks the existing entrance during an emergency and that we look into the possibility of changing the fire code to have foam requirements for petroleum storage tanks such as the Diamond Shamrock and the Tomas Petroleum tanks.

Moved : Cm. Bruni Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

IV. POLICE DEPARTMENT - J.L. Martinez, Police Chief

- A. STATUS OF THE NEW POLICE BUILDING
- B. IMPLEMENTATION OF "MAYO-MURPHY" PLAN
- C. COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

V. PARKS, EDUCATION AND RECREATION

- A. PUBLIC LIBRARY
- B. RECREATION PROGRAMS
- C. PARKS, MEDIAN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

Motion that Century City, Sierra Vista and Santa Rita in South

Laredo, Lamar and B.P. Newman Elementary and Country Club Estates in District II be included in the development of new parks in the proposed update of the City Parks Master Plan.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion that \$75,000 be appropriated to update the Park Master Plan in the fiscal year, that will incorporate crime prevention through an environmental design concept.

Moved : Cw. Moreno Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to allocate \$40,000 to \$50,000 for manpower during the school year for part-time workers to help in maintenance as a work cooperative with school districts (LISD & UISD) for approximately 10 people for the Parks & Recreation Department.

Moved: Cm. G. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VI. FEDERAL AND STATE UNFUNDED MANDATES

- A. <u>SOLID WASTE AND MUNICIPAL LANDFILL</u> Joe Guerra, Public Works
 - 1. COSTS OF SUBTITLE D LANDFILL REGULATIONS (LANDFILL MONITORING AND TESTING)
 - 2. TEXAS SENATE BILL 1340 (MANDATORY RECYCLING) & MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY
 - 3. PROPOSED REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS

Motion to concur with the recommendations of the Public Works Director to increase fees as follows: tipping fees of \$30.00 per ton for inside city users, \$65.00 for outside city users, and \$115 for outside county; waste transfer vehicle \$4.00 per ton; pickups \$2.00; tires \$1.25 for vehicles, \$1.50 trucks, and \$5.25 for equipment tires; residential mandate fee \$4.25, and commercial mandate fee \$4.25.

Moved: Cm. Bruni Second: Cm. Casso

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- B. STORM WATER CLEAN-UP AND THE NATIONAL PERMIT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) Raj Gunter, City Engineering
- VII. HOTEL AND MOTEL FUND Judy Baber, Internal Auditor

- A. CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
- B. CIVIC CENTER & WEST MARTIN FIELD
- C. PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION

Motion to direct staff to transfer to the Capital Improvements Program Fund \$3 million from the Civic Center Construction Reserve Fund and that it be part of the five year plan.

Moved: Cm. Cardenas Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to concur with the recommendation that \$112,000 from the construction reserve be the actual set aside minimum for this next fiscal year into the construction reserve for the convention center; that the surplus revenue collections in the hotel-motel fund be allocated to the construction reserve.

Moved: Cm. Cardenas Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to allocate \$4,500 to the Martha Washington Association under the Hotel-Motel Fund.

Moved : Cm. Casso Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 (Mayor Protem Cardenas not voting, he was chairing the meeting.)

VIII. LAREDO DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Mr. Frank Leach, Director of the Laredo Development Foundation, made the presentation.

Motion to allocate an additional \$10,000 to Laredo Development Foundation for printing material costs from Hotel-Motel fund.

Moved: Cm. G. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

(Cw. Moreno and Cm. Castaneda not present to vote.)

IX. LAREDO ANIMAL SHELTER

Mrs. Isabel Mendez made the presentation before the council.

Motion to recess for day two.

Moved: Cm. G. Perez Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Workshop recessed at 5:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1995

I. THE FOLLOWING ARE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD ON THE 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1995, WHICH WAS CONTINUED FROM THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1995.

II. ABSENCES

- III. PROPOSED WATER AND WASTEWATER ANNUAL BUDGETS -Tomas Rodriguez, Utility Services Director
 - A. WATER FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
 - B. WATER FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
 - C. WASTEWATER FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
 - D. WASTEWATER FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Motion to instruct staff to prepare the paperwork for \$25 million for water and sewer C.I.P. package loan with NAD Bank and to include water wells and projects for recapturing of water.

Moved : Cm. Guerra Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to increase the water rate by 2 for commercial users outside the city limits.

Moved: Cw. Moreno Second: Cm. Casso

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Utilities Director to increase the sewer commercial rates from \$6.00 to \$7.00, \$.95 to \$1.10, and from \$1.00 to \$1.15.

Moved : Cw. Moreno Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- IV. PROPOSED EL METRO TRANSIT ANNUAL BUDGET Rick Pulido, El Metro General Manager
 - A. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET
 - B. USE OF 1/4 CENT SALES TAX REVENUES
 - C. STATUS OF DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER

7 5 5

V. PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ANNUAL BUDGET - Jose Flores, Airport Programs Director

- A. AIRPORT FUND REVENUES
- B. PROPOSED EXPENDITURES
- C. STATUS OF NEW TERMINAL PROJECT

VI. PROPOSED BRIDGE SYSTEM ANNUAL BUDGET - Joe Aranda, Transportation Director

- A. BRIDGE FUND REVENUES
- B. PROPOSED EXPENDITURES
- C. BRIDGE FOUR FINANCING PLAN

Motion to instruct staff to draft an ordinance increasing pedestrian and vehicle fees by 10 cents for the capital improvement fund and bring back to council as soon as possible for action.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. Casso

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mr. Villarreal stated that what they are projecting is that they would like to add two creek cleaning crews with equipment, one sidewalk construction crew be able to buy additional equipment. They propose to come back to council with a complete budget as to how they would spend that money.

VII. DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO POSSIBLE CITY CHARTER REVISIONS

No formal action was taken on the charter revisions. Council will review the changes further and will be placed on the agenda for the first meeting in September for discussion and action.

VIII. SUMMARY AND WRAP-UP

Motion to instruct staff to continue monitoring the following drainage systems:

- (1) Lost Creek Subdivision
- (2) Century City area
- (3) Las Americas east of the North Ejido Pond
- (4) North Ejido Dam
- (5) Chacota Retention Pond
- (6) Villa Del Sol Subdivision
- (7) any other new developments that are accepted by the city Motion includes the 3100 block of Montgomery, 2200 Locust, 3011 Texas, and the eastern section of District II from Highway 59 south to approximately the intersection of Market.

Moved: Cm. Perez Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion appropriating \$50,000 for additional drainage for gutters, necessary water inlets for the area that affects the Ligarde/Barrios drainage system. Motion is amended that it be included in the \$780,000 that were set aside for channelling and that if it's not within that range that it comes back to council for consideration.

Moved : Cm. Perez Second: Cm. Castañeda

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion that the Economic Development Council staff monies be placed as a branch of the Conventions & Visitors Bureau.

Moved : Cw. Moreno Second: Cm. Guerra

Cm. Guerra withdrew his second and motion died for lack of a second.

Motion to instruct staff to proceed in preparing the acquisition of right-of-way property and prepare a preliminary cost estimates on the structure of the San Francisco Bridge over Zacate Creek.

Moved : Cm. Guerra Second: Cm. Castañeda

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct staff to prepare engineering studies on the existing problem on 3300 Montgomery and also the 3100 block which contains low areas which floods every times it rains, from Montgomery Street and ends south to Texas Street, all the runoff from the Milton-Nixon area.

Moved : Cm. Bruni Second: Cm. Casso

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to allow an additional \$5,000 property tax exemption for the elderly from \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Moved : Cm. Casso Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Note: Phyllis Colon, Tax Assessor/Collector, stated that the tax exemption changes need to be done before April of the year that you are taxing.

IX. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0

Adjournment time: 2:40 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES IN PAGES 01 TO 10 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOPS HELD FROM AUGUST 10, 1995 THRU AUGUST 12, 1995. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE AT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JRA

Abstain: 0

CITY SECRETARY

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Delia Rodriguez, Deputy City Secretary II

MINUTES APPROVED ON: August 21, 1995