

CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M98-R-39
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
SEPTEMBER 8, 1998
5:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth G. Flores,	Mayor
Alfredo Agredano,	Councilmember, District I
Louis H. Bruni,	Councilmember, District II
John C. Galo,	Councilmember, District III
Cecilia May Moreno,	Councilmember, District IV
Eliseo Valdez, Jr.,	Councilmember, District V
Joe A. Guerra,	Councilmember, District VI
Mario G. Alvarado,	Councilmember, District VII
Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo,	Councilmember, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Florencio Pena, III	City Manager
Jaime L. Flores,	City Attorney

IV. MINUTES

1. City Council Meeting, July 20, 1998
City Council Meeting, July 27, 1998
City Council Meeting, July 29, 1998
City Council Meeting, August 3, 1998
City Council Meeting, August 5, 1998
Special City Council Meeting, August 12, 1998
Special City Council Meeting, August 13, 1998
Budget Workshops, August 12, 13, 14, & 15

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to waive the regular order of business and move up

items #43, B(2), #36, and #8.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE

2. Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Clemente M. Bedia for the leasing of 624.77 square feet of building space at the South Laredo Pool Park site.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement by and between the Laredo Municipal Transit System and the City of Laredo Department of Community Development for the lease of 6,628 square feet of building space at the Laredo Intermodal Transit Center located at 1301 Farragut (East), for the monthly sum of \$3,314; to be paid as follows: Community Development Block Grant \$2,534.50; Home Investment Partnership Program \$159.50; and City of Laredo General Fund \$620.00.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 1997-1998 annual budget by reclassifying three firefighters to three captain positions due to the large amount of EMS calls for the City's rapid growth area of response.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final readings of ordinances #98-O-161, #98-O-224, #98-O-225, #98-O-226, #98-O-227, #98-O-228, #98-O-229, #98-O-230, #98-O-231, #98-O-232, #98-O-233, #98-O-234, #98-O-235, #98-O-236, and #98-O-237.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

5. 98-O-161 Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's 1997-1998 budget in the amount of \$1,600.00 for the purchase of canine dog food and supplies for the multi-agency financial disruption force for the period beginning January 1, 1998 and ending December 31, 1998. **(City Council)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-161.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

6. 98-O-224 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 4, 5, and the north 2/3 of Lot 3, Block 1424, Eastern Division, located on the 2400 block of Cleveland Street from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).
(Council member Alfredo Agredano)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-224.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

7. 98-O-225 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 21, 25, and 26, El Rancho Subdivision, located on the south side of SH 359 and east of Wildcat Drive, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). **(Council member Alfredo Agredano)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-225.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. 98-O-226 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 26.128 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located south of Jacaman Road and east of McPherson Road from R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).
(Council member Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-226.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. 98-O-227 Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 97-O-185 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a child education/day care center on Lots 1 and 2, Block 1697, Eastern Division, located at 2801 and 2807 E. Fremont Street, by revising the site plan.
(Council member Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-227.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

10. 98-O-228 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 7A, Block 1413, Eastern Division, located at 2414 Cortez Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).
(Council member John C. Galo)

Motion to change Ordinance #98-O-228 to read instead of M-1 to C.U.P. Permit.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. 98-O-229 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block 350, Eastern Division, located at 119 W. Lyon Street from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).
(Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-229.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. 98-O-230 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the east 46.3 feet of Lot 4, Block 663, Eastern Division, located at 1219 Taylor Street from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).
(Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-230.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

13. 98-O-231 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 11 and 12, Block 448, Eastern Division, located at 118 and 120 East San Carlos Street from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).
(Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-231.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

14. 98-0-232 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 5 and 6, Block 822, Western Division, located at 1504 Blair Street from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).
(Council member Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-0-232.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 98-0-233 Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 97-0-105 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a jewelry only pawn shop on Lot 4 and the south 8.56 feet of Lot 3, Block 9, Western Division, located at 1102 Zaragoza Street by omitting the "jewelry only" restriction and adding "no gasoline or fuel burning merchandise", "no weapons/firearms" and "no curbside/sidewalk display or sales".
(Council member Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo)

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-0-233.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

16. 98-0-234 Ordinance amending the City of Laredo General Fund annual budget for fiscal year 1998 to appropriate additional revenues of \$20,000 from Entex Company and \$35,000 grant from the Alternative Fuel Council for the conversion of City vehicles to compressed natural gas. **(City Council)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-0-234.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

17. 98-0-235 Ordinance amending the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget in the amount of \$1,986,480 to operate the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program, and to issue approximately \$9,745,497 in federal food vouchers by the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999. **(City Council)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-0-235.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

18. 98-O-236 Ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas International Toll Bridge System Revenue Bonds, Series 1998A, and the execution of a purchase contract, approving of an official statement, and the execution of an escrow agreement. **(City Council)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-236.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

19. 98-O-237 Ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas International Toll Bridge System Taxable Revenue Bonds, Series 1998B, and the execution of a purchase contract, approving of an official statement, and the execution of an escrow agreement. **(City Council)**

Motion to approve Ordinance #98-O-237.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mr. Noe Hinijosa stated he had heard from three rating agency's confirming their rating of the Bridge System. Pitch rating increased from A to A+, Standard & Poore's with an A, and Moody rated the system with an A3.

Motion to accept the final readings on #98-0-161 to #98-0-237 with the exception of #98-0-228.

Moved: Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

20. 98-R-153 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a non-financial agreement between the Laredo Community College and the City of Laredo - Laredo Public Library and its branches to provide Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes to the undereducated adults within the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve Resolution #98-R-153.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

21. 98-R-154 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a non-financial agreement between the City of Laredo - Laredo Public Library and the Webb County Head Start Program to coordinate services provided to Head Start families.

Motion to approve Resolution #98-R-154.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

22. 98-R-155 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the National Library of Medicine for staff training, public seminars and presentations, printing fliers, posters, etc. for the NLM's Consumer Health Information Project for Public Libraries in the amount of \$5,000.

Motion to approve Resolution #98-R-155.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

23. 98-R-156 Accepting a grant from Entex in the amount of \$16,880.00, to be used toward the conversion of existing fleet vehicles to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

Nelda Juarez, District Manager for Entex, said she and Entex, would like to commend the City Council, as well as the City Staff, on being proactive participants in alternative fueled vehicles. A Clean City Coalition was formed with a \$50,000 grant from Texas General Land Board to educate other members of the community, as well as fleet management, about the use of alternative fueled vehicles. They hope, that not only will Laredo be the All American City, but that the city be designated by the Department of Energy as a clean city. They would like to contribute to this effort.

Motion to approve Resolution #98-R-156.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

24. 98-R-157 Amending the list of capital improvement projects to

be submitted to the South Texas Development Council (STDC) for incorporation in the Overall Economic Development Program Plan (OEDP) to be provided to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) for potential funding consideration and authorizing the City Manager to submit a follow-up grant application as may be directed by EDA. Projects named include:

1. El Portal Riverfront Development Project
2. Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Along F.M. 1472 (Mines Road) from the Pan American Industrial Park to the Santa Isabel Creek Bridge
3. Railroad Overpass at the Unitec Industrial Park.

Mr. Armando Ruiz asked for status or list of projects that are being considered for EDA funding so that a time frame can be determined.

Ms. Collazo provided him with the list of projects. Ms. Collazo stated that they previously brought a resolution to City Council on June 22nd. We identified two projects one being, El Portal Riverfront Project and the other, the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure along F.M. 1472. These are not Community Development Block Grant projects but they are EDA potential projects. At the last meeting we were directed by City Council to bring forth a resolution to you to include a third project. It maintains a priority three unless City Council wishes to change it. It was their understanding that they would at the next meeting bring to City Council a contract to consider Mr. Ruiz's work on the application subject to his fee coming out of the developers's portion of the project. She said they will submit to STDC so that they can amend the work plan. Rather than amending the resolution they are bringing forth a new resolution. She said EDA has the option to select projects.

City Manager Pena recommended to first amend the list of capital improvement projects. Then place on the agenda for the 21st to take two actions, one to authorize approval and second, to authorize to submit a pre-application for the Railroad Overpass project. Also we need a contractual agreement with the developers that they will provide the forty percent match in the event the grant is approved.

Motion to approve Resolution #98-R-157.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VIII. MOTIONS

25. Approval of bid specifications and authorization to advertise for bids for the following:
- a) Water Meters, Annual Contract - Utilities Department
 - b) M.J. Fittings, Annual Contract - Utilities Department
 - c) Water Distribution Material, Annual Contract - Utilities Department
 - d) Air Scrubber Operation, Annual Service Contract - Utilities Department

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

26. Award of contract to the LOW BIDDER MEETING SPECIFICATIONS, Laurel Battery Co., Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$29,077.80, for the purchase of automotive batteries for the City's fleet. This contract will be for a period of one year. Since no battery inventory is maintained at the maintenance facility, all batteries are purchased on an as needed basis. The contract pricing is approximately 2% higher than the previous contract period for the same battery types. The City did receive lower bids from two other vendors, however, the batteries proposed by these vendors did not meet the minimum acceptable cranking amps or the reserve capacity rating required by the City.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

27. Award of contract to the LOW BIDDER MEETING SPECIFICATIONS, Executive World, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$20,073.60, for the purchase of office furniture and office equipment. Desks, chairs, filing equipment, and general office equipment will be purchased for the eight police sub-stations. All items will be delivered within thirty days. The City received a lower bid from Office Max, San Antonio, Texas, however, some of the office equipment bid by this vendor did not meet the City's bid requirements.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

28. Award of annual contracts for the purchase of automotive parts for the Fleet Maintenance Division, to the following

LOW BIDDERS:

A. Velco, Laredo, Texas		
Section I - Filters	\$ 92,661.78	
B. NAPA Auto Parts, Laredo, Texas		
Section II - Bulbs, Lamps, Fuses	\$ 22,492.50	
Section V - Hose, Clamps, Etc.	<u>\$ 10,351.45</u>	
Subtotal		\$ 32,843.95
C. Gonzalez Auto Parts, Laredo, Texas		
Section III - Wheel Bearings, Seals, U-Joints	\$ 9,754.75	
Section IV - Service Lubricants	<u>\$ 10,088.40</u>	
Subtotal		\$ 19,843.15
D. A & A Automotive, San Antonio, Texas		
Section VI - Wiper Blades, Assemblies	<u>\$ 2,046.20</u>	
TOTAL		\$147,395.08

All replacement automotive parts will be purchased on an as need basis.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

29. Award of contract to the **LOW BIDDER,** Newman Signs, Jamestown, N. Dakota, in the amount of \$37,810.98, for the purchase of 3,136 street name sign blades for 734 intersections. These are vandal proof street name signs which will be installed on CDBG and non-CDBG areas. The installation of these larger street name signs will facilitate the street identification by emergency vehicles. The bid pricing is approximately 9% more than the previous year's sign purchase.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

30. Award of the Airport Liability insurance contract to the **LOWEST BIDDER,** Arthur J. Gallagher, broker on behalf of Great American Insurance Company, in the amount of \$24,508, for the \$20,000,000 policy limit. Also, award the Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond to, Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool, in the amount of \$6,916 for \$1,000,000 policy limit. Both types of coverage will be for a period of twelve (12) months (October 1, 1998 through October 1, 1999 12:01 a.m.) with a two-year renewal option.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the professional engineering services contract with Structural Engineering Associates, Inc. (SEA) to reflect an increase in the amount of \$20,715 to provide a scale model of the Laredo Northwest International Bridge, border station and approach roadway and to rescind the previous authorization to contract with Marmon Mok L.L.P. for the same. SEA's contract for professional engineering services related to the construction of the Laredo Northwest International Bridge will increase from \$2,059,047.28 to \$2,079,762.28.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Authorizing the award of a consultant contract to Foster Engineering Company for the written description and sketches of twenty-two tracts of land to be proposed for unilateral annexation. The amount of the contract for professional services is \$109,500.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Approval of amendment no. 1, an increase of \$61,291.00 to the Vertical Expansion of the City of Laredo Landfill engineering contract with Rust Environment and Infrastructure, Inc., Houston, Texas, for additional consulting engineering work to add Wetlands, Alternate Daily Cover Operating Plan Design, Full Certification Compliance with Section 404 in compliance with **new** Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) Policies of the Clean Water Act of 1977 and which must be submitted and approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers before a vertical expansion permit is approved by TNRCC for the City of Laredo Landfill located at Highway 359. The original engineering contract amount was \$350,000.00. This amendment will bring the engineering contract amount to \$411,291.00. Funding is available in Landfill Capital Outlay Improvements Other Than Building.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Approval of change order no. 4, a net decrease of \$53,278.99 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, acceptance of the Santa Maria Avenue Drainage Improvements between Del Mar Boulevard and Markley Lane, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$145,683.90 to Ramex Construction Company, Houston, Texas. The original construction contract amount was \$1,993,475.00. This change order will bring the final contract amount to \$1,936,542.15. Funding is available in the Drainage Improvements Santa Maria Drainage Improvements.

Cm. Alvarado was concerned about the cost involved in an alternate route to the Ana Truck route.

Oscar Mena reported they are working on Marco Drive as an alternate route to the Ana Truck route. However, he stated that Marco Drive is badly deteriorated and they would be adding a five inch black base.

Cm. Alvarado suggested using the \$53,278 savings from the Santa Maria Drainage Project to cover the cost of the black basing of Marco Drive. He is not sure this is CDVG monies but he is sure it is a CDVG area.

City Manager Pena replied that this area may not be eligible for CDVG, but they will take care of making the route driveable, passable, and workable.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Authorize payment in an amount of \$16,795.00 to Archeology Consultants, Inc. for additional Investigative diggings required by the Texas Historical Commission in order to clear Father McNaboe Recreational Complex from environmental review for construction.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Adopting a schedule of hearings and proceedings and directing staff to prepare a service plan for the unilateral annexation of 20 tracts of land totaling 5,433.494 acres, more or less, and 6 tracts of land for voluntary annexation totaling 2,751.9493 acres, more or less, for a total of 8,185.4433 acres in accordance with Section 43.052 of the Texas Local

Government Code.

Cm. Alvarado asked city staff to make their presentation first. He has asked Ms. Swisher to give her presentation because they are requesting annexation of 20 tracts.

Keith Selman, City Planner, briefly went over the areas to be annexed. He said tonight they need City Council to adopt the schedule of hearings and proceedings, and to direct staff to initiate the service plans for these areas.

Cm. Bruni asked if tracts can be added or deleted from the annexation plans. Mr. Selman replied that they can if City Council directs them to do so.

Cm. Alvarado requested City Council to consider annexing the 20 tracts of land because there is a company that wants to locate a manufacturing firm in Laredo. It would be beneficial to the city by attracting more industry and jobs.

Cm. Bruni requested that the northern part of Tract 11 be deleted from annexation because this is an agricultural area and would not be beneficial to the city.

Motion to delete northern part of Tract 11.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 6

Against: 2 Abstain: 0

Ms. Swisher, of the Henry S. Miller Real Estate Company, requested City Council to consider and annex a 42 acre parcel. They were contacted by the Laredo Development Foundation who has a client that was looking for land to build a major industrial space. They liked what they have at The Portal. Their intentions are to build two - 250,000 square foot buildings where there would be light assembly and major distribution. They have a Machilla in Saltillo and they would like this one operative at this time next year. They have projected employment of approximately 150 people.

Motion to include 42.8699 acres to the annexation procedures and hearings.

Cm. Bruni wanted to know if Mr. Salinas had a problem with Tract 26 being annexed. Mr. Salinas said he did not have a problem with this tract being annexed.

Motion to adopt the schedule of hearings and proceedings and directing staff to prepare a service plan for the unilateral annexation to include the 20 tracts of land and the other motion.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

for directing and being involved with the emergency flood disaster beginning with Mayor Flores and Cm. Alvarado. He wanted to recognize the following: the Utilities Department Gerardo Pinson our Assistant Utilities Director, Jose Chavarria our Waste Water Superintendent and Humberto Salinas. The Health Department, Jerry Robinson oversaw the opening of emergency shelters. Victor Oliveras and Gloria Pena not only did they help oversee the shelters in the city, but also those in the county and Rio Bravo. Victor Oliveras also identified flood areas. Horacio De Leon and Larry Dovalina, City Assistants Managers were involved in various aspects. The Engineering Department, Rogelio Rivera, Gabriel Martinez , Huberto Ramirez, Juvo Saka, and Ria Mia. All those involved that were from the Police or Fire Department. He also recognized Cw. Montalvo for helping at the bridge. Also he wanted to recognize Jose Guerra, Oscar Medina, Adan Cedillo, Ruben Rizo, Jaime Cantu, Miguel Jimenez, Fernando Liendo, Enrique Medrano, Humberto Castillo, Edmundo Amaro, Guero Galvan and Ernesto Garza.

Cw. Montalvo wanted to thank all the staff, the Police and Fire Department.

Cm. Galo also wanted to commend the Police and Fire Department, the Texas National Guard, the Border Patrol and all the other reserve members that did an excellent job with minimal loss of life.

Mayor Elizabeth Flores recognized the following Laredo businesses: Steinmart, Holiday Inn, Cakeland, LISD, Dunkin Donuts, Walmart, Best Western Fiesta Inn, American Red Cross, and Luby's. She also wanted to thank Mrs. Montoya for donating 500 sandbags.

Cm. Alvarado wanted to recognize the Salvation Army.

Cm. Bruni recognized Conoco for providing assistance.

Cm. Valdez recognized members of Community Action Agency and also the staff that identified the areas.

Conrado Hein stated that they set up a disaster summary outline with compilation of costs to be sent to the state. As of September 3rd the costs that were calculated were: Debris removal at \$50,000, overtime pay for Fire and Police Departments and other personnel at \$132,000, damages to five roads \$325,000, and damage to bridges at \$50,000, and damage to the parks at \$1.6 million for a total of \$2.2 million. A more complete and accurate compilation will be submitted.

42. Presentation and discussion regarding City Council's Resolution No. 97-R-025 supporting the Concord Hills Development contract and abiding by the performance measures in the Resolution incorporated into the contract, stating that any monies not used at the end of each specific year

will be forfeited by Vaquillas Development and will be made available for use by all builders. Further, that any homes not built at the end of and placed in the regular Down Payment Assistance Program.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated that the determination has been made that a contract amendment was not necessary. The action that City Council took at the last meeting was sufficient to proceed and reallocate the funds to other builders in town.

City Attorney Flores corrected the last sentence stating it should read, " Further, that any homes not built at the end of each specific year, as per the contract, be considered for funding at the end of the contract term subject to appropriation and availability of funds from HUD, state and the county."

Motion to continue to support resolution 97-R-025.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

City Mangager Pena stated no formal action is needed.

Evan Quiroz stated that the problem is that if the contract is not amended it would not hold the county or state responsible. He said if you do not amend the contract and add on verbiage that states that on the last year that you make sure the 600 homes are met, then the state and the county does not have to comply with any funds. An amendment to the contract would tie them down to the funds. He said in Article 5, it states this agreement may only be amended in writing executed by each of the parties. The resolution, the second part talks about funds being allocated and sets out the schedule. It states that fund balance not utilized yearly as per schedule will be forfeited. He said this is what needs to be amended.

Motion to instruct staff (currently from this year) to pursue possible amendment w/aub.

Moved : Cw. Moreno
Second: Cm. Casso
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

43. Status report and presentation by Mr. Armando Hinojosa, Artist for professional services in the development and creation of a life sized bronze sculpture depicting a "Campfire scene," being comprised of the following (1) South Texas Cowboy, (2) Mexican Charro, (3) two Quarter Horses with saddle and gear, and (4) campfire ornaments for placement at the Laredo International Airport.

Mr. Armando Hinijosa wanted to advise council that the project is going well. He said the sculptures would be completed and installed by the end of December. He gave a brief description of the sculptures and he also brought one sculpture to show council.

44. Presentation on the status report of the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge) for the month of September 1998.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, gave a report on the status of the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge). Mr. Pena initiated the report with:

BRIDGE STRUCTURE

Bids are due by September 14, 1998.

Award of a contract will be done during the regular City Council Meeting of September 21, 1998.

BORDER FACILITIES

A meeting was held September 1st, with all Federal Agencies which included Customs, Immigration, Food & Drug, TXDOT, Agriculture, etc. Several modifications were made.

A good number of questions and clarifications were submitted. GSA hired SBCC who in turn hired HOK firm to review the Border Station Plans. GSA wants a respond to approximately 600 questions that they had on the plan.

Electrical and Mechanical comments have yet to be provided.

A continuing issue concerning the placement of a berm and fence around the Border Facility has been raised by some of the federal agencies particularly Customs. Immigration was satisfied with the placement of the berm and fence. Customs felt more environmental work needed to be done. They will be working on reviewing the berms with an environmental engineer to see what impact it would have on their working environment.

The new revised dates for the Border Facilities are as follows:

Plan Submittal to Federal Agencies - September 29, 1998.

Meeting of Federal agencies - October 15, 1998.

Design to be completed - October 30, 1998.

Anticipated approval by federal agencies - November 13, 1998.

Advertise for bids - November 20, 1998.

Opening bids - December 22, 1998.

Award of a contract - January 4, 1999.

Start construction late January 1999 and complete construction May 2000.

Bonds scheduled to be sold - September 15, 1998.

APPROACH ROADWAY

Design 100% complete.

Advertise for bids - October 22, 1998.

Opening bids - November 12 or 13, 1998.

Award of a contract - November 24, 1998.

Start construction January 11, 1999.

Completion of First Phase - December 1, 1999.

Completion of Project - January 2001

Mayor Flores wanted these dates shared with the Mexicans. City Manager Pena replied he will provide these to Vicente San Martin, Assistant Director of Economic Development of the State of Tamaulipas.

45. Status regarding negotiations with Webb County for fire protection services with possible action.

City Manager Pena reported that at the last meeting they presented to City Council a proposal to enter into a contract for \$557,000. City Council directed them to proceed to meet with the county with the proposal for their input. They did meet with Carlos Villareal, Mr. Flores, Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Rhonda Tiffin. They raised several questions regarding the formula that was used to determine the allocation. They questioned the costs and the number of calls. We have since revised the number of calls and the costs and the new proposal would be for \$539,380.00.

Mr. Fernando Alarcon, President for the Association of Firefighters, said they should be part of negotiations with the county. They want an addendum to their current contract to allow them to be part of the bargaining of their labor. City Council said they can serve in an advisory capacity for now and City Attorney Flores can confer with the attorney representing their association.

No motion.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

Presentation of Best of Show Display at the City Showcase that took place on Saturday, July 25, 1998 to the Engineering Department.

Mayor Elizabeth Flores presented award of Best of Show Display to the City Engineering Department. Mr. Rogelio Rivera accepted award for the department staff.

XI. CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

46. Requests by Mayor and City Council members for presentation and discussion.

A. Request by Council member Alfredo Agredano

1. Confirmation on the appointment of Mr. Ruben Castillo, to the Beautification Committee.

Motion confirming Mr. Ruben Castillo to the Beautification Committee

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council member Louis H. Bruni

1. Discussion and possible action on conducting a Traffic Flow Study for the purpose of installing a traffic control device at the entrance of J.B. Alexander High School. (Co-sponsored by Councilman Joe A. Guerra)

Mr. Murillo, Traffic Engineer, stated this item was placed last time on the agenda. He said he mentioned then that other studies were pending and based on that they estimated completion of this study would be late December. It can be completed sooner if City Council wants to move it up.

Council will wait for a report from Mr. Murillo.

2. Status report on the Brown and Root drainage study at the Laredo International Airport with possible action.

Rogelio Rivera said a proposal was received from Brown & Root that divided the project into the Preliminary and the Design Phase. They still have not talked to Mr. Joe Salvedra who is the contact for Brown & Root. They need to negotiate with him the \$53,000 plus cost and specifics of the project.

Cm. Bruni indicated he is most interested in the south part of the International Airport runway. He said he understands that there are three alternatives on how to divert the water off the International Airport from the particular property which is north of Hwy 59 and then how to divert it to the east where it would then cross the highway and be on the eastern boundary of the property straight across from the proposed drainage project. He knows Mr. Rivera had one alternative # 3. Cm. Bruni asked Mr. Rivera what would be the soonest that this alternative could be implemented.

Mr. Rivera said that this is the alternative that Mr. Saavedra is proposing as the most immediate project that would resolve this situation. In the proposal from Mr. Saavedra he mentions concrete structures because the other ones would be long range with TXDOT coming in the year 2000 before they would do second phase of the highway. In order to implement we would have to complete negotiations with Mr. Saavedra. If we are unable to, the next step would be to send out for an RFP and have a one week turn around to have a local engineer look at it. Their first choice was Brown & Root because they made the initial report. He said the cost of this project is already \$500,000 excluding the \$53,000 design cost.

Cm. Bruni said Mr. Rivera should negotiate an Engineering contract and then go out for RFP's.

Mr. Paul Young said he reviewed proposals and Alternative # 1 there would be a drainage ditch on airport property that would affect everybody the least. Because with the other two alternatives you would be running along the highway and it probably would affect the property owners on the northside and southside of the highway and then guardrails, etc. would be needed.

Cm. Bruni put forth a motion to look at Alternative #1 and go for RFP's and talk to the engineers.

No Second.

Paul Young pointed out that Alternative #2 was the one he recommends and not Alternative #1. Mr. Ruben Garribay, property owner, spoke in favor of Alternative #2. He said this drainage ditch would be located strictly on airport property and would not need guardrails or need to be covered up. It would only be assessible to airport personnel and guardrails would only be needed on the right of way that crosses north to south on Highway 59. The guardrail would be reduced to 40 feet from the 100 feet on the other proposals. It also reduces maintenance time and cost. It appears more expensive because Mr. Saavedra has proposed an enclosed culvert.

Cm. Bruni asked Mr. Rivera to bring back at the next meeting the cost and also the savings of an open culvert.

3. Status report on the Laredo Land Development Code, Section 24-73, pertaining to oil and gas extraction and production, with possible action.
(Co-sponsored by Councilman Joe A. Guerra)

Cm. Bruni states that based on the new Oil and Gas Ordinance it gives certain oil producers or gas producers right of ways and if they either sell or exchange the right of way with other oil companies then they owe us a transfer fee. There is a particular oil company that bought out a north Laredo company and he said they owe us a fee.

Keith Selman replied that there is basically two, one being an inspection fee of \$100 per year and the one he may be referring to is a not a right of way issue but actually the drilling permit. If a drilling permit is issued and there is a transfer of ownership, the applicants have to come in to make application. The fee is \$1,000 to transfer ownership and we are issuing letters to facilitate that transfer.

Cm. Bruni replied he was referring to the lines whether they be gathering lines or transmission lines. He said there is a fee involved not just for the drilling permit but should also be for the actual lines in the ground.

Mr. Selman said they would check the ordinance on the right of way and report back.

4. Status report on resurfacing the 1600, 1700, and 1800 Blocks of Milmo, with possible action.

Mr. Rogelio Rivera said they are included in the first year of the three year recycling program coming up next budget year. These were being submitted to all the utility companies. They are completing the design of the valley gutters and will be addressing the ponding. It is just a matter of submitting to public works.

Cm. Bruni said the City Secretary is to find motion he had made on construction of above blocks he made 6 to 7 months ago and present to City Manager and see what the motion said reference M98-4-39.

C. Request by Council member John C. Galo

1. Discussion on the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation with possible action.

Cm. Galo said the housing is not in good shape and they are not all up to standards. There is \$357,000 proposed

in salaries. We have a pilot program, we have administrative fees, and maintenance fees. We are feeling this project to death. He is sure staff is not utilized daily. There is \$600,000 in revenues and half is used toward salaries for nine employees just associated with the base property. We should consider shifting personnel to public works. The units should only need a Manager and a secretary who should be taking applications and complaints. Plumbing or electrical work can be contracted out and a service call can be paid twice per unit compared to the salary.

City Manager Pena said if we can adopt the budget as is we will conduct a performance audit. We will do an evaluation and within three months bring back a plan with changes needed in order for costs of operation to be more in line.

Cm. Galo is recommending finding an outside or Laredo Municipal independent contractor to start a management team for the housing.

Motion to provide contract performance audit with condition of assets audit and management fees included in the study.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Discussion on the need of city council to have the agenda posted sooner than the Friday before the meeting with possible action.

Cm. Galo stated that the agendas are needed sooner than Friday night because on Mondays they receive calls from constituents with questions. This does not allow them time to discuss with staff and provide the answers to their constituents.

Motion to post agendas by Wednesday noon and agenda books be received no later than Thursday morning without so many minutes.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.

1. Discussion and possible action requesting a commitment from TxDOT on having them do everything possible to secure the maximum signal allowed by the state to warn the motorists about the designated truck lane on IH-35 (ex. electronic or other state approved signs).

Mr. Fitzgerald Sanchez and Carlos Rodriguez from TxDOT came in behalf of Mr. Juan Villareal. Mr. Sanchez began by saying they wanted to present their commitment to traffic safety along all roadways. At present time they have close to half a dozen signs between static signs, warning signs, and a large electronic changeable message sign. They have a project that includes over \$400,000 of additional signing and plan to add another changeable message sign in the vicinity of the Jefferson Street bridge, another changeable message sign, add 6 static signs at overhead sign bridge structures, and electronic equipment that will do some intelligent traffic system monitoring in the area of speed and amount of traffic. Additionally, Mr. Villareal has added six portable changeable message signs that can be used at time of increased congestion. Additionally, Mr. Villareal wanted him to stress that signs are useful but they are not the only thing that can be used. They know that people in time will disregard signs but they have a tendency to quickly notice a police officer.

Staff will provide a report with recommendations.

2. Request to expedite the study mapping the new flood lines along the Zacate Creek to provide flood insurance relief for residents outside the flood plain with a monthly status report from City staff.

Mr. Rogelio Rivera reported they had just received the proposal from Brown & Root last Friday but they will be meeting with Brown & Root to see if they can negotiate to lower the fee from the \$450,000. Their proposal includes items that would not be needed. Once they have a contract with Brown & Root the upper Zacate Creek drainage plan will be expedited.

3. Discussion and possible action on including Taylor Street on the sidewalk program as a priority because of truck traffic on that street that is used by alot of children on their way to school.

Mr. Rogelio Rivera stated he would provide the City Manager a cost estimate to include the nine blocks and one or two blocks into Alma Pierce.

Motion to include Taylor as a priority with cost estimate.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mayor Flores out, Mayor Protem chairing.

4. Request for a monthly report on the status of the Chaparral Drainage Improvement Project.

Mr. Rogelio Rivera stated they met with some of the people that reported concerns of the Town Hall meetings. They are meeting with the consultants this week and construction plans should be ready by October 1998. Concerns of Town Hall meeting will be put into writing and submitted in a report to the City Manager.

E. Request by Council member Joe A. Guerra

1. Request by Ron Goodman to discuss issues concerning the movement and permitting of oversize loads within the City of Laredo.

Mr. Ron Goodman states that more time and additional personnel are needed at the traffic window. Currently they close at 3:25 P.M. and due to the large flow of traffic it hinders their operation by not allowing the windows to stay opened longer. Ordinance states window is to be opened from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. to issue permits but they do not adhere to ordinance in order to serve the public.

Mr. Juan Morales, Traffic Safety Department, states the ordinance does require them to keep the windows opened from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. to issue permits. To better provide customer service they start at 8:00 A.M. and stop at 3:30 P.M. The reason they stop at 3:30 P.M. is because of processing of permits, delivering deposits to finance and taking forms to the bridge. The operation of the windows can be extended but additional personnel will be needed.

City Manager Florencio Pena states he will research the possibility of opening 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., will evaluate customer service, and will provide a report by next meeting.

Mr. Goodman further stated that the city ordinance requires a weight ticket and a photograph of the load. They encounter a problem and their operation is hindered because they are unable to provide a photograph if a truck arrives from outside the city say at 7:00 P.M. Currently the State does not require a photograph.

Mr. Morales said in reference to the photograph, bridge personnel require photographs for southbound traffic. They have to compare the information that is provided on the permit to the actual photo because of past experience of people switching vehicles. However, we are in the process of making office procedural changes to accomodate customs better.

Mayor Flores thanked Mr. Goodman and said his information would be taken into advisement.

2. Discussion and possible action on the applicants by the City to TNRCC concerning the vertical expansion and other related issues of the Laredo Landfill.

Randall Kippenbroth, reported that on July 9th they submitted their permit amendment application to TNRCC, and by July 29th TNRCC responded by requesting additional information to make the application administrative complete. By August 26, our consultant Russ Environmental & Infrastructure submitted the requested information to TNRCC. According to our consultant Brian Dougley's discussion with Brian Hartman, review engineer from TNRCC, they anticipate the application to be declared administrative complete this week. Thereafter, within 60 days, five members of TNRCC will review the application and visit the site. They have until November 11th to request any technical information and our consultant has up to 60 days or January 1999 to respond. The permit approval process hinders on TNRCC deciding by April 29th to approve or oppose. In the event they oppose, it will take until October 1999 and may require public hearings.

3. Discussion and possible action on status of the pre-application to EDA regarding the railroad overpass at Unitec Industrial Park.

Cm. Guerra said no action since item already discussed previously under item 24.

F. Request by Council member Mario G. Alvarado

1. Update from staff on the Orilla Road project with possible action.

Mr. Rogelio Rivera, City Engineering, reported that the Orilla Road project was added to Project 61 by council action. Project 61 is not funded but 10 blocks can be funded by CD. We had a contract with Porras Engineering to redo or revise the plans and do revisions to the water sewer and paving. The plans are ready. The cost estimate is approximately \$235,000 to \$250,000 for construction, testing and some contingencies. All that is needed is to identify funding.

Motion to instruct staff to look for funding for the project.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion and possible action on request from St. Jude Church for traffic signs along Bristol Road.

Cm. Alvarado has already received a report from the Traffic Department and they have addressed situation.

No discussion.

G. Request by Council member Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo

1. Discussion and possible action to amend the Border Area Nutrition Council's proposed third party funding for the 1998-1999 fiscal year to be increased from \$22,500 to \$30,000.
(Co-sponsored by Cm. Eliseo Valdez and Cm. Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to fund to \$30,000.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

47. Public hearing concerning an application by Rodolfo Garza amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 3, Towneast Subdivision, Unit I, located at the intersection of US 59 and West Fiesta Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 3, Towneast Subdivision, Unit I, located at the intersection of US 59 and West Fiesta Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Rudolfo Garza just wanted to clarify that he is strictly requesting to open a store only and not a beer tavern as some people may have misunderstood.

Cm. Bruni after meeting with the constituents and finding that there were as many people for as against he recommended to table for further study by planning and zoning.

Motion to close the public hearing and table for further study by planning and zoning.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

48. Public hearing to adopt the Annual Budget for fiscal year 1998-1999 and appropriating the estimated revenues and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 1998 and ending September 30, 1999, consistent with the financial plan described in said Annual Budget; and authorizing the City Manager to implement said Annual Budget.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance to adopt the Annual Budget for fiscal year 1998-1999 and appropriating the estimated revenues and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 1998 and ending September 30, 1999, consistent with the financial plan described in said Annual Budget; and authorizing the City Manager to implement said Annual Budget; providing for effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Luis Dovalina, President of Laredo Police Officers Association, wanted to speak about the Police Department budget. He said they are having problems with the current vehicles and only 20 vehicles will be purchased. He has made inquiries into the mileage usage and cost of maintenance of the vehicles. The majority of vehicles have high mileage over 100,000 miles and the cost of maintenance averages to about \$20,000 per vehicle. He had requested at one time for the city to do a capital improvement and project for the future for manpower and vehicles. He wants to present City Council with a report for their information.

Mr. Beto Ramirez went over Operating Funds with City Council.

Motion to take \$250,000 draw down for 10 more vehicles for Police vehicles a one-time expenditure.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

49. Public hearing on the 1998 proposed Ad Valorem tax rate of \$.53993, and introduction of an ordinance approving the 1998 tax rate, and providing for the levy and collection of General and Special Ad Valorem Taxes and Alcoholic Beverage Taxes for the City of Laredo for the 1998 tax year and the 1998-1999 fiscal year. A public hearing must be held when the tax levy to be adopted is more than the levy of 1997. The introductory ordinance is to be read in its complete form and voted on after the fiscal 1998-1999 budget ordinance is introduced and voted on. A notice of the tax rate ordinance must be published and the final vote taken within fourteen days of the public hearing.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance providing for the levy and the collection of General and Special Ad Valorem and Alcoholic Beverage Taxes for the City of Laredo for the tax year 1998 and the fiscal year 1998-1999; providing for effective date. .

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce ordinance.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

50. Public hearing amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 97-98 annual budget (City of Laredo) by an additional \$156,000; and increasing the General Fund transfer to the Health Fund by \$156,000 to pay for the completion of a roofing project.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 97-98 annual budget (City of Laredo) by an additional \$156,000; and increasing the General Fund transfer to the Health Fund by \$156,000 to pay for the completion of a roofing project; providing for effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce ordinance.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

51. Public hearing authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo Fire Department FY 1997-98 budget in the amount of \$6,848.00 for funds distributed from Senate Bill 102 Emergency Medical Services Trauma Care System Fund, to be used toward the purchase of educational and training equipment.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo Fire Department FY 1997-98 budget in the amount of \$6,848.00 for funds distributed from Senate Bill 102 Emergency Medical Services Trauma Care System Fund, to be used toward the purchase of educational and training equipment; providing for effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

52. Public hearing adopting the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Laredo without amendment in compliance with Article IX, Section 9.03 of the Charter of the City of Laredo.

RESOLUTION #98-R-158

Resolution adopting the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Laredo.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and approve Resolution #98-R158.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

53. Public hearing adopting the 1999-2003 Capital Improvement Program for the City of Laredo.

RESOLUTION #98-R-159

Resolution adopting the 1999-2003 Capital Improvement Program for the City of Laredo.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

City Manger Pena said we need to hold a special meeting on this item for Sept 14, 1998 Budget again and C.I.P.

Mr. Roland Ortiz, representative of Killam Industrial Development Partnership, stated that for serveral months they have been trying to get in Killam Industrial Boulevard from Sada Road to IH-35. They realized the need for another artery to run from Mines Road to IH-35. Mr. Killam has committed to donate the entire right of way from Sada Road to IH-35.

City Manager Pena, said this project is not budgeted and it would be a \$1.4 million project. This is the other draw down. As long as fund balance is above the 16 1/2 % there would not be a problem. At present time design is a four lane facility with a 90ft right of way. He feels this this is a project that will be useful because another access route is needed. TXDOT has tentatively agreed to put an exit ramp to allow south-bound trucks to exit and also a a ramp to get on southbound onto IH-35.

Keith Selman, of Planning and Design, said if we proceed with the project as originally proposed by adding the Killam Boulevard extension and proceeding with the Bridge proposed rate increase we would need an additional \$1.9 million.

Mr. Selman further went on to say that their recommendation to City Council is threefold:

- 1). Include the Killam Boulevard extension into the 1999 Project.
- 2). Provide TXDOT with a completion date because TXDOT will commit into the construction of the off ramps first.
- 3). The Cherry Hill Drive widening for drainage and accessibility needs of Mercy Hospital. It would be a \$1.5 million draw down.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. MOTION TO RECESS AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to recess as City Council and convene as The Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

54. Public hearing adopting the Laredo Municipal Transit System's proposed annual operating budget for fiscal year 1998-99 and program of projects; appropriating the estimated revenues and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 1998 and ending September 30, 1999; and authorizing the City Manager to implement the budget.

RESOLUTION #98-RT-160

Resolution adopting the Laredo Municipal Transit System's proposed annual operating budget for fiscal year 1998-99 and program of projects; appropriating the estimated revenues and balances reported therein for the year beginning October 1, 1998 and ending September 30, 1999; and authorizing the City Manager to implement the budget.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and approve Resolution #98-RT-160.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as The Laredo Mass Transit Board and convene as City Council.

Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

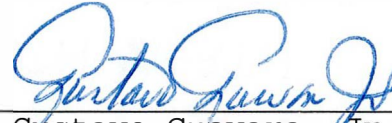
Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Adjournment time: 11:00 P.M.

I hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 32 are true, complete, and correct proceeding of the City Council Meeting held on the 8th of September, 1998.



Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

Minutes approved on: October 19, 1998