

**CITY OF LAREDO
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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

MINUTES

M-93-R-25

AUGUST 16, 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
CECILIA MAY MORENO,	"	, DISTRICT IV
BLAS CASTANEDA,	"	, DISTRICT V
EDUARDO PERALES,	"	, DISTRICT VI
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ,	"	, DISTRICT VII
FELIPE CARDENAS,	"	, DISTRICT VIII
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY	
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY	
PETER H. VARGAS,	CITY MANAGER	
CARLOS VILLARREAL,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	
JESUS NAVA,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	

IV. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Earthen Channel/Detention Pond Agreement between the City of Laredo and Hill Top Farm, Ltd.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Servicios Aereos Litoral, S.A. de C.V., for the approximate 460 square feet constituting counter space and baggage in Building #104 located at 4810 Maher Avenue at the Laredo

International Airport.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with the Brownsville Police Officers Association for approximately 13.0 acres of land located on Saunders Street at the Laredo International Airport for the purpose of hosting a circus event.
 - a. Lease term is for thirteen (13) days commencing September 8, 1993, and ending September 20, 1993;
 - b. Daily rental will be \$600.00; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with United Day School of Laredo, a non-profit educational institution, for approximately 13.0 acres of land located on Saunders Street at the Laredo International Airport and providing for an alternate tract for the purpose of hosting a carnival event.
 - a. Lease term is for fifteen (15) days commencing October 19, 1993, and ending November 2, 1993;
 - b. Daily rental will be \$600.00; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Street Improvements Project 46; declaring the necessity for, and ordering the paving and improvements of certain streets in the City of Laredo, Texas; approving the Street Paving Assessment Roll and cost estimates as prepared by the City Engineer; and directing the City Secretary to file this Ordinance with the County Clerk as a notice of its enactment and ordering and setting a public hearing on the 4th day of October, 1993.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

V. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #93-O-128, #93-O-158, #93-O-159, #93-O-160, #93-O-161, #93-O-162, #93-O-163, #93-O-164, #93-O-165, and #93-O-166.

Motion includes the correction to 93-O-164, 93-O-165, and 93-O-166 that these ordinances were introduced by Councilman Jerry Perez and not Councilman Jose R. Perez.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NOTE: The minutes of August 2, 1993 have not been approved by council as of this date (August 16, 1993). The audio reflects that introduction of ordinances #93-O-164 and #93-O-165 were made by Cm. Jose R. Perez and introduction of ordinance #93-O-166 was made by Cm. Cardenas.

7. 93-O-128 Amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 92-O-019, revising the fee schedule for services provided at the Maternal and Child Health Program of the Health Department; providing for waiver of the fee to persons unable to pay due to indigency; providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. 93-O-158 Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey title to the First Baptist Church for that certain City property formerly known as Frost Street between Malinche and Bartlett Avenues, situated in the Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. 93-O-159 Approval of contract amendment with the Texas Department of Health for FY 92/93 for public health services, and budget for the WIC Program's immunization activities at the Health Department for the operational period of July 1, 1993 through September 30, 1993; and increasing Revenue Line Item #226-0000-323-4060 from \$0 to \$52,200; and increasing Expenditure Line Item # 226-6074 from \$0 to 52,200. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

10. 93-O-160 Approval of contract amendment with the Texas Department of Health and budgets in the amount of \$1,511,928 consisting of \$1,365,648 in funds and \$146,280 in direct State paid salaries, to provide

public health services at the City of Laredo Health Department for FY 93/94 beginning September 1, 1993 through August 31, 1994; and increasing corresponding Revenue and Expenditure line items. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. 93-O-161 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 9.7796 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. 93-O-162 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 2.5720 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. (Councilmember Dr. Jacinto P. Juarez)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

13. 93-O-163 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 5.0482 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. (Councilmember Jerry Perez)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

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

14. 93-O-164 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 42.3704 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to R-1 (Single Family Residence District); providing for publication and effective date.
(Councilmember Jose R. Perez, Jr.)

Motion to approve.

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

15. 93-O-165 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 18.3236 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.
(Councilmember Jose R. Perez, Jr.)

Motion to approve.

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

16. 93-O-166 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 12.4352 acre tract in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, located in Crown Ridge Subdivision, as further described in Attachment "A" from AG (Agricultural District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.
(Councilmember Jose R. Perez, Jr.)

Motion to approve.

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

VI. RESOLUTIONS

17. 93-R-087 Congratulating State Senator Judith Zaffirini for receiving the Distinguished Citizen Award given by the Aztec District Boy Scouts of America.

Motion congratulating State Senator Judith Zaffirini for receiving the Distinguished Citizen Award given by the Aztec District Boy Scouts of America and to present a Resolution of Recognition from the City of Laredo at a special LJC dinner function tomorrow to Senator Zaffirini.

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

18. 93-R-088 Supporting the actions needed to maintain compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements for Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Program.

Motion supporting the actions needed to maintain compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements for Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Program.

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

19. 93-R-089 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a water rights sales agreement for the purchase of 256.01 acre feet per annum of Class B water rights, 136.01 acre feet under Certificate of Adjudication No. 23-67 and 120 acre feet under Certificate of Adjudication 23-74, from Jose M. Escamilla and wife, Manuela C. Escamilla, for \$73,730.88; and to make application to the Texas Water Commission to have amended, and to pursue the amendment of Certificates of Adjudication Nos. 23-67, and 23-74, involving the transfer of 256.01 acre feet of Class B Water Rights, their conversion to municipal use, and to establish place of use and to establish diversion point.

Motion authorizing the City Manage to execute a water rights sales agreement for the purchase of 256.01 acre feet per annum of Class B Water Rights.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

20. 93-R-090 Directing Publication of notice of intent to issue City of Laredo, Texas, Combination Tax and Motel-Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000.00 for constructing and equipping a new

municipal convention center, and paying for engineering, architectural, legal and fiscal fees in connection with this project

Motion directing publication of notice of intent to issue City of Laredo, Combination Tax and Motel-Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000 for constructing and equipping a new municipal convention center, and paying for engineering, architectural, legal and fiscal fees in connection with this project.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cw. Aldridge

VII. MOTIONS

- 21. Directing the initiation of a petition for a Special Election concerning the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax and Motel-Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000.00 for constructing and equipping a new municipal convention center, and for paying engineering, architectural, legal, and fiscal fees in connection with this project.

Motion directing the initiation of a petition of a Special Election concerning the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax and Motel-Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000 for constructing and equipping a new municipal convention center, and for paying engineering, architectural, legal, and fiscal fees in connection with this project.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cw. Aldridge

- 22. Award of Architect/Engineering **Professional Services Contract** to Kell, Munoz, Wigodsky, San Antonio, Texas, affiliated with the local firm of Turner, Hickey, & Associates, to conduct a feasibility study for a New Main Library for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00.

Motion to award architect/engineering professional services contract to Kell, Munoz, Wigodsky, San Antonio, Texas affiliated with the local firm of Turner, Hickey & Associates, to conduct a feasibility study for a new main library for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00.

Moved : Cm. Perales
 Second: Cm. Cardenas
 For: 7

Against: 1
 Cm. Juarez
 Abstain: 0

23. Approval to reject the three (3) bids received for the Laredo International Bridge Toll Collection System at Bridge No. 1 and Bridge No. 2 as a result of the bids not meeting project specifications, and approval to re-bid the project.

Mr. Clarence Bolner of Foster Engineering and John Hickey of Turner, Hickey & Associates stated that the bids did not meet project specifications and that technical errors were made by the bidders in their submittal.

Mr. Charles Borchers, representing TDC Electronic, Inc., stated that council has the right to waive technical irregularities and inconsistencies or formalities and that his client is still the lowest bidder and therefore requested council action.

City Attorney, Salvador Tellez, stated that under Section 271.027 of the State Statutes, all bidders should be rejected.

Motion to reject the three (3) bids received for the Laredo International Bridge Toll Collection System at Bridge No. 1 and Bridge No. 2 as a result of the bids not meeting project specifications, and approval to re-bid the project.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Cardenas
 For: 5
 Cm. Perez
 Cm. Juarez
 Cm. Moreno
 Cm. G. Perez
 Cm. Cardenas

Against: 2
 Cw. Aldridge
 Cm. Perales
 Abstain: 0

(Cm. Castaneda was temporarily out)

24. Approval of change order no. 1, an increase of \$1,140.00, acceptance of the construction of the Sidewalks and Water Improvements Project on Saunders Avenue from I.H. 35 to Arkansas Avenue (North Side), and approval of final payment in the amount of \$123,217.40, to Ramex Construction Inc., Houston, Texas.

Motion to approve change order no. 1, an increase of \$1,140.00 acceptance of the construction of the Sidewalks and Water Improvements Project on Saunder Avenue from I.H. 35 to Arkansas Avenue (North Side), and approval of final payment in the amount of \$123,217.40, to Ramex Construction.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cm. Castaneda was temporarily out)

- 25. Award of an annual supply contract to the Low Bidder, the Rohan Company, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$111,303.26, for supplying repair clamps for the Utility Department.

Motion to award an annual supply contract to the low bidder, the Rohan Company in the amount of \$111,303.26 for supplying repair clamps for the Utility Department.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Cm. Castaneda was temporarily out)

- 26. Acceptance of the East Laredo Affordable Housing Project I construction bids, submitted by subcontractors, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all construction contracts with the identified Lowest Bidders, as per attached bid tabulation.

Motion accepting of the East Laredo Affordable Housing Project I construction bids, submitted by subcontractors and authorizing the City Manger to execute all construction contracts with the identified lowest bidders.

East Laredo Affordable Housing Project I

Grading of Lots:

Castle Construction \$ 6,686.03

Concrete Foundation:

Castle Construction \$ 51,450.83

Plumbing

Dominguez Brothers \$ 40,700.00

Carpentry

Castle Construction \$142,070.58

Electrical

Jimenez Electric \$ 17,600.00

Painting

Johnson's Painting \$ 14,800.00

HVAC

Castle Construction \$ 19,649.52

Masonry

Alfredo Qurioga \$ 38,953.00

Cabinets

Rene Villarreal \$ 9,800.00

Floor Cover

Design Source \$ 15,288.12

Roofing

G & R Roofing \$ 8,500.00

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 27. Presentation by Tax Department Director Phyllis Colon of the 1993 Certified Tax Appraisal Roll of the City of Laredo for acceptance by the City Council.

Mrs. Colon submitted to council the total taxable value of \$2,745,326,147.00 based on 445,698 accounts.

Motion to accept 1993 Certified Tax Appraisal Roll of the City of Laredo.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 28. Presentation by Tax Department Director Phyllis Colon of the 1993 Effective Tax Rate calculation and setting a date for meeting to discuss proposed 1993 tax rate.

Motion setting the effective rate \$0.4893 and setting September 23rd as the date for a hearing for deciding what

the actual tax rate will be accepted by council.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perales

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to clarify that the date set for the hearing should be August 23rd instead of September 23rd.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to waive the rules of order and move on to item 31 at this time and take item 29 and 30 and the end of the meeting.

Moved : Cw. Aldridge

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Request for Executive Session as authorized under V.A.T.C.S. Article 6252-17 Section 2 (f) to discuss the possible acquisition of property to be used for additional office space.

Motion to table for our next Regular Council Meeting.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Acceptance or rejection of bids received on the proposed sale of City owned properties with possible Executive Session as authorized under V.A.T.C.S. Article 6252-17 Section 2 (f).

Motion to table for our next Regular Council Meeting.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Texas Department of Human Services for the continuation of the Child Care Food Program for FY 93-94 in the amount of \$101,329.00.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Texas Dept. of Human Services for the continuation of the Child Care Food Program for FY 93-94 in the amount of \$101,329.00

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Authorizing the submission of the 19th Action Year Community Development Block Grant Final Statement, and authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents pertaining to this grant.

Cm. Perez asked about the possibility of contracting services and an analysis of the manpower for maintenance.

Jesus Nava, Asst. City Manager, stated that before they recommend adding additional personnel on to the general fund, they need to look at the analysis and look at the way of utilizing our resources. If we find out that we are short then we do need more people, then we will come back with additional positions in budget for next year.

Cw. Moreno asked if there were monies allocated to contract out for maintenance.

Jesus Nava stated there were no dollars in the budget for contracts of services.

Cw. Moreno asked that they allocate monies, so that they can make a decision during the year to contract out.

Cw. Moreno instructed staff to set aside monies for contracting out before adopting this year's budget.

Motion authorizing the submission of the 19th Action Year Community Development Block Grant Final Statement, and authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents pertaining to this grant with a total of \$4,169,000.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Request by Mr. Frank Sharp to address the City Council concerning low water pressure in North Laredo. (Sponsored by Councilmember Eduardo "Eddie" Perales)

Mr. Sharp stated that their area continues to have low water pressure and the residents are concerned as to what the city is doing to correct the situation.

Mayor Ramirez stated that council has taken a stand on improvements which have gone in and are continuing with a plan adopted in 1990.

Mr. Vargas answered the questions that Mr. Sharp had presented which were as follows:

- 1) What is the city prepared to do in case of a fire in any of these affected areas when the water is completely shut off? This is one of the biggest concerns of the residents for safety.

Mr. Vargas stated, "that when we did experience those problems the fire chief was notified by the utilities Director of the situation on that day, on a Tuesday. The fire chief immediately sent three 1,000 gallon tankers and stationed them at Del Mar Fire Station. It takes approximately 2,000 to 3,000 gallons to fight a normal fire. Water was available in the low lying areas that were within one-half mile from the highest points in Cross Country Subdivision. So we felt we had the adequate water in the area thru the use of these tankers in the event that there was a particular fire, when we experience the electrical malfunction at the pumping station."

Mr. Vargas stated that the important thing here was that there were provisions made for that eventuality.

He added another thing is that council has done in the past years is that they have passed more stringent building code requirements that require safer materials to be used.

- 2) Why do our areas, these affected areas, always loose water pressure and/or have a water failure whenever any type of failure occurs it seems like their area is the one that has the low pressure and the water completely shut-off.

Mr. Vargas answered, "Normally the areas that are situated on top of hills or on higher ground will suffer a loss of pressure first, because water flows downhill. The water was not shut-off, the three 1,000 gallon per minute pumps that were pumping could not meet the total peak demand.

Mr. Vargas stated that the electrical equipment was failing over a course of two or three days, we would fix the pumps assuming that the pumps were the problem, but it was actually the electrical panel. That's when we had to shut-down to replace that whole electrical system which has been on line for a couple of weeks now.

- 3) Why does the city not have backup provisions?

Mr. Vargas stated, "The city does have backup provisions.

We have three back pumps and motors at the Jefferson Water Treatment to insure the production of water and we also have two backup motors for the pumps at the boosters stations, but it takes four to six hours to replace each pump or motor."

He stated that the problem was with the electrical panel and not the pumps.

- 4) Since the city has an unlimited water supply, why can't the water storage facilities be kept full or nearly full?

Mr. Vargas stated that the storage tanks are filled and kept full approximately ten months of the year. When the temperature exceeds 100 degrees Fahrenheit for four days the demand of water increases two and one-half times, it is during this time that the system barely meets the demand or does not meet the demand when one or more pumps stop functioning. The city doesn't have an unlimited supply. It's not an infinite source. The Del Mar area or north east Laredo uses approximately three times more water than the average household in the city, therefore the peak demand is greater making it more difficult to keep the tanks full.

A 16 inch water line was installed from the Mines Road Booster Station to the 12 inch at International Blvd. Las Brisas along IH 35 south to Del Mar Blvd. and east on Del Mar Blvd. to Springfield at a cost of approximately \$670,000.

We are currently undergoing a plant expansion that will increase production at the Jefferson Water Plant from 38 to 55 million gallons per day. The first phase , 50%, will be completed by February 1994. The second phase will be completed in February, 1995 at a total cost of \$4,161,000. This project has already been approved and is being done.

Three five million gallon ground storage tanks with pumps are scheduled to be constructed in 1995, to serve the northeast, northwest and southern areas of the city. This will help considerable to meet peak demands in summer. (This cost, \$6,038,000.) We are proposing that construction on one of these five million gallon ground storage tanks be moved up to 1994 so it can service both the northeast and northwest part of Laredo this next summer at a cost of \$2,155,000.

A 16" water line on Del Mar Blvd., from Springfield to McPherson is scheduled to be constructed in 1995 at the cost of \$1,089,000. Also in 1995, a 36" water line from the Jefferson Water Plant to Mines Road and IH 35 is scheduled to be constructed at a cost of \$6,078,000.

- 5) Since there is such an obvious problem supplying water to the homes already in these areas, why are more building permits and constructions being allowed? What entity is responsible for the citing on this permits?
All these homes in northern Shiloh, might not have any water.

Mr. Vargas answered that the City of Laredo has been a pro-active city in trying to facilitate the utilities for the growth that we have. The question of building or establishing a building moratorium we feel are a negative approach and we would rather work with a more pro-active approach to make sure the utilities are there.

He added that one of the things that we constantly work at, is that when a new development comes in that everyone is aware, and I am sorry that you happened to catch a supervisor who obviously was not aware, but this situation will be ratified.

He said that the building process goes thru a very public process, thru the Planning & Zoning Commission and thru the City Council as well, so that everyone is aware of what the requirements are for each particular subdivision.

Mr. Vargas added that he had eluded to the Winfield Estates. That particular facility is going to be provided water thru the east corridor, so it is not going to come from this particular system, it's going to come up from the east part of town.

- 6) How is the council going to answer the Texas Water Commission inquiries as to whether or not the state requirements of 35 pounds per square inch of pressure in all state municipalities, having to answer that this is not being met?

Mr. Vargas stated that the city is meeting that requirement 99.9% of the time. The problem is when there is mechanical or electrical failure, that they take consideration of that especially if they take mitigating steps such as we did with moving tankers into position.

- 7) If the situation continues, how can the city in good conscious promote itself as having adequate utilities?

Mr. Vargas responded that the City has a plan to correct these problems in our twenty year master plan. A 3,000 gallon per minute pump will be installed at the Mines Road booster station in approximately two weeks which will also assist in this particular problem.

The approach that we are taking is to begin at the treatment plant by enlarging that facility, it goes to the distribution system to the pipes that deliver the system as well as the pumping stations necessary and then the storage facility that will be on site to maintain additional storage.

- 8) Why is the new storage facility at McPherson and International Blvd not kept at maximum capacity?

Mr. Vargas stated that the same answer of question number four applies to this one. When the temperatures exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit for more than four days or five days, the demand for water increases, it is during this time that the system barely meets the demand or does not meet the demand when one or more pumps stop functioning.

- 9) Why was the population of these areas not notified sooner thru the media of the seriousness of the problem and other areas of the city put on ration to help the affected areas, if this had anything to do with it?

Mr. Vargas answered that the utilities department personnel were responding to telephone calls throughout the night and day explaining the situation as best they could.

The Director visited KGNS-TV and the Laredo Morning Times giving them a press release indicating what the problem was and how we were trying to cope with it and asking people in fact to scale back their watering of lawns until we could catchup with the water in the tanks.

He concluded by stating that the reason that a rationing program was not implemented in all the City, was that the problem was in northeast part with other parts of the city not experiencing a problem with the water pressure.

Motion to waive the regular order of business and move to item #34 - Public Hearings.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- B. Mayor Ramirez recognized the Del Mar 1993 All Star Baseball Team, their coaches, and their parents for representing the City of Laredo at the State Tournament in Waco, Texas; winning Second Place and for bringing a trophy for "Sportmanship" in the tournament.

Mayor Ramirez recognized the players:

Wayo Mims, Jerry Ramirez, Raul Quiroz,

Albert Gonzalez, Erick Carrillo, David Garcia, Frankie Rodriguez, Felipe Rivera, Carlos Ramos, Andy Arreguin, Albert Herrera, Pat Brown and Jose A. Garcia

Mayor Ramirez also recognized the Managers, Jose Luis Quiroz and Manuel B. Perez, the Assistant Coach, Silvano Sanchez and the parents.

- C. Cm. Castaneda announced that his Town Hall Meeting is scheduled for the 18th and not the 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Alma Pierce Elementary School.

X. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION

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

A. Request By Councilmember Blas Castaneda

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the low water pressure in the Hillside Subdivision.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, Water Utility Director, stated that the reason for the low water pressure was due to the water demand placed during the hours of 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. which lowers the water pressure to 38-40 psi. Raising the water pressure would damage other water lines in lower lying areas and that 40 psi is sufficient water pressure. The improvements to a five million gallon storage tank will eventually eliminate the problem.

B. Request By Councilmember Felipe Cardenas

1. Discussion and possible action concerning the placement of a 15 minute loading and unloading zone in front of El Mercado.

Motion to place a 15 minute parking zone for Art Center parking only.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion and possible action concerning the elimination of three parking meter spaces at the 1600 Block of Victoria Street and their conversion to a School Bus Loading and Unloading Zone. (Co-sponsored by Councilmember Jose R. Perez)

Motion eliminating three parking meter spaces at the

1600 block of Victoria Street and convert them to a School Bus Loading and Unloading Zone.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. G. Perez
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 2
Cw. Moreno
Cm. Perez

C. Request By Councilmember Eduardo "Eddie" Perales

1. Discussion and possible action concerning vagrants soliciting on street corners. A staff recommendation is requested.

Motion to table for the next regular meeting.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open the public hearing(s):

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Public hearing concerning FY 1993-1994 Aid to Other Agencies funding requests and possible action on the recommended level of funding of this request.

The following representatives and their agencies appeared before the council:

Mr. Donald W. Talley, representing Border Air Ambulance, requested funding of \$100,000 as start up funds as a one time grant.

Mr. Bill Green of Mi Laredo explained the goals for 1994.

Mr. Elton Gaskey of Laredo Regional Food Bank requested \$32,400 instead of the \$24,000 granted by staff.

Ms. Isabel Mendez of the Animal Protective Society.

Ms. Cecilia Claflin of the Laredo Children's Museum and Mr. Felix Velasquez requested funding of \$32,200 instead of the \$15,000 granted by staff due to increased expenditures and the fact that they need to find new facilities.

Mrs. Anna L. Vela of the Laredo Art League.

Mrs. Lillian Dickenson of the Ruth B. Cowl Rehab Center thanked the council for their continued support.

Mr. Raul O. Pena representing the Border Area Nutrition Council.

Mr. Andy Smith represented both the Border Area Nutrition Council and Lifeline. He stated that they had submitted a request for \$18,000 instead of the \$12,000 granted by staff.

Mr. Manuel Bravo representing Boys & Girls Club requested for an additional \$100,000 over last year's \$75,000.

Mrs. Rebecca Sepulveda representing the Webb County Heritage Foundation and the Rio Grande Museum was requesting the amount of \$51,000 instead of the \$27,390 granted by staff.

Mr. J.J. Montemayor of the Laredo State Center requested that additional funds be made available to the Center. They had originally requested \$224,993 for the Laredo Mental Health Service; \$96,229 for Mental Retardation; \$30,594 for Gateway Industries.

Mr. Terance Frazor Music Director of the Laredo Philharmonic requested \$32,595 instead of the \$10,000 granted by staff.

Mrs. Roxanna Guerra representing Family Counseling/Catholic Social Services/Home for Battered Women and Children.

Mr. Juan Valle of Literacy Council (Volunteers of Laredo).

Ms. Andrea Batey President of Laredo Little Theater Board.

Mr. David Donovan Chairman of Laredo Youth for Progress together with Miss Pilar Douglas and Jerry Garza explained the accomplishments of the youth council on events held as well as scheduled events for the coming year.

Mr. Alberto Cardenas President of City of Laredo/Webb County Child Welfare Board asked reconsideration from council to increase the allocated amount.

Mr. Michael O'Barr representing Laredo Crimestoppers requested council allocation of \$21,530. Staff did not allocate any funds to this organization.

Mrs. Isabel Garza of Victory Outreach requested \$18,000 instead of the \$15,000 granted by staff.

Miss Cristina Lopez Director of the City Convention & Visitors Bureau requested \$545,000 funding from council.

Motion that the Laredo Chamber of Commerce be identified as

the operator of the promotional contract.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 3

Cm. Perez

Cm. Juarez

Cm. Aldridge

Against: 4

Cm. Moreno

Cm. Perales

Cm. G. Perez

Cm. Cardenas

Abstain: 1

Cm. Castaneda

Mr. Soto and Mr. Pete Saenz from L.J.C. Guitar Ensembles requested funding of \$5,215.00, staff did not appropriate any funds.

Mr. Les Norton and Mr. Luis Liskey of the Laredo Downtown Development Association they are requesting \$234,000, staff allocated nothing, to promote Laredo for what it has because the downtown is not represented in its advertising strategy.

Mr. Francis Waworski President Elect of the Borderfest was requesting \$46,000, they were allocated \$5,000 which is the same as last year.

Mayor Ramirez stated that this concluded public hearings on aids to other agencies funding requests and that they will be considering the budget as a whole at the meeting of September 7th at which time any adjustments to the budget and recommendations will be taken.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Adjournment time - 10:20 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 21 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST, 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 ON:

**CITY OF LAREDO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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

MINUTES

M-93-S-26

AUGUST 23, 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, Jr. 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
CECILIA MAY MORENO,	"	, DISTRICT IV
BLAS CASTANEDA,	"	, DISTRICT V
EDUARDO PERALES,	"	, DISTRICT VI
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ,	"	, DISTRICT VII
FELIPE CARDENAS,	"	, DISTRICT VIII
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY	
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY	
PETER H. VARGAS,	CITY MANAGER	
CARLOS VILLARREAL,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	
JESUS NAVA,	ASST. CITY MANAGER	

IV. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an earthen channel agreement between the City of Laredo and Jesus C. Cadena, his successors and assigns, for the purpose of ensuring future maintenance of the earthen channel located within Lot 3, Block 6, McPherson Acres, Unit III.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

V. MOTIONS

- 3. Approval of amendment no. 1 to the Inner Loop Utility Relocation contract with Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for an increase of \$112,250.00, to provide engineering/surveying services for site improvements for two North Laredo five (5) million gallon ground Storage Water Tanks, and for design and preparation of plans and specifications for construction of a 24 inch water main along Del Mar Boulevard between Springfield and McPherson Road.

Motion to approve amendment no. 1 to the Inner Loop Utility Relocation contract with Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas for an increase of \$112,250.00.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 4. Submittal of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Handbook for City Council review and future action, including specifically Chapter 24 Section 24-65 Supplementary Zoning District Regulations incorporating supplementary regulations for all zoning districts, and deleting Sections 24-66 through 24-76 which apply to individual districts as separate sections.

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, made the presentation to the city council of the amendments that will be submitted to the Planning & Zoning at a future meeting.

- 5. Presentation of the proposed tax rate for 1993 and the State requirements for the adoption of the tax rate.

Mrs. Phillis Colon, Tax Assessor-Collector, presented to council the following figures:

1992 Taxable value 2,458,902,016
 1993 Taxable value 2,745,326,147

1993 Tax Rates:
 Effective Tax Rate 0.4893
 Max Rate without Public Hearing 0.5040
 Rollback Rate 0.5749

Tax Rate using same tax rate as last year with new debt requirement:

	Tax Rate	Tax Levy	95% Coll. Rate
M & O	0.3259	8,947,018	8,246,639
I & S	0.1842	5,060,565	5,060,565
	-----	-----	-----
Total	0.5101	14,007,583	13,307,204

Mrs. Nina Pena appeared before the council stating that all the properties have not being reappraised. She suggested that the tax rate should come down since properties have been raised in value.

Aldo Tatangelo stated that the council should think about saving and not about spending and that we should be giving a tax break to the taxpayer.

Motion to set the tax rate at \$0.5101 and set the public hearing for September 7th at 5:30 p.m.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. Presentation of five (5) options to the City Council on the proposed issuance of \$26,650,000 in general obligation bonds over the next two (2) fiscal years and possible action regarding the selection of propositions for the bond election to be held on November 2, 1993.

Motion to accept all options for a bond election to be held on November 2, 1993; explaining the public the exact cost in dollars; and to phase the projects over a 5 year period.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 7

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cw. Moreno

Motion to excuse Cm. Juarez and Cm. Perales from the meeting.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance calling for an election to be held on November 2, 1993, for the purpose of including six (6) propositions which include the construction of a (1) new police station, (2) three fire stations, (3) a fire training tower and training facility, (4) a new main library, (5) four recreation centers, and (6) a West Laredo overpass.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Public hearing and introductory ordinance calling for an election on November 2, 1993, for the purpose of including six (6) propositions which include the construction of a (1) new police station, (2) three fire stations, (3) a fire

training tower and training facility, (4) a new main library, (5) four recreation centers, and (6) a west Laredo overpass.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Felix Velasquez, representing the Library Board, spoke in favor of placing the bond issue for a main library to the public for a vote.

Mrs. Herminia Vasquez also spoke in favor of its placing the library bond issue for public consideration.

Mr. Juan Ramon spoke in favor of the west Laredo overpass.

Mr. Trinidad Silva stated that no sites have been presented to the public for the library or police station. He is in favor if the projects are collectively for the public interest, but not if they are for certain interests.

Aldo Tatangelo questioned the necessity of constructing the three fire stations at this time; that the regional training facility can be placed anywhere in town and that we should not provide services to outside of Laredo; and that the main library figures are not ready therefore we're not ready for it.

Mr. Andres Sandoval spoke against the overpass since the railroad traffic will eventually become useless in the future and that there is an alternative that can access Mr. G. Perez's area to the present overpass.

Mrs. Marta Mena was concerned with the fact that the children in Laredo have nowhere to entertain themselves except with Nintendos. What about the young children, she asked? That only the youths that can use the proposed gyms. She also suggested that the police station can be less expensive.

Mr. Jesus Ponce spoke in favor of a proposed main library if the council can look into keeping it in the downtown area. He was in favor of the way the council is placing the options to the people for voting.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas, Combination Tax and Motel-Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000.00 for constructing and equipping a new municipal convention center, and for paying engineering, architectural, legal, and fiscal fees in connection with this project.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas, Combination Tax and Motel and Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1993, in the principal amount of \$13,000,000.00 for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new municipal convention center, and for paying engineering, architectural, legal, and fiscal fees in connection with this project.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mr. Chuck Owen presented some ideas on the bond issue to the council.

Mr. Andres Sandoval personally wants the right to vote and that the council should inform the people thru Town Hall Meetings. Since this issue has been turned already, give them a chance to tell staff and council what they want.

Mr. Frank Staggs, from the Taxpayers League, stated that his concern was the Hotel/Motel tax may decrease this year and we may be going over the limb on this bond issue.

Mr. Fernando Cantu, from the Taxpayers League, asked for clarification of the process of the May 1992 petition against this election.

Mr. Charles Martin stated that the court system has ruled, and that the important thing to do is to allow the citizens to vote on this issue. This is a good project for the hotels and the community.

Mr. Trinidad Silva stated that his position is for the convention center, but not the way the Mayor and council is

proposing it.

Aldo Tatangelo wanted to know why is the council set to the fact that we have to place it in ranchland and the fact that the site is too far.

Mr. Bob Gilmartin stated that close to \$40 million in capital improvements were being proposed tonight and that Hotel/Motel taxes should be used for the purpose of bringing in new money and not for the use of these funds for maintenance costs.

Jesus Ponce made the statement that the discussion has been had for quiet some time, and that must who have spoken against are concerned only with the location of the new convention center.

Dave Davis stated that the convention center positives outweigh the negatives and that the administration should fight for it this time.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 5

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cw. Aldridge

Ordinance Introduction: City Council (except Cw. Aldridge)

- 9. Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 625, Lot 1, Eastern Division, located at 1101 Cortez, from R-1 (Single Family Residence District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 625, Lot 1, Eastern Division, located at 1101 Cortez, from R-1 (Single Family Residence District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. G. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Emilio Martinez, attorney for property owner, spoke in favor of the zone change request due to the need for a meter.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cw. Aldridge

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cw. Aldridge

- 10. Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 889, Lots 1 & 3, Western Division, located at 3418 Flores, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Block 889, Lots 1 & 3, Western Division, located at 3418 Flores, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce with the condition that the mobile home is skirted within 90 days and that parking be provided.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. G. Perez

- 11. Public hearing concerning approval of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Handbook to include Chapter 24 Section 24-61 Definitions And Interpretations providing for Appendix "A" Definitions; Section 24-62 District Boundaries, establishing Zoning Districts And Specific Use Overlay Districts, Special Use Permits; Conditional Use Permits; and consolidating statements of district purpose; and Section 24-63 Effects Of Districting And General Regulations; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

An Ordinance amending Chapter 24 Section 24-61 Definitions

Moved : Cm. G. Perez
Second: Cm. Cardenas
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

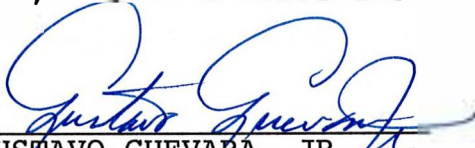
Moved : Cm. G. Perez
Second: Cm. Cardenas
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Adjournment time - 9:00 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 09 ARE TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 23RD DAY OF AUGUST, 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 ON: