

**CITY OF LAREDO
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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

MINUTES

M-93-R-07

MARCH 15, 1993

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 led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR.,	MAYOR		
JOSE R. PEREZ, JR.,	COUNCILMEMBER,	DISTRICT I	
JACINTO P. JUAREZ,	"	, DISTRICT II	
ARLENE RASH ALDRIDGE,	"	, DISTRICT III	(5:35 P.M.)
CECILIA MAY MORENO,	"	, DISTRICT IV	
BLAS CASTANEDA,	"	, DISTRICT V	
EDUARDO PERALES,	"	, DISTRICT VI	
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ,	"	, DISTRICT VII	
FELIPE CARDENAS,	"	, DISTRICT VIII	
CARLOS VILLARREAL,	ASSISTANT CITY	MANAGER	
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY		

ABSENCES:

Peter H. Vargas, City Manager
Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Special City Council Meeting: February 24, 1993
Regular City Council Meeting: March 1, 1993

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Empresas Deportivas De Nuevo Laredo, S.A. De C.V. for the use of West Martin Field by Los Tecolotes De Los Dos Laredos, Mexican Baseball Team, during the 1993 Mexican Professional Baseball season.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an instrument abandoning an easement located in Lots 2 and 3 of the Pellegrino Industrial Park.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Declaring the necessity for, and ordering the paving of certain streets, and setting a public hearing for Paving Assessment Project 45 for May 17, 1993.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Authorizing the sale of that section of Ryan Street between Marcella and Sanders Avenues to Vicente Castaneda Jr., Nicasio Gonzalez III, and Juan Jose Rendon.

At this time Carlos Villarreal requested that City Council take action on item #11 which relates to this item.

Motion to waive the rules of order and take item #11 at this time.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council (Except Cm. Castaneda)

7. Amending Chapter 6 (Animal and Fowl) of the Code of Ordinances, to make the Animal Control Ordinance consistent with the State of Texas Statutes.

Mr. Robinson made the presentation and presented to council an ordinance that is in compliance or consistent with the State of Texas Statutes.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Use Agreement between the City of Laredo and the Laredo Independent School District for the use of two portions of Section D (as shown in Exhibit A), known as the East Martin Field and West Martin Field.

Cm. Juarez mentioned that on the agreement it should be mentioned or added some type of arrangement that they should lend the parking facilities whenever we have a function of a magnitude that our own parking is not able to accommodate.

Mr. Fernando Cantu asked that council consider waiting for the leasing because this location can be used as a possible site to remodel or expand the old civic center.

Cm. Juarez stated that the undeveloped land should stay as undeveloped land and that they should take into consideration the parking facilities that they have for our events in the parking already developed.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 9. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Laredo Development Foundation and their authorized agents granting them permission and authority to use the City's logo/trademark "LAREDO - GATEWAY TO MEXICO" in their marketing and/or promotional efforts on behalf of the City of Laredo.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

Motion to waive the rules of order and move item XI.(B)

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

VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #93-O-052, #93-O-054, #93-O-055, #93-O-056, and #93-O-057.

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

- 10. 93-O-052 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Sean Hoey d/b/a Allied Air Conditioning for the approximate 2,500 square feet constituting Building #1341 and associated fenced-in yard area located at 3917 North Jarvis Avenue at the Laredo International Airport; for the purpose of an air conditioning maintenance station. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

revenue line item #226-0000-323-4040 from \$2,034 to \$114,362, and increasing expenditure line item #226-6062 from \$2,304 to \$114,362.
(City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 93-O-057 Grant award from the Office of the Governor, Automobile Theft Prevention Authority, in the amount of \$206,869 to combat auto theft in the City of Laredo and Webb County for Fiscal Year 1992-1993. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

16. 93-R-024 Authorizing the City Manager to explore the use of products and services from the Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to explore the use of products and services from the Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped.

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

17. 93-R-025 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Limited Power of Attorney with Jorge Bazan, an employee of Rudolph Miles & Sons, Inc., Foreign Trade Zone User.

Cm. Juarez questioned what is meant by limited power of attorney.

Jose Salvador Tellez, City Attorney, stated that limited power of attorney just gives the person the authority to conduct whatever business that document says he can do. He added in this case the person is just being authorized to execute certain customs forms that are required to be filed with the customs service on behalf of the city with regards to the free trade zone.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute a Limited Power of Attorney with Jorge Bazan, an employee of Rudolph Miles & Sons, Inc., Foreign Trade Zone User.

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

18. 93-R-026 Approving a contract amendment and accepting funds in the estimated amount of \$38,152 from the Texas Department of Health for Fiscal Year 1992-1993 providing for an increase in the reimbursement per participant served per month by the WIC Program at the Health Department.

Motion to approve a contract amendment and accepting funds in the estimated amount of \$38,152 from the Texas Department of Health.

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

19. 93-R-027 Approving a contract amendment and accepting funds in the amount of \$61,712 from the Texas Department of Health for Fiscal Year 1992-1993 providing additional funds for the Maternal and Child Health Neural Tube Defects Project.

Motion to approve a contract amendment and accepting funds in the amount of \$61,712 from the Texas Department of Health.

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

20. 93-R-028 Establishing fair market value for surplus airport properties identified on Exhibit A, and authorizing the Department of Community Development to pay fair market value to the Airport fund for these properties to be designated for affordable housing through the "HOME" program administered by the Department of Community Development. (With possible executive session under Article 6252-17, Section 2(f) as to the value of property)

Motion establishing fair market value for surplus airport properties identified on Exhibit A, and authorizing the Department of Community Development to pay fair market value to the Airport fund for these properties to be designated for affordable housing through the "HOME" program

Motion to approve a refund of taxes in the amount of \$1,063.51 that were erroneously paid to the City by the Mone Company.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

24. Award of a contract in the amount of \$56,964 to the Low Bidder, Balch Machine Co., Inc., Brownsville, Texas, for the purchase of one 15 million gallon per day high service raw water pump for the Jefferson Water Plant.

Motion to award a contract in the amount of \$56,964 to the low bidder, Balch Machine Co., Inc., Brownsville, Texas, for the purchase of one 15 million gallon per day high service raw water pump for the Jefferson Water Plant.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

25. Award of a contract in the amount of \$23,000 to the Low Bidder, K.P. Trailers, San Antonio, Texas, for the purchase of four backhoe trailers for the Utility Department.

Motion to award a contract in the amount of \$23,000 to the low bidder, K.P. Trailers, San Antonio, Texas, for the purchase of four backhoe trailer for the Utility Department.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

26. Award of a contract in the amount of \$12,500 to the Sole Bidder, Law Dogs Inc., Rio Grande City, Texas, for the purchase of three fully trained law enforcement canines for the Police Department.

Motion to award a contract in the amount of \$12,500 to the sole bidder, Law Dogs Inc., Rio Grande City, Texas, for the purchase of three fully trained law enforcement canines for the Police Department.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

27. Approval of amendment no. 2, for an amount not to exceed \$2,250, to the architectural contract with Alderete & Associates, Architects, Laredo, Texas, for the Laredo International Airport Passenger Terminal Addition.

Motion to approve amendment no. 2, for an amount not to exceed \$2,250, to the architectural contract with Alderete & Associates, Architects, Laredo, Texas, for the Laredo International Airport Passenger Terminal Addition.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Mayor Ramirez stepped out momentarily and Mayor Pro-tem chaired the meeting at this time. - 9:20 P.M.)

28. Approval of amendment no. 2, an increase of \$9,820, to the engineering contract with Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for the Lift Stations Project.

Motion to approve amendment no. 2, an increase of \$9,820 to the engineering contract with Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas for the Lift Stations Project.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cw. Aldridge stepped out momentarily. - 9:30 P.M.)

29. Approval of change order no. 1, a decrease of \$167,698.95, to the construction contract with City Forces, to delete three (3) blocks on Ventura Street and defer six and one-half (6.5) blocks in West Laredo; under the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 35 (40 Blocks).

Motion to approve change order no. 1, a decrease of \$167,698.95, the construction contract with City Forces, to delete three (3) blocks on Ventura Street and defer six and one-half (6.5) blocks in West Laredo; under the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 35 (40 blocks).

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Approval of change order no. 6, an increase of \$19,831.08, with no change in the contract time, to the construction contract with J & B Contractors, d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 36 (40 Blocks).

Motion to change order no. 6, an increase of \$19,831.08, with no change in the contract time to the construction contract with J & B Contractors d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Paving Assessment Project 34 (40 Blocks).

Moved : Cm. Juarez
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

31. Award of a construction contract to the Low Bidder,
 Border Utilities, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of
 \$175,301.15, for Project 42 Pace Street (Convent - Davis)
 Drainage Improvements.

Motion to award construction contract to the low bidder,
 Border Utilities, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of
 \$175,301.15 for Project 42 Pace Street (Convent - Davis)
 Drainage Improvements.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

32. Approval of change order no. 1, an increase of \$56,506.50 to
 add 35 blocks to the construction contract with Cutler
 Repaving, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas, for the Laredo Street
 Recycling Project 1992-1993. The number of blocks involved
 in this project totals 193 after this addition.

Motion to approve change order no. 1, an increase of
 \$56,505.50 to add 35 blocks to the construction contract with
 Culter Repaving, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas, for the Laredo
 Street Recycling Project 1992-1993.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

33. Approval of change order no. 2, an increase of \$83,509, and
 increase in contract time of 20 calendar days, to the
 construction contract with McLean Construction Company,
 Killeen, Texas, for the Major Water Distribution Mains in
 North Laredo Project.

Motion to approve change order no. 2, an increase of \$83,509,
 and increase in contract time of 20 calendar days, to the
 construction contract with McLean Construction Company,
 Killeen, Texas, for the Major Water Distribution Mains in
 North Laredo Project.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
 Second: Cm. Perez
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

34. Approval of change order no. 3, a decrease of \$13,922,
 acceptance of the project, and approval of final payment in
 the amount of \$46,805.36, to Ramex Construction, Inc.,
 Houston, Texas, for the Water Line Improvements on Guadalupe
 Street from Martin Street to Zacate Creek (25 Blocks), on

Chihuahua Street from Sanders to Zacate Creek (2 Blocks), and on Matamoros Street from San Dario to Zacate Creek (5 Blocks).

Motion to approve change order no. 3, a decrease of \$13,922.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

35. Authorizing the sale of a surplus 1973 Fire Pumper to the City of El Cenizo, Texas, for the amount of \$4,500.

Motion authorizing the sale of a surplus 1973 Fire Pumper to the City of El Cenizo, Texas for the amount of \$4,500.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cw. Aldridge was out at this time.)

36. Authorizing the City Manager to submit the City of Laredo Comprehensive Gang Initiative Program Application to the U.S. Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Law Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 1993 funding, and accept any grant award that may result from the submission.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to submit the City of Laredo Comprehensive Gang Initiative Program Application to the U.S. Department of Justice Edward Bryne Memorial Law Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 1993 funding, and accept any grant award that may result from the submission.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. COMMUNICATIONS

At this time Mayor Ramirez stated various members of the City Council went to Washington on a trip and went over the itinerary.

Mayor Ramirez stated they met with Mr. Erwin Rubenstein and Bob Kine of the State Department; from Senator Bob Krueger's staff, Mr. Bob Slaughter; the acting commissioner of U.S. Customs, Michael Lane; with Mayor Bronaugh of Lufkin, Texas on the proposed IH 69 highway project; with Secretary Federico Pena of the Department of Transportation; Senator Gramm's office John Seavacor and Joyce Jack; with Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Henry Cisneros; and Ms.

Jane Hickey of the Texas Department in Washington; Mr. Matt Gorman of the Treasury Department; Congressman Henry Bonilla and his staff; Congressman Salomon Ortiz and Mr. Jose Villarreal, Clinton National Deputy Campaign Chairman; Bob Gilman of the Treasury and Charles Davis of Customs and Control. He added the meetings were very tight but fruitful as they relate to EDA Grants of which funding will be forthcoming for the end of the month. These funds are for the extension of Springfield as well as McPherson and the extension of sewer all the way to the detention center down to Del Mar Blvd. He added that included in the economic package was the new airport terminal.

XI. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATIONS

37. Requests by the Mayor and Councilmembers for discussion and presentation.

A. Request from Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr.

Appointment of nominees to the Youth Advisory Committee.

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, appointed the following:

- (1) Monica J. Santos 1504 Calle del Norte
 (2) Gerardo A. Garza 217 Maguey
 Alternate: Veronica J. Cavazos

Motion to accept Mayor Ramirez's appointees to the Youth Advisory Committee.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

B. Requests from Councilmember Arlene Rash-Aldridge

1. Request by Guillermo Pena and other residents of Villa Del Sol to address the City Council.
 (Co-Sponsored by Councilmember Jose Perez)

Mr. Guillermo Pena, President of Villa Del Sol Subdivision representing the residents addressed the council on their concerns. He questioned authorization and permit given by the Building Department to the owner of a house that was moved in Villa del Sol on Market/Espana. He added that this house does not conform with the restrictions of Villa Del Sol.

Mr. Pena stated that the house is hazardous and dangerous and that this house is not conforming to this area. He stated that this house is causing a problem in the

subdivision and asked that council take action and help in resolving this problem.

A video presentation of the house and the location was shown at this time and narrated by Mr. Salinas.

Mr. Benny Salinas, Building Inspector, stated inspections were made of the house before and after the moving to this location. He added that a report was made of the requirements that need to be complied with. Mr. Salinas stated that the house is fixable.

Cw. Aldridge stated that they had directed the owner to the Community Development Department to see what they could possibly do to help them to finish the house with brick because the owners do not have the finances to do this.

Cw. Aldridge added that Cindy Collazo had stated that one of the requirements to help them is that they must live there six months in order to get a loan.

Salvador Tellez, City Attorney, stated that when a property is sold, it's the obligation of the buyer to find out if there are deed restrictions in that property. He added that it's not the obligation of the building inspector to inform of any deed restrictions only inform the zoning restrictions for construction.

Mr. Pena also stated that the moving permit was incomplete, no date, no time, no escort or route that would be taken.

Carlos Villarreal stated we are morally obligated to help resolve this problem and that in a case such as these, that the requirement that CDA has for the six month period is based in general, but that in a case such as this we could bring it to council to see if it can be rehabilitated and an exception could be made so that it is conforming with the restrictions of Villa del Sol subject to the individual qualifying.

Mr. Villarreal also suggested that they meet with the owner, the person that sold the property, and the homeowners of the area.

Cm. Juarez suggested that in the future before a structure is moved that we should incorporate a system whereas if a structure is to be moved, that before this structure is moved that as a part of the permit procedure that the deed restrictions be checked so as to not cause a problem such as this.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that it be investigated in

general and suggested that a copy of the deed of the property be submitted to be revised at the time of asking for the permit before the structure is moved, but not incorporated at the original deed because this might cause problems.

Cm. Jerry Perez suggested that they take Mr. Villarreal's recommendation to help them fix the house.

Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manager, stated that he would like to possibly meet with Mr. Pena and the representatives, the owner of the house and the person that sold them the property to hopefully come up with some form of solution that might be acceptable to all the residents to resolve this problem.

Mr. Juan Zavala, Vice President of Villa del Sol, questioned regulations regarding the foundation to conform with requirements. He added this has to be a solid construction.

Mr. Villarreal stated that will get together as soon as possible to see if they can come up with a solution.

Motion was made to recess at this time: 6:50 P.M.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Request by Trinidad Silva to address the City Council.

Mr. Silva addressed the council to ascertain on the procedures to get in the agenda. He stated that according to the City Charter there should be some kind of procedure when applying to be on the agenda and stated there is no procedure and asked why he was told he was out of order in a previous item if there are no such procedures. He added the procedures were never approved.

He stated that they had told him that whenever he had a problem that he approach the City Secretary and City Manager. He added that the City Manager can never be found. He stated that they are violating the City Charter.

He also wanted clarification on the Appeal and Grievance Committee to see if they are in compliance.

Mr. Tellez stated that he had check with Mr. Crafton on the Grievance Committee and clarified on Mr. Silva's concern which was that certain people have been reappointed every time and whether that's proper or not. Mr. Tellez stated that basically as he read the procedure

for appointing the people the first time some people will be appointed for six months and other people will be appointed for a full year and then after that the people who have staggered terms will be appointed every year after that including the members at large that were elected by employees of the City of Laredo.

He explained to Mr. Silva that the policy does not determine as to how long a person can sit on the grievance committee and basically if they get reappointed by people who designate them they get reappointed again for another year.

Mr. Silva had concerns on the standing rules of order.

Mayor Ramirez stated we do have standing rules of order which are the Robert Rules of Order under the Parliamentary Procedures.

Another of Mr. Silva's request was concerning provision in the City Charter section 2.06 (investigations). He stated there is no city ordinance that would provide for penalties to compel documents and witnesses to appear to safeguard if there is any wrong doing in the city since the Mayor Ramirez was elected. He asked why they have not implemented a city ordinance in this system where many delegations can be clarified such as the Ad Hoc Committee to see if they are in compliance with the laws in the City Charter.

Mr. Tellez stated that he was not in a position to inform the council whether there is an ordinance that compliments that particular provision of the charter and that he would look into it.

Mr. Tellez stated that not all provisions require an ordinance to enforce them some of them are very clear and give the authority to the city council to do certain things so they do not necessarily need an ordinance.

Cm. Castaneda made a motion to look into Mr. Silva's requests and to see how we can proceed by making sure that we have a process in place to take care of this situation.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request from Councilmember Cecilia Moreno

Second request for a time line for Projects 42 and 43.

A report was presented to City Council members from the

Engineering Department by Mr. Rogelio Rivera on the status of Projects 35, 37, 42, and 43.

Project 35 (40 Blocks) to be completed by the end of March.
Project 37 (47 Blocks) to be completed in May, 1993.
Project 42 (47 Blocks) to be completed in March, 1994.
Project 43 (46 Blocks) to be started in April 1993 and to be completed in March 1994.

(Cm. Juarez stepped out momentarily - 9:50 P.M.)

D. Requests from Councilmember Jerry Perez

1. Presentation by Hector Liendo concerning a swimming pool in West Laredo.

Judge Hector Liendo asked for council's cooperation to build a swimming pool in one of the city's parks. He added that there are two parks to be considered if the council so wishes which are the Gaby & Orlando Canizales Park and the Ladrillera Neighborhood Park.

Mr. Liendo stated that the city would not be paying for the construction of the pool. He continued by saying he would be working with the neighborhood clubs. Judge Liendo stated that after meeting with some of the club leaders that 90% would like to be part of the community project.

He asked that the city give them the go ahead and to agree to take over the operation and maintenance of the swimming pool once it is constructed. He stated some of the work will be done by students that have been asked to do community service. He added this is a community effort to keep the kids out of the streets.

Mayor Ramirez supported and congratulated Judge Liendo's initiative in getting the clubs involved and activities coordinated. He stated that whatever its constructed within the conformities, that it will be maintained and operated in accordance with our standard operations within the City of Laredo.

Motion to proceed accordingly.

Moved : Cw. Aldridge
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Presentation by Armando Elizondo, representing the National Little League; with discussion and possible action.

Cm. G. Perez stated that this item was taken care of.

3. Presentation by John Bruce, Director of the Jobs Corps, concerning traffic on Santa Maria; with discussion and possible action.

Cm. G. Perez stated that this item was taken care of.

E. Requests from Councilmember Felipe Cardenas

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the current ordinances regarding truck routes and sidewalk sales not being enforced.

Cm. Cardenas stated that it was brought to his attention that tractor trailers continue to move from west to east and that an ordinance was passed prohibiting this.

Cm. Cardenas concern was who's responsibility it is to enforce this ordinance.

Also, it was brought to his attention that certain trucking companies such as Quesada keep operating and he was asked if they were exempt from this ordinance. It was brought to his attention that according to Mr. Aranda he was exempt from this ordinance.

Mayor Ramirez stated that the way he understands the exemptions is that if any business that is on Scott Street that on their vehicles show that they are located on Scott Street they have a right to operate both ways.

Carlos Villarreal, Assistant City Manager, stated that from their understanding of the ordinance eastbound traffic coming eastbound the only traffic that's allowed to come in Scott is the trailers that are going to the southeast portion of town which is the Logan warehouse area. He added nothing exempts anybody from having to comply if some of the companies are located on Scott Street that they be allowed to go there.

Mayor Ramirez stated a very important point that has to be made clear that if we are going to the southeast part of the city which is the Logan Area then it's o.k.

Mr. Villarreal stated that our office and the Police Department are responsible for enforcing this ordinance.

Chief of Police, J.L. Martinez, stated that Quesada trailers have a right and are allowed to go his location (west to east unless they are going to the southeast portion like everyone else).

Cm. Cardenas was also concerned on the sidewalk ordinance

that is not being enforced and added it needs to be enforced for obstruction of sidewalks before an accident occurs.

Mr. Villarreal stated that they met with the individuals of Care of Premises and staff from the Legal Department staff and he stated there is a problem in enforcement because the ordinance is not very explicit as to who they can go ahead and ticket. He added that they are working with the Legal Department and that perhaps an amendment has to be made to make the ordinance more explicit as to what we need to do to cite those individuals obstructing the pathway for pedestrians.

2. Discussion and possible action concerning traffic control at the intersection of Iturbide and San Pablo.

Cm. Cardenas stated he was contacted by the residents of La Azteca that the speed limit is being violated which makes the residents concerned.

Mr. Villarreal stated that they are recommending that the traffic control from San Enrique and Iturbide be moved to San Pablo and Iturbide.

Mr. Landin with the Traffic Department recommended by the study that was done that the traffic control be moved to San Pablo and Iturbide.

3. Request for the results of a study that was made concerning the removal of the parking meters on Zaragoza between Santa Ursula and San Agustin.

Motion to table indefinitely.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cm. Juarez stepped out momentarily. - 10:10 P.M.)

4. Request for a status report concerning Fire Station No. 3 on San Bernardo.

Cm. Cardenas stated that constituents were concern that there was no ambulance or fire engine in that area in case an emergency occurs.

Chief Mike Perez, Fire Department, stated they will start the refurbishing of the station. He added \$80,000 were allowed for refurbishing during the budget hearings. An update will be given in 30 days and will be finish in approximately 60 days.

Cm. G. Perez stated that their concern was that they never mentioned moving the staff and ambulance from that station.

Mr. Villarreal stated that the building has to be completely gutted and that they will expand the parking. Mr. Villarreal stated it was their mistake not to mention this.

Chief Mike Perez stated that they are going to make an ambulance station out of this station and make it liveable and adaptable for a fire station before they can move in.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open the Public Hearing(s):

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

38. Public hearing concerning a proposed convention and multi-events center for the City of Laredo.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Juan Ramon Barrera was speaking neutral as to a convention center, but stated that if it would be built that it be built within the city limits or downtown.

Mr. Victor Jacaman spoke in reference to the location. He stated that the appropriate place for a convention center would be near the Royce Hotel near the border.

Mr. Fernando Cantu, President of the Hotel-Motel Association, stated he was one of the minority members of the Ad Hoc Committee that disagree with the ad hoc report. He stated that they made a minority report and submitted a copy to council.

Note: No minority report was submitted to the City Secretary's Office.

Mr. Abraham Rodriguez stated that they had not received a copy of their report (the minority report).

Mr. Cantu brief the council about the need, the financing and the site selection and that they had come up with a

conclusion that we need a civic center or convention center at Milo or the east part of Milo. He added that they went thru data from the rental revenue from the civic center operating budget for 1991/92.

He added with the type of figures showing in the operating budget and the low rental income does not justify the building of a 17.5 million center whose operating cost will depend on the income that it produces.

Mr. Cantu continued by saying that being that Laredo has very few airlines they also felt it would be difficult to attract conventions. He added that they had projected that the hotel tax will build the center and that it will cost the taxpayer zero monies, but that it was projected that the convention center would lose \$300,000 at the new civic center.

He had concerns in average projections in revenues, because of losses if the convention center is built in north Laredo. He opposed the locations and stated that remodeling the old civic center would suffice. He stated that the minority committee had come to the opinion that the project as a whole should be tabled for more data to be available. He added that it be studied further and that council should wait for an election on August or November.

Mr. Charles Martens spoke in favor of the convention center and the revenues that it would provide. He spoke against the location in downtown or near the river because of infrastructure. He continued by stating, that the people should voice what Laredo needs instead of what their particular group needs.

Mr. Rafael Lacona, Laredo State University, professor opposed the convention project because of low income families in Laredo and Nuevo Laredo which cannot afford to go to this kind of events.

Mr. Floyd Chamniss a resident of Laredo spoke against the convention center due to prices of admission on events which he stated the poor people in Laredo cannot afford.

Mr. John Fitzgibbon stated spoke in favor of a convention center and spoke about the competition that other towns offer. He added we need to compete and build the tools that go with the big cities and suggested that the locations should be studied and voted for. He expressed his concern regarding the figures involved and suggested that every facet be brought up and brought back to a referendum at another time.

Mr. Aldo Tatangelo spoke in favor of the convention center suggested it be put to another year, he spoke against the Milo location.

Mr. Jesus Hernandez spoke in favor of the convention center. He spoke in regards to public meetings inviting the public to hear the pros and cons for a convention center. He suggested public hearings on different locations.

Mr. Trinidad Silva stated he had voted against this issue in the last election. He stated this issue has to do with economics, politics, what is legal, and what the hardships are for the people who cannot afford to endeavor in this efforts. Mr. Silva stated if its a political issue we can debate this and eventually it going to come before the people to see and decide whether its going to be built or not. He stated that his problem had to do with confusion and misinformation given because he believed it should have been done as part of the capital improvements that provide for the City Charter. Mr. Silva questioned as to how they are the going to make improvements; how it's going to be financed and maintained; and where are the resources coming from to build this convention center. He stated he was confused because it was said that they were going to spend \$13 million in bonds and that they never said it was going to cost \$20 million. He questioned, where is the rest of the monies coming from?

He asked Mayor Ramirez if according to the open meeting act, if the Ad Hoc Committee was legal because they have to comply with certain provisions of the law, whether they had a quorum because he had requested the minutes and no minutes were provided. He asked if it was in compliance and consistent with the open meeting act.

Salvador Tellez, City Attorney, stated that it was comprised of representatives of each district with appointment by the Mayor. He stated that as an Advisory Committee it met under direction of the City Council to come up with a plan and selection of the site for the convention center. Mr. Tellez asked if Mr. Silva's question was if it was obligated to conform with the open meetings act? He continued by saying they were required to post all meetings because it was created under the legislative branch of the City Council.

Mr. Silva stated only three agendas were posted and no minutes. He stated he could not see if there was a quorum which he thought it was a violation because you have to have a quorum which is the majority of the members appointed which is (18) members. He stated this is a violation.

Mr. Silva clarified, if he appointed this committee he was in violation of City Charter because the City Charter provides a process to build Capital Improvements, so why give the burden to the committee when you have a City Charter.

Mayor Ramirez stated that the capital improvement program for this particular item does not get placed on it until the

voters approve it.

Mr. Silva stated it was already voted down.

Mr. Tellez stated any item voted down in a referendum can be brought back within a year of next general election and that we are in the guidelines of the next election.

Mr. Silva again questioned on the violation of the Open Meeting Act Law concerning this Ad Hoc Committee.

Mayor Ramirez suggested that he present this matter to the City Secretary because its up to the City Secretary to post the meetings.

Mr. Silva stated he had many questions regarding the City Charter. He asked where he got his power or authority to go to Washington if he was a ceremonial figure he added that his duties are specifically assigned by the charter.

Mayor Ramirez answered that he goes a as chief elected official to represent them in soliciting federal and state resources to improve our community and everything that he had done in Washington and Austin have results. He offered to show all agendas that he has carried to Washington since he's been going and the effectiveness of these trips.

Mr. Jose Valdez spoke in favor of the convention center. He added that the issue here is whether or not to build the convention center not the sites or personalities. He added this is a public hearing and not a debate with the council or not to question anybody. He spoke on concerns of the retiring the debt, the bond ratings, and different points concerning financing but added that he had faith that we have good administrators and a sound administration. He added the issues were clouded at the last election and people were not voting and it was very unfair because they were mislead. He suggested that this issue be considered again by leaving it to the people to vote. He urged that this item be sent back to the people to decide.

Mr. Miguel Conchas, representing the Chamber of Commerce, supported the concept of a convention center and urged one matter to be kept in mind which is to advertise and promote the convention center.

Mr. Francisco Horazo spoke in favor of the convention center for the future "Kids of Tomorrow." He urged and asked that that the convention center be built and that we have this opportunity now and not in the future.

Mayor Ramirez mentioned that he had received letters from high school students complaining about the fact that there is a lack of a facility for entertainment and pleading to us as

a city to do something about this situation.

Jesus Reynoso spoke in favor of the convention center. He added that something should be done to keep the Taxpayers League from manipulating the press. He added voters were misguided by the Taxpayers League.

Abraham Rodriguez asked for the minority report which he did not get a copy of which was never presented to him. Mr. Rodriguez stated that there was misinformation again, he clarified, "that it is not on Milo, but in the intersection of McPherson and the inner loop (around that area)." He added this is not the old site that this is another site, a new site. He added professionals were used to conduct the study.

Andres Sandoval expressed his view in reference to the past administrations being negative and having monies being misused. He spoke in favor of the convention center but added that the priorities are others such as trailers, tractors and infrastructure which are still problems to be solved.

Jorge Casiano, Sr. spoke in favor and spoke of manipulation from the press concerning this issue to mislead people.

Frank Staggs commented on the votes of the last election. He asked if the 64 votes would have been on the other side, if they would have given up the idea because it was not a mandate.

James Notzon a member of the Taxpayers League stated he was not against the convention center but would like that all the options be explored in an open form and presented to the people of the community to review.

Salvador Tellez asked City Council to allow him exercise his right pursuant to page 47 of the City Charter, Section 12.04 (5) to express his opinions and cast his vote as a member of the community. First of all he stated that as a citizen he was disappointed on certain city councilperson's conduct that they interrupt somebody that's trying to exercise their first amendment right. He added that the two young men that spoke before deserve to be recognized because we, as the older generation, have the right to encourage and set the proper example for the youth of Laredo to participate in participatory democracy. He continued by saying that as a citizen of Laredo that this is a political issue that does not belong in the court rooms as some people have placed it. He pointed that Laredo has been kept from development because of the isolation attitude. He added we have a progressive City Council that wants to make Laredo grow but that the public has been misled by private interest who want to protect their pockets. He added that the growth projections are to the north and northwest so that infrastructure and

facilities have to be built where the projections of population are to grow.

Mr. Tellez suggested and encouraged to put the proposition for a referendum for a convention center and maybe consider putting the location on the referendum also, to get a clear view of what the public wants.

Motion to close the public hearing.

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

39. Public hearings concerning each of the ten tracts of land for which petitions for annexation have been received. The tracts are as follows:

**a. J.B. Alexander Magnet High School Tract
(28.6022 acres)**

Motion to open the public hearing(s) and take each one individually.

Moved :	Cm. Perales		
Second:	Cm. Juarez		
For: 8		Against: 0	Abstain: 0

Cw. Aldridge moved to suspend the public hearings for all the tracts of land until there is a better understanding of what kind of impact its going to give the city as a whole to annex all these areas.

Moved : Cw. Aldridge

NO SECOND.

MOTION DIES FOR FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Marina Sukup, Planning Director made the presentation of the J.B. Alexander Magnet High School Tract land for which petitions for annexations have been received. Mrs. Sukup presented service plan to council on police, fire, solid waste collection, public water services, public wastewater services, maintenance of roads and streets, maintenance of parks, playgrounds and swimming pools, maintenance of other public facilities, and capital improvements.

Carlos Mejia with Mejia Engineering Company and representing the owner stated he was there to answer any questions.

**b. Laredo State University Tract
(1,333.67 acres)**

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented a service plan on police protection, fire and emergency medical services, solid waste collection, public water services, public wastewater services, maintenance of road and streets, maintenance of parks, playgrounds and swimming pools, maintenance of other public facilities and capital improvements.

Carlos Mejia representing the applicant being the Killams he added that they will donate 200 acres to LSU.

Tomas Rodriguez stated on the next package part of their condition is that it will show a 60 inch water line be extended from the east corridor to this particular tract of land because it not only 200 acres that they will serve but almost 1,300 acres. He added that with a 12 inch line they can not do that. He stated we need to have our interest well protected and that its not the city that has put the 60 inch water line.

c. Pinto Valle - Dolores Tract
(349.8 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented a service plan on police protection, emergency medical services, solid waste collection, public water services, etc.

There was no public input.

d. Bustamante Farm Tract
(153.3582 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented a service plan on police, protection, emergency, medical services, solid waste collection, etc.

Carlos Mejia of Mejia Engineer was present to answer any questions.

e. Muller Tract
(25.0011 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented a service plan on fire and police protection, emergency, medical service, solid waste collection, etc.

There was no public input.

f. La Bota Tract
(202.31 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented a service plan.

Carlos Mejia representing the owner was present to answer any questions.

g. Milo Business Center Tract
(191.1211 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented council with a service plan on police, fire and emergency medical services, solid waste collection, public water services, public wastewater services, maintenance of road, etc.

Carlos Mejia representing the owner was present to answer any questions.

Motion was made to extend the meeting for another 30 minutes.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

h. DeLlano Tract
(18.8856 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, presented a service plan on police, fire protection, medical services solid waste collection, public water services, etc.

There was no public input.

i. Ramos I Tract
(32.87 acres)

Marina Sukup made the presentation on property owned by Donato D. Ramos she presented a service plan on police and fire protection also on medical services, solid waste collection, public water services, public wastewater services, etc.

Mr. Juan Ramon Barrera asked if it was land for crops.

j. Ramos II Tract
(32.79 acres)

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation and presented council with a service plan for this tract on police and fire protection also on medical services, solid waste collection, public water services, public wastewater services, etc.

Marina Sukup stated that the planning of this material would be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission who will hold a public hearing so in the event anything else needs to be added it can be added at that point.

Cm. Perez stated he would like to go over the service plans, or each of the individuals concerned or department heads to outline the report in justification of needing police protection within development of five years.

Motion to close the public hearings.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perales

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

40. Public hearing concerning an amendment to the Fiscal Year 1992-1993 contract with the Texas Department of Health for the provision of public health services and to revise the maximum reimbursement rates in the WIC Program at the Health Department; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of contract amendment with the Texas Department of Health for Fiscal Year 1992-1993 for public health services, and revise the maximum reimbursement rates per participant in the WIC Program at the Health Department for the period of February 1, 1993 through September 30, 1993; and increasing revenue line item #226-0000-323-4037 from \$553,580 to \$591,732; and increasing expenditure line item #226-6063 from \$553,580 to \$591,732.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

41. Public hearing concerning approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health for public health services for Fiscal Year 1992-1993 providing additional funds for the Maternal and Child Health Neural

Tube Defects Project in the amount of \$61,712 for an eight month period beginning February 1, 1993 through September 30, 1993; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Approval of contract with the Texas Department of Health for Fiscal Year 1992-1993 for public health services, and approve additional funds for the Maternal and Child Health Neural Tube Defects Project for the period of February 1, 1993 through September 30, 1993; and increasing revenue line item #226-0000-323-4053 from \$0 to \$61,712, and increasing expenditure line item #226-6068 from \$0 to \$61,712.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against : 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Juan Ramon Barrera question if this was only for maternal?

Mayor Ramirez stated it was for both paternal and maternal.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

XIII. MOTION TO RECESS AND TO CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MUNICIPAL HOUSING CORPORATION

Motion to recess as City Council and convene as Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Award of a construction contract to the Low Bidder, Superior Roofing and Construction, San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$81,774.39, for the Re-Roofing 25 Units at the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation Project.

Motion to award a construction contract to the low bidder Superior Roofing and Construction, San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$81,774.39 for the Re-Roofing 25 Units at the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation Project.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as Municipal Housing and convene as City Council.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIV. ADJOURNMENT


Motion to adjourn.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Adjournment time was at 11:05 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 29 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF MARCH, 1993. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE AT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.


GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.
CITY SECRETARY

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Delia Rodriguez, Deputy City Secretary II

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:

CORRECTIONS: