

**CITY OF LAREDO  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS  
5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**M94-R-18**

**JUNE 20, 1994**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**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		
JESUS NAVA,	ASST. CITY MANAGER		
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY		

**ABSENCES:**

Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Special City Council Meeting of June 6, 1994
- Regular City Council Meeting of June 6, 1994

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

(Cw. Moreno came in at this time: 5:33 p.m.)

#### V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. Authorizing the establishment of a Sinking Fund for the payment of a purchase contract for the acquisition of approximately 251 acres of land to be acquired for use as a Landfill Site, a Regional Fire Training Facility and a Composting/Recycling Center.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with Anahuac Entertainment of Houston, Texas, a Texas Corporation acting by and through its President Bernabe Somoza, for the use of West Martin Field to conduct and promote various Tejano Music Artist performances/concerts.

1. Lease term is for two (2) days commencing on September 3, 1994 and ending September 4, 1994, with four 1 year options subject to availability during the Mexican Baseball Season Schedule.

Mr. Bernabe Somoza of Houston made the presentation. He stated that they have been producing concerts in four states, eight to ten in Texas and that the City of Laredo will not incur a financial risk.

Cm. Casso had questions on the term of the lease and in terms of cost if the city is responsible for all electrical, water, and sewage utilities and if the city also provides personnel to clean-up the facilities.

Mr. Nava stated that they will provide him with figures on the cost and that they have a contract for clean-up.

Salvador Tellez, City Attorney, asked the promoter to clarify Mr. Casso's question. He stated the one thing is the Termination Clause which says you have 90 days to terminate a contract, however an exercise option clause is not the same thing as a termination clause. He asked Mr. Zamosa what is the time frame that they use to notify the municipality or the governmental subdivision that they are going to exercise that option, to use the next year's date, or how far in advance do they normally give notice. He added one clause is to cancel the other one is to let us know that they will be using that date. If we can live with

that time frame, maybe we can incorporate it into the final reading.

Motion to incorporate a 120 days notice to the City in the part of the promoter to exercise their option to secure the following four year dates on or about September 4th and introduce the ordinance for final reading on the next regular meeting.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Utility Easement within Block "M", Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas to Central Power and Light Company.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #94-O-125 and #94-O-126.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 94-O-125 Approval of a contract amendment with the Texas Department of Health and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$11,333.00, for the Tuberculosis Elimination Project II of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning March 1, 1994, through August 31, 1994; and increasing Revenue Line Item #226-0000-323-4065 from \$0 to \$11,333.00, and increasing Expenditure Line Item #226-6011 from \$0 to \$11,333.00.  
(Unanimous City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 94-O-126 Ordinance closing the hearing on the Calle del Norte Paving Assessment Street Improvements Project and fixing a lien and charge. (Unanimous City Council)

Cm. Guerra questioned if we are going to assess the property owners and if the ordinance includes the sidewalks.

Mr. Vargas answered that they will assess Doctors Hospital, B.P. Newman, Max Mandel and George Juarez for two different lots and they are in agreement of this. The sidewalk issue is still being discussed with them to possibly incorporate it into the construction. Mr. Vargas stated that they do not have an ordinance that requires the sidewalks.

Amador Escudero stated that they have been in discussion with property owners and one of the concerns they have is that the construction of sidewalks, being that it is unplatted property at this time, they do not have location of driveways because there is no development plan.

Mayor Ramirez asked if the policy on sidewalks has been amended to say that it starts from the curb in instead of leaving an open area so that the green patches that are hard to maintain by the property owners are eliminated.

Amador Escudero answered that the policy has been amended.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VII. RESOLUTIONS

8. 94-R-060 Approving the nominees of District VI Councilmember Joe A. Guerra to the Airport Advisory Board, Cable Commission, Library Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Transportation and Traffic Safety Committee.

Mayor Ramirez asked if the Council would like to take the nominations on by advisory position or as a resolution.

Cm. G. Perez asked if they could be done in advisory board level.

Mayor stated it would be a motion to waive the rules and that each resolution recommendation by the members that are present be taken on a advisory board level and the vote recorded accordingly.



Motion re-appointing Pancho Mims to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas  
 Second: Cm. G. Perez  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion appointing Edward Norena the nominee of District VI Councilmember Joe A. Guerra to the Transportation and Traffic Safety Committee.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

9. 94-R-063 Approving the nominee of District II Councilmember Louis H. Bruni to the Airport Advisory Board, Beautification Board, Cable Commission, Library Advisory Board, Planning and Zoning Commission and the Transportation and Traffic Safety Committee.

Motion appointing Charles Martens the nominee of District II Councilmember Louis H. Bruni to the Airport Advisory Board.

Moved : Cm. Guerra  
 Second: Cm. G. Perez  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion appointing Tony Ramirez the nominee of District II Councilmember Louis H. Bruni to the Beautification Board.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion appointing Bruce Miller Earle the nominee of District II Councilmember Louis H. Bruni to the Cable Commission.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Castaneda  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion re-appointing Rose Woodruff the nominee of District II Councilmember Louis H. Bruni to the Library Advisory Board.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda  
 Second: Cm. Guerra  
 For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0







the City's International Bridges and the Health Department Complex.

Motion to award service contract to the low bidder, Solis Security Specialists, in the estimated amount of \$206,778.00, for providing security guard services for the City's International Bridges and the Health Department Complex.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Award of supply contracts to the Low Bidders, 4G Asphalt DBA Big Buck Asphalt, Inc., Laredo, Texas (\$2,100,000.00), Libcon Inc., DBA Leyendecker Materials, Laredo, Texas (\$817,741.30). City Ready Mix, Inc., Laredo, Texas (\$559,970.00), Texas Fuel & Asphalt Co., Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas (\$44,396.40), and JB Contractors Inc., DBA South Texas Utilities Contractors (\$26,250.00), for supplying the City with public works materials.

Motion to award supply contracts to the low bidders, 4G Asphalt DBA Big Buck Asphalt, Inc., (\$2,100,000.00), Libcon, Inc., DBA Leyendecker Materials, (\$817,741.30), City Ready Mix, Inc. (\$559,970.00), Texas Fuel & Asphalt Co., (\$44,396.40), and JB Contractors, Inc., DBA South Texas Utilities Contractors (\$26,250.00) for supplying the City with public works materials.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Award of an annual contract to the Low Bidder, Threadco, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$12,447.34, for providing tire recapping services for the Fleet Maintenance Division.

Motion to award annual contract to the low bidder, Threadco, in the amount of \$12,447.34 for providing tire recapping services for the Fleet Maintenance Division.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Award of a contract to the Lowest Bidder Meeting Specifications, Century Papers, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$23,688.00, for the purchase of approximately 360,000 plastic bags for use in the City's Recycling Program.

Motion to award contract to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Century Papers in the amount of \$23,688.00

for the purchase of approximately 360,000 plastic bags for use in the City's Recycling Program.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Trinidad Silva asked why are contracts so confidential? He stated he has been trying to get contracts and particularly who insures these contracts. He stated he had requested the Tejano Festival.

Mayor Ramirez stated that they are talking about the recycling bags and that they were specifically dealing with any items that are specifically mentioned in the agenda and that there is no discussion for general comments at this time.

Mr. Silva asked if he could get in the communications.

Mayor Ramirez stated that he has to request this.

18. Award of an Architectural/Engineering (A/E) contract to Cavazos & Associates, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$45,900.00, to provide surveys/platting, design, and preparation of plans and specifications for a New Fire Station to be located in the vicinity of Del Mar Boulevard and the Inner Loop.

Motion to award Architectural/Engineering (A/E) contract to Cavazos & Associates, for an amount not to exceed \$45,900.00 to provide surveys/platting, design, and preparation of plans and specifications for a New Fire Station to be located in the vicinity of Del Mar Boulevard and the Inner Loop.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

19. Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem as per Ordinance No. 90-0-101 which states that at the second meeting of the month of May or at the first meeting after all councilmembers are elected and qualified, City Council shall confirm one of the Councilmembers who shall be known and designated as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion to defer action for the Special City Council Meeting of July 27th.



Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
Second: Cm. Castaneda  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **XI. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION**

21. Request by Mayor and City Councilmembers for discussion and presentation.

### **A. Request by Councilmember Joe A. Guerra**

1. Status report on the extension of Del Mar Boulevard to the new Alexander High School.

Mr. Vargas submitted a memorandum from the Engineering Department to the City Council on the status of Del Mar Boulevard to the new Alexander High School. He stated that they have finalized the design plans for the reconstruction and that probably next week they will begin the utility relocation, also some of the construction for box culverts because we have three major areas where we are going to have to provide for drainage from the north to the south. He added that they have been in contact with the property owners on the front end of the property because they would like to have that at final design which is essentially five lanes, with the property owners paying for the difference (for the first 1000 feet). Mr. Vargas added that they will maintain the road open for two lanes at all times during the construction.

Mr. Vargas mentioned that he had spoken to several members of the Board of Education about the possibility of taking extra precautions to provide for a safety environment for the cars, primarily during the morning drive time and afternoon drive time. He stated that they have tried to expedite this project as soon as possible, but that it is impossible to have the project completed by late August or early September because of all the drainage involved.

Cm. Guerra suggested that the road be provided with caliche on both sides so that we can have some type of shoulders for emergency stops. He asked that the Engineering Department look into this possibility and come back with a recommendation at the next meeting.

Mr. Vargas stated that more patrols will be present to expedite the flow of traffic.

Mayor Ramirez asked that the Engineering Department prepare this report and circulate the information to Cm. Guerra and if he deems necessary to bring it back to council he will and if not, they can proceed accordingly.

Mr. Dave Davis asked why wasn't the timetable for the school taken into account in deciding when to begin construction?

Mr. Vargas stated that the city was never consulted about the construction of the J.B. Alexander School out there. The reason that the City Council approved the reconstruction of an existing road was because the Texas A & M University requested that this road be reconstructed in the event that the inner loop would not be constructed in time for the opening of the university campus. He added that was when the council authorized us to incorporate it into this year's budget, hopefully to build the road as soon as possible.

Cm. Bruni stated for the record that the road is in deplorable condition and it is a very dangerous road. He asked that the presence of the police department be out there for traffic safety.

Mike Kramer stated that in 1992 when McPherson was being re-engineered, the Army Corp of Engineers, paid for an expensive study of drainage including the tributaries that lead from that particular area. At the same time U.I.S.D was negotiating with bidders for the award of J.B. Alexander. He stated that it seems to him that at the same time the Army Corp of Engineers was doing work for McPherson that they could have been doing the same work in preparation for the street to be redone by the city for this extension out to J.B. Alexander.

Mayor Ramirez pointed out that the City Charter, except for grant type of designations does not allow us to improve right-of-ways except those that are the city's. Most of that right-of-way ends up being part of the county or was, since that time we have moved into that area. The city was never approached on the development of this particular high school and especially the roads leading in and out of the high school and most importantly everything takes tax dollars, this project is estimated at \$2,300,000.00.

Mr. Tellez clarified the point of the relationship between the different governmental units in this county and the city. He stated that they did not become aware of the extent of the size of the high school until the land owners came in to subdivide the property and that's when they officially became aware of it. The U.I.S.D. position for the longest time has been that they are not subject to platting and building requirements. The city has had a tug of war with them to try to bring in the plans to see the magnitude of the project. He added that it is not that we do not want to cooperate with UISD, it's that we have not had full cooperation from the other governmental unit.

Mayor Ramirez stated that in 1992 the city did not have jurisdiction over the city limits except for the platting

and subdividing of the property. We did not even have the right-of-way to be able to start any design or any construction outside of our city limits, because we would be in absolute violation of the City Charter.

## XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open the public hearing(s):

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Public hearing on approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$74,703.00, for the "Los Dos Laredos" Binational Tuberculosis Elimination Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning February 1, 1994, through January 31, 1995; and that an ordinance be introduced.

### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$74,703.00, for the "Los Dos Laredos" Binational Tuberculosis Elimination Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning February 1, 1994, through January 31, 1995; and increasing Revenue Line Item #226-0000-323-4059 from \$100,398.00 to \$175,101.00; and increasing Expenditure Line Item #226-6093 from \$100,398.00 to \$175,101.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Jerry Robinson was present to answer any questions.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

23. Public hearing on approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget providing



Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jerry Robinson, Health Director, made the presentation and gave an explanation on "minority male". He stated that is a federal idea and it signifies a particular funding category that they created at national level.

There was no public input.

(Cm. Cardenas stepped out momentarily.)

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

25. Public hearing on approval of an amendment to the contract with the Laredo Housing Authority and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$35,276.00, for recreational activities to be provided to the youth of the Laredo Housing Authority by the City of Laredo Recreation Division for the period beginning September 24, 1993, through January 12, 1995; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of an amendment to the contract with the Laredo Housing Authority and budget providing additional funds in the amount of \$35,276.00, for recreational activities to be provided to the youth of the Laredo Housing Authority by the City of Laredo Recreation Division for the period beginning September 24, 1993, through January 12, 1995; and increasing Revenue Line Item #101-0000-357-2250 from \$16,544.00 to \$51,820.00; and increasing Expenditure Line Item #101-3120-552-0401 from \$16,544.00 to \$51,820.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Francisco Gonzalez representative of the Housing Authority made the presentation.

Cm. Guerra asked for a list of guidelines that the Housing



Authority requires for people that want housing in different sites.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Guerra  
Second: Cm. G. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

26. Public hearing on approval of an amendment to the City of Laredo's 1993-1994 Annual Budget in the amount of \$993,905.00 for a grant awarded by the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, to be used for personnel and supplies for an organized, multi-agency Narcotics Trafficking Task Force and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's 1993-1994 Annual Budget in the amount of \$993,905.00, for a grant awarded by the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, to be used for personnel and supplies for an organized, multi-agency Narcotics Trafficking Task Force for the period beginning June 1, 1994 through May 31, 1995.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas  
Second: Cm. G. Perez  
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Trinidad Silva questioned if there was a system in place to check to see if these monies are being used wisely. He had a concern with the control of overtime paid to police officers.

Mr. Vargas stated that the narcotics task force is setup in a four county area (Webb, La Salle, Zapata and Jim Hogg) is a combined joint effort in the part of all the legal enforcement agencies in these four county areas. Mr. Vargas added that officers from all these counties will work as a multi-agency task force under grants from the government's office. The nature of this particular project has a considerable amount of overtime because of the nature of the task force. There is a considerable amount of overtime and it is something that they have reviewed and are constantly reviewing. The overtime is basically for individuals assigned to the task force and the budget is not a secret, the number of people is not confidential, but the

individual's names are confidential.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cw. Moreno  
 Second: Cm. G. Perez  
 For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

27. Public hearing on fixing and ordering the experimental residential and thermal electric storage service time-of-use rates and a commercial and industrial demand curtailment rate to be charged by Central Power & Light Company, a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, its successors and assigns, within the City of Laredo, Texas; and that an ordinance be introduced.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Fixing and ordering the experimental residential and thermal electric storage service time-of-use rates and a commercial and industrial demand curtailment rate to be charged by Central Power & Light Company, a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, its successors and assigns, within the City of Laredo, Texas; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez  
 Second: Cm. Cardenas  
 For: 8

Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Mr. Ruben Correa, Area Manager for Central Power and Light, was present before the City Council to answer any questions. He summarized the fiber optic service program and the proposition plus the technical aspects of the tariffs proposed. He stated what CP&L is seeking is action to approve the proposed new experimental demand-side management tariffs. He explained that there are three tariffs proposed:

(1) Experimental Time-of-Use Residential Tariff which is associated with the installation of the fiber optic line.

(2) Experimental Thermal Storage service tariff which would be available to commercial and industrial customers that would qualify for service. This is a high technology

that would allow customers to use energy during off-peak hours.

(3) Experimental Demand Curtailment Rider which would be



