

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF WEBB §
CITY OF LAREDO §

On this the 5th day of October, 1982, the City Council of Laredo, Texas, convened in a Regular City Council Meeting at the Civic Center Auditorium at 7:30 P.M., with the following members thereof present, to wit:

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|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| ALDO TATANGELO | : | MAYOR |
| SANTOS BENAVIDES | : | ALDERMEN |
| | : | |
| SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR. | : | " |
| CARLOS A. ZUNIGA | : | " |
| ANDRES RAMOS, JR. | : | " |
| DAVID R. CORTEZ | : | " |
| JOSE A. VALDEZ | : | " |
| JOHN PETER MONTALVO | : | " |
| EUSTORGIO PEREZ | : | CITY ATTORNEY |
| MARVIN TOWNSEND | : | CITY MANAGER |
| HORTENCIA C. GONZALEZ | : | CITY SECRETARY |

ABSENT: Alderman Vidal Cantu

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With a quorum present, the Mayor called the meeting to order and the following proceedings were carried out:

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City Council Minutes were approved on motion of Councilman Ramirez after a correction thereto was indicated by Councilman Valdez. The correction was that a motion by Councilman Cantu, as regarded the .37 tax rate, was not reflected. (This was due to an inadvertent line omission in the typing process). Second was by Councilman Benavides. All were in favor. (Corrected copies were sent to each Councilmember).

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Under Communications, the Mayor referred to a letter received from the National Association of Government Employees but announced that it would be considered during the budget hearing discussion.

Next Item was #IV and before Manager presented his recommendation, Councilman Ramirez made a motion that Item #XI, be moved up for consideration with Item #IV. Second was by Councilman Zuniga. All were in favor.

Councilman Ramos proceeded to address an item he had placed on the agenda for action or discussion as related to a 10% across the board pay cut or other alternatives. He further elaborated on the fact that both taxpayers and city employees, many of who were in attendance, were anxious to know the financial status of the City. He then requested the Manager to present alternatives as related to problems of employees as well as continuation of services to the community.

The City Manager made reference to written comments he had given to the City Council and which he would highlight at this point.

Revenue sharing has a \$600,000 balance from last year plus \$1.6 estimated for this year. At present, based on decision to not recur to Revenue Sharing funds to pay salaries, and to keep level of expenses at a minimum, could realize a \$3.0 to \$4.0 decrease in budgetary expense. Two-thirds of budget is salaries.

Councilman Ramos then proceeded to state the opinions voiced by the public thru a local radio program on KVOZ relevant to possible solutions to the existant situation in the City of Laredo. He then read them as follows:

- 1) That City re-organize City departments.
- 2) That excess employees be done away with.
- 3) That City's street signs be surveyed.
- 4) That employee retirement age be reduced
- 5) That administrative salaries be reduced
- 6) That a joint venture with developers be looked into to build on City land to create tax base for unoccupied lots
- 7) That no assistant to the Manager be secured
- 8) That taxpayers unable to attend meetings be kept in mind
- 9) That Capital Improvements be continued
- 10) That streets be paved
- 11) That more signs be installed

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- 12) That garbage pick-up be realized once a week
- 13) That duplication of jobs at administrative level be looked into
- 14) That there are a lot of un-employed taxpayers who are experiencing what we may go thru in the near future.

At this point, Councilman Ramos further proceeded to comment on the City Manager's four recommendations as measures of avoiding massive lay-offs.

He further stressed that to make a sound decision more specific information and figures were needed as referred to the Inter-Fund transactions.

At this point, Councilman Ramos requested that the representative of National Association of Government Employees come forward to present his recommendation to Council concerning the City employees. Councilman Valdez also requested that this be an open discussion for all those persons wanting to address this issue.

First one to address Council was Mr. Sam T. Alvarado who stated he was representing all employees members of National Association of Government Employees. His recommendation was for Council to adopt a 3-month budget using 25% of Revenue Sharing funds, rather than proceed with the proposed drastic cut in employment, which will ultimately create a crisis. He further appealed to Council to seek other alternatives to alleviate the problem at hand,

Next was Mr. Douglas Ward, who represents police officers and is also their bargaining agent. He, too, felt that Revenue Sharing should be used to pay salaries and avoid the lay-offs, at least postponing this decision for the next three or four months until the economic situation is clear. He further cited the impact this would create on public safety.

Mr. Rafael Flores, taxpayer, voiced his opinion as favoring necessary percentage salary cuts equally of all employees rather than facing lay-offs.

Next was Merlin Miller, President of Local 1390, National Association of Firefighters. He also spoke of how adversely public safety would be affected with proposed curtailment of employees in the Fire Department. He cited an incident of a fire occurring in El Paso which could have been handled properly should

the adequate number of firemen been available. He closed his statement by stating that those persons terminated would go to the Welfare lines.

Councilman Zuniga made reference to a letter from the City Manager to Council members and asked whether the 90-day period mentioned therein was a temporary measure proposed by the Manager. Mr. Townsend explained that his recommendation was so that a gradual adjustment could be realized which would recognize any new information as would become available.

Mr. Fausto Bermudez also spoke against lay-offs and offered alternatives.

Mr. Ursulo Garcia also favored reduction of hours and was against increasing garbage rates or tax rate. Mr. Pedro Garza also voiced similar protests regarding tax increases.

Mr. Victor Jacaman, also spoke against too much spending on low-grade asphalt for paving and little police protection.

Others voicing their opinion against the lay-offs were Mr. Mike Villarreal, Mr. Jesus Hernandez, Ms. Ana Maria Lozano and Mr. J. Castillo.

Councilman Valdez made reference to City Manager's recommendations and asked how many lay-offs are involved. Mr. Townsend answered that during the next few months there will be approximately 80 to 100 terminations.

Councilman Ramos discussed at length the situation at hand and strongly recommended that cuts in salary rather than lay-offs be pursued.

Councilman Cortez also spoke on the issue and his stand was in favor of increasing garbage fees but against a tax rate increase.

At this time, Councilman Valdez made a motion to accept Manager's Recommendations. He further made a motion to approve City Manager's recommendation on Page 2 which are the expenditure limitations including the following: 1) All position are frozen 2) No capital outlay purchases 3) All budgets are limited to 90% of the original 1981-82 budget 4) We will accept that monthly allotment systems will be in operation by January 1, 1983. Second was by Councilman Montalvo. Councilman Ramos then asked how a vote was to be executed

on recommendation #3 when Capital Outlay requests from departments were unknown at this time. At this point, Councilman Valdez retracted his motion and asked that each item be acted on separately. The second by Councilman Montalvo was also retracted. There was discussion following. Councilman Montalvo then made a motion that Revenue Sharing monies be used for payroll expenses (for the next three months) until this emergency is over. Councilman Valdez seconded. Councilman Ramirez asked what portion was being contemplated for this purpose. Mr. Townsend stated that the entire amount of Revenue Sharing would not salvage the situation. Councilman Montalvo then stated that it be used in its entirety. Councilman Zuniga pointed out that there was no reserve fund for contingencies which should have about one quarter to one half million dollars for pending law suits. Councilman Ramirez requested to amend Councilman Montalvo's motion, which Councilman Montalvo accepted, and was to earmark \$550,000 of Federal Revenue Sharing funds for next 90 days and that the balance be used as a reserve for Capital Outlay. Councilman Montalvo restated his motion as follows "that \$550,000 be put aside from Revenue Sharing to be used on the budget and that the rest be left out for Capital Outlays". Councilman Valdez seconded this motion. For were Councilmen Benavides, Ramirez, Zuniga, Valdez, and Montalvo. Against were Councilmen Cortez and Ramos. Passage therefore, was defeated. Councilman Cortez stated that he felt that the \$550,000 would not save the situation. Then Councilman Ramirez made the motion that a recount be held on the vote for the \$550,000 appropriation until after the entire package is studied. Second was by Councilman Zuniga. All were in favor.

On recommendation 9(B) from City Manager, Councilman Valdez made a motion that Bridge Fund investments be scheduled to mature in late September. Councilman Montalvo seconded. All were in favor.

Item #B-2 Councilman Valdez made a motion to instruct City Manager to pursue and clear all proper channels regarding Airport Funds paid for Airport Crash Crew and net value of services provided by other funds and other staff having to do with airport. Second was by Councilman Montalvo. All were in favor.

Item #B-3 Councilman Valdez made a motion to instruct the City Manager to take necessary steps to assure that the Civic Center

deficit be offset by the Hotel-Motel Tax that the City is collecting. Councilman Montalvo seconded. All were in favor.

Item #B-4 Councilman Valdez made a motion that the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation pay a payment in lieu of taxes and that the City Manager be instructed to pursue this. Second was by Councilman Montalvo. All were in favor, except Councilman Ramos.

Item #B-5 Councilman Valdez made a motion to instruct City Manager that a reimbursement on an hourly basis be secured from Community Development Agency for services provided to it by City. Second was by Councilman Montalvo. All were in favor.

On Revenues, Councilman Cortez made a motion to TABLE.

Councilman Montalvo made the motion again to allocate \$550,000 from Federal Revenue Sharing funds to be used for salaries and that the remaining be used for capital outlay. Councilman Cortez made a motion that if the garbage rates were increased that \$300,000 be reverted back to Federal Revenue Sharing to offset the \$700,000 to be appropriated in second motion. Councilman Ramirez seconded and added to this motion as follows: that once surpluses are available in the General Fund and it becomes stabilized that 50% of that surplus be reverted back to Capital Outlay. All voted in favor of Councilman Cortez motion. The vote was asked for Councilman Montalvo's motion, with second by Councilman Cortez. All were in favor except Councilman Ramos.

Councilman Montalvo made an amended motion to re-allocate \$550,000 of Federal Revenue Sharing for salaries and that as soon as garbage fee comes in to pay \$300,000 back to Revenue Sharing.

Councilman Ramirez re-capped the procedure by stating that if there was no increase in garbage fees or taxes, the figure would be \$16,250,000. The amount of \$550,000 has been allocated out of Federal Revenue Sharing funds and which will be reduced in garbage fees if there is an increase. Therefore, the gross budget at this point is \$16,800,000 with Capital Outlay coming from Revenue Sharing.

At this point, there was a 5 minute recess on motion of Councilman Cortez and the second of Councilman Valdez. All in favor.

- - MOMENTARY RECESS - -

Mr. Townsend reiterated that if other alternatives such as tax and garbage rate increase is considered, then the \$16.8 budget will

deficit be offset by the Hotel-Motel Tax that the City is collecting. Councilman Montalvo seconded. All were in favor.

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be produced for the next 12 months. Of 200 positions proposed to be terminated, approximately 100 positions are vacant. The other 140 are the terminations to happen within the next few weeks. Councilman Zuniga asked that the Manager keep Council informed on a month to month basis as to the trend so that immediate action as deemed appropriate may be taken.

At this point, Mr. Townsend stated that Councilman Vidal Cantu, Jr., had contacted him earlier indicating that he was in San Antonio due to the illness of his wife and that he was uncertain whether he would arrive in time to attend the meeting. He further asked that Council consider excusing him if in fact he did not attend. Councilman Cortez stated that he was excused.

Mayor Tatangelo asked the City Manager to proceed with the Managers' Reports.

Councilman Montalvo made a motion that Item V(F) be considered first and Councilman Ramos asked that the motion be amended to include Item XI(3). Second was by Councilman Valdez. All were in favor.

Mr. Larry Vetter made his presentation as regarded the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation for a 150-day extension of the industrial Moratorium ordinance to begin October 28, 1982 and to end on March 27, 1983. After some discussion on this matter, Councilman Valdez made a motion that the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission re: the extension of the ordinance designating industrial areas and including a temporary moratorium on industrial development outside of those areas be approved for 150 days beginning October 28, 1982 and ending March 27, 1983, and that an ordinance be presented before 150 days. Councilman Montalvo seconded. All were in favor. At this point, Mr. Carlos Mejia, former City Engineer, approached Council. Mayor Tatangelo asked for a motion to recount. Councilman Montalvo made such motion and the second was by Councilman Zuniga. All were in favor. Mr. Mejia proceeded with his comments indicating that this moratorium not be extended and that it be amended to include only St. Peter's and that area of Santa Cleotilde that is

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affected South of Park and that the rest of the City be relieved of this moratorium as he foresees a long period of time before the Zoning Ordinance is completed. He further stressed that there was no Master Plan as of now.

Mr. Jose L. Gonzalez also spoke as a private citizen in favor of the moratorium.

Mr. Larry Norton also addressed Council saying that a Zoning Ordinance is being formulated at this time and that Council will need ample time to study it as it is a lengthy ordinance.

Mr. Rafael Flores again addressed Council to express his views on this matter as did Mr. Humberto Fasci, Realtor.

Next Item was a request from Councilman Ramos on status report on paving of Allende and Springfield Streets. A report was given by Mr. Carlos Villarreal upon request of Mr. Henry Trevino, former Councilmember, who also spoke regarding the Tanis Valdez Village around which the streets in question are situated. Councilman Ramos made a motion that this project be given priority to other street paving in view of the fact that the bad weather was upcoming and those directly affected would be the elderly living in this complex. Mayor Tatangelo further added that the Engineer be instructed to give this matter top priority. Second was by Councilman Ramirez. All were in favor.

Ms. Ana Maria Lozano, also told Council to look into those streets to be paved around housing units as in some cases it was the developer's obligation to pave. She further told Council that streets around schools which she requested were still not paved as requested, citing Buenos Aires School as an example.

On Manager's Report, Item V(A), Mr. Townsend requested that the proposed increase of garbage fees be considered at \$4.00 on residential instead of \$3.50, during the up-coming public hearing.

Item V(B) proposed an amendment to the Land Development Ordinance to provide criteria and procedures for Laboratory Testing and Lot Grading. The cost of the testing will be paid for by the developer. As to lot grading, the requirement provides that lots must drain to the street.

Item V(C) was in reference to a 17.7 foot unopened alley in Block 983 between Fremont Street and Lane Street be closed and the full width be retained as a utility easement for existing and future utilities. This alley was dedicated to the City and is not owned by the City in fee. The request was submitted by Ms. Alma Benavides Martinez. All abutting owners agree.

Ms. Alma Benavides Martinez spoke on behalf of her clients, Mr. & Mrs. Alberto Guardiola. A quit claim deed was mentioned and which the City Attorney explained would be subject to utility easements. This was to be worked out with City Attorney and return at a future meeting.

Item V(D) requested that \$3,750 be appropriated to match \$15,000 of Urban Mass Transportation Funds for transit planning for 1982-83. The \$3,750 will be a part of the salary and related costs of existing personnel.

Item V(E) requested action re: Downtown Urban Development Action Grant which are to be presented later during course of this meeting as a resolution and ordinance respectively.

Item V(F) that the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, regarding extension of the ordinance designating industrial areas and including a temporary moratorium on industrial development outside of those areas, be approved for 150 days beginning October 28, 1982, and ending March 27, 1983. Councilman Valdez moved and Councilman Montalvo seconded. All in favor except Councilman Ramirez and Councilman Benavides who opposed it.

Item V(G) protested the action of the Public Utility Commission regarding Central Power & Light's rate increase request and asking further consideration before acting on the Company's appeal from the City's action regarding the requested increase.

Item V(H) a change order be approved to reduce the thickness of windows in the 12 new transit coaches from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch at a cost reduction of \$6,000 which is a \$420 reduction in the City's 7% share. Delivery of the first buses is anticipated in January, 1983.

Item V(I) an application be authorized to the Urban Mass Transportation Administration for the 1982-83 operating assistance grant of \$500,841. The actual grant received will be based on actual costs and the amount of local matching funds made available during 1982-83.

Mayor Tatangelo asked Mr. Dunning as to how much money was forthcoming from Urban Mass Transportation Administration. Mr. Dunning stated that it was approximately \$412,000.

Councilman Zuniga made a motion to accept Manager's report from Item V(A) to V(I). Second was by Councilman Montalvo. All were in favor, except Councilman Ramos opposing Item V(H).

Councilman Ramirez also requested clarification as to why windows were being changed from a $\frac{1}{2}$ " to a $\frac{1}{4}$ " thickness (Item V(H)). This is because they are easily replaceable here in Laredo.

Item VII(A)1 to VII(A)8 were introductory ordinances and were sponsored by Councilman Zuniga.

Item VII(A) the recommendation of the Airport Committee that the following leases be approved. The proposed rents reflects annual cost of living increases and the rent being charged in adjacent or similar properties.

Item VII(A)1 a two year, seven month lease to March 31, 1985, with one three-year option for Tracor Radcon, Inc., for Building #147, containing 2,400 square feet at \$.20 per square foot. Rent per month is \$480. The property is used for manufacturing assembly and storage.

Item VII(A)2 a two year lease to August 31, 1984, with one ~~two-year~~ option with Mr. Carl A. Shipman for Building #130, containing 870 square feet at \$.17 per square foot. Rent per month is \$150. The property is used for aviation equipment maintenance.

Item VII(A)3 a two year lease to August 31, 1984, with one two-year option with Mr. Carl A. Shipman for Building #148, containing 253 square feet. Rent is \$100 per month (flat rental fee). The property is used for aircraft maintenance office.

Item VII(A)4 a one year lease to August 31, 1983, with Mr. Pedro R. Sanchez for Room #17, located in Building S-1, containing 340 square feet of office space at \$.58 per square foot. Rent is \$197.20 per month.

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Item VII(A)5 a two year lease renewal to September 30, 1984, with NCR, A Maryland Corporation for office space in Building S-1, Room #19, containing 336 square feet at \$.53 per square foot. Rent is \$180.88 per month.

Item VII(A)6 a one year lease renewal to September 30, 1983, with the U. S. Customs Service, for Building #372, containing 4,760 square feet at \$.26 per square foot. The rental is \$1,341.67 per month. The building houses administrative offices for the U. S. Customs Service.

Item VII(A)7 a two year lease renewal to September 30, 1984, with Del Kleen for Building #1421 (east), containing 1,300 square feet at \$.13 per square foot. Rent is \$172.22 per month. The property is used for lawn mower services.

Item VII(A)8 a one year lease renewal to September 30, 1983, with Tesoro Savings and Loan Association for 0.3226 acres of land. The rental is \$320 per month. The land is used as a temporary location for Tesoro Savings and Loan Association, while construction on permanent building is completed.

Item VII(B), (C) & (D) were introduced by Councilman Ramirez. On (B) to include a provision that there be a quit claim deed as part of the closing.

Item VII(B) closing and abandoning for vehicular and pedestrian use an alley located in Block Number 983, Eastern Division, the same alley abutting lots Nos. 1-12, inclusive; and reserving in the City of Laredo an easement in the same for any and all utilities.

Item VII(C) adopting the Building Design Standards for the preservation of the historical significance of those buildings proposed for restoration under the auspices of Urban Development Action Grant Project Number B81-AA-48-0514 (Downtown Storefront Revitalization UDAG).

Item VII(D) authorizing the appropriation of \$3,750 from the General Fund for the local share of a Technical Studies Grant under section 9 of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964 as amended.

Item IX an ordinance introduced on September 21, 1982 by Councilman Ramirez, was passed and approved by unanimous vote upon motion of Councilman Ramirez and second by Councilman Valdez.

AN ORDINANCE

AUTHORIZING SERVICE FEES FOR VARIOUS CITY ACTIVITIES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Item X(A) to X(E) were Resolutions which Councilman Montalvo made the motion for their passage. Second was by Councilman Valdez. All were in favor. Councilman Ramos was momentarily away, therefore, he did not vote on the Resolutions.

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR PURCHASE OF A TAPE RECORDER LOGGER FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$6,202.00 AS THE CITY OF LAREDO'S SHARE OF THE COST OF THIS SYSTEM; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THIS APPLICATION.

RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING AN ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION, THE CITY BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT IN THE REVIEW OF ALL APPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING PERMITS PROCESSED IN CONCERT WITH URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANT PROJECT NUMBER B81-AA-48-0541 (DOWNTOWN STOREFRONT REVITALIZATION UDAG) AND APPOINTING THE MEMBERSHIP THEREOF

RESOLUTION

OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO PROTESTING THE FINAL ORDER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION IN DOCKET NO. 4400 (RURAL CASE) AUTHORIZING A RATE INCREASE FOR CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY; PROTESTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED RURAL RATE TO THE CITIES AS A SYSTEM-WIDE INTERIM RATE DURING CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY'S APPEAL OF THE INDIVIDUAL CITY DETERMINATIONS; AND ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO RECONSIDER ITS FINAL ORDER AND ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED BY THE CONSORTIUM OF CITIES FROM TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE REGIONS 7, 11, AND 12.

RESOLUTION

APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER TWO ON THE CONTRACT WITH THE GILLIG CORPORATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWELVE (12) 35' AIR CONDITIONED COACHES, TWO (2) OF WHICH ARE EQUIPPED WITH WHEELCHAIR LIFTS, POWER PLANT ASSEMBLY, TRANSMISSION AND FREON COMPRESSOR AND SPARE PARTS

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A RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR A GRANT UNDER THE URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 1964, AS AMENDED.

Item XI(1), (4), (5) Councilmen's Requests - 1) Councilman Andres Ramos made a motion that in view of the economic conditions being experienced at this time, that it be required that all contracts awarded by the City, that 85% of the employees be from Laredo, Texas. Councilman Ramos further requested that an affirmative action plan be submitted by the contractor to insure local labor hired; and that a minimum wage be stated as should be paid as relates to contract awarded, such as \$4.50/hr. Mr. Townsend stated that the State law requires that the prevailing wages be paid. Councilman Valdez explained that the prevailing wages are approximately \$6 or \$7, and that what they want assured here is that minimum, not less, be paid and further stressed that the intent was to boost the local economy. Councilman Ramos further stated that the City of Laredo establish a minimum wage in awarding a construction contract. Councilman Valdez seconded Councilman Ramos motion and passage was by the affirmative vote of all Councilmen present.

4) Report of Chicago/Taylor streets was given by Amador Escudero who stated all paperwork was ready. Councilman Ramos made a motion that these be paved out of Community Development Agency, Entitlement of Section 12. Second was by Councilman Cortez. All were in favor.

5) Councilman Ramos stated that this item belonged to Councilman Benavides' District.

Councilman Valdez made the motion for adjournment and was seconded by Councilman Montalvo. All voted in favor.

Meeting ended at 12:45 A.M.

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON

11/2/82

[Signature]

Hortencia C. Gonzalez
HORTENCIA C. GONZALEZ
CITY SECRETARY

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