

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2022-R-03  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
February 22, 2022  
5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pete Saenz led in the pledge of Allegiance.

**III. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Pete Saenz led in a moment of silence.

**IV. ROLL CALL**

In attendance:

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Pete Saenz            | Mayor                  |
| Rudy Gonzalez Jr.     | District I             |
| Vidal Rodriguez       | Mayor Pro Tempore      |
| Mercurio Martinez III | District III           |
| Alberto Torres, Jr.   | District IV            |
| Ruben Gutierrez, Jr.  | District V             |
| Dr. Marte Martinez    | District VI            |
| Vanessa Perez         | District VII           |
| Alyssa Cigarroa       | District VIII          |
| Jose Valdez Jr.       | City Secretary         |
| Samuel Keith Selman   | Interim City Manager   |
| Rosario Cabello       | Deputy City Manager    |
| Kristina L. Hale      | Assistant City Manager |
| Riazul Mia            | Assistant City Manager |
| Sylvia B. Firth       | Interim City Attorney  |

Arrived Late: Cm. Cigarroa 5:52 pm, Cm. Torres 7:31 pm

## **V. MINUTES**

### **Approval of the minutes of February 7, 2022.**

#### **Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

#### **Motion Carries.**

#### **Citizen Comments**

Jose D. Ortiz spoke against Public hearing #5. Edna Ibarra spoke against Public hearing #5. Jesus Quiroz spoke in regards to the water issue and concerns he had. Petra Castro owner of M & M Trucking Company requested a letter from the legal department, as to why their deposit was denied after being evicted from their property. Mellie Hereford spoke on the importance to give back the powers of the municipal government to the city manager.

## **VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

1. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Freddy Cordova, Jr. to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.
2. Re-appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Juan Carlos Sanchez to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.
3. Re-appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of himself to the Employee of the Quarter (EOQ) and Employee of the Year Committee.

#### **Motion to approve appointments 1- 3.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez.

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres.

#### **Motion Carries.**

## **VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. **Public Hearing and Final Reading 2022-O-022** Approving and adopting the Redistricting Plan of the City of Laredo, providing for the redistricting of the eight (8) City Council Districts within the City of Laredo; and providing for publication and effective date. **(As Amended)**

**Motion to close public hearing, wave final reading, and adopt.**

Moved: Cm. Martinez

Second: MPT. Rodriguez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

- 2. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a body shop in the south half 1/2) of Lots 3 and 4 and also being partially out of Lot 2 and 3, Block 36, Eastern Division, located at 1216 Logan Avenue and 717 Laredo Street.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed conditional use permit and staff supports the application.

Laura Serna asked City Council to support her request for approval of the zoning Ordinance, and authorizing the issuance of a conditional permit.

**Motion to close public hearing and introduce items: 2, 3 and 4.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

- 3. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 119 D, Block 3, San Isidro Southwest-Antler Crossing Subdivision, Phase 5, located at 9802 Springfield Avenue from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to R-2 (Multi-Family District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change and staff supports the application.

- 4. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for a car lot on approximately 1.01 acre tract of land, out of the remaining portion of a 1,418.65 acre tract conveyed unto Trautmann Investment Properties, Limited, recorded in Volume 455, page 14, Deed Records of Webb County, Texas, situated in Porcion 23, Abstract 283, Webb County, Texas located north of International Boulevard and east of McPherson Road.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed conditional use permit and staff supports the application.

5. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 61.11 acres situated in Porcion 17, Abstract 52, Jose Christobal Garcia, Original Grantee and Porcion 18, Abstract 21, Jose de Bustamante, Original Grantee out of Shares 2 and 3 described in Partition Deed of La Bota Ranch recorded in Volume 492, pages 732-761 of the Webb County Deed Records and later out of Tract 4 of Partition Deed recorded in Volume 647, pages 36-57 of the Webb County Deed Records, located south of La Bota Parkway and southwest of Cowbird Cove Court, from AG (Agricultural District) and R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Area District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change and staff supports the application.

Lesly Muller representing La Bota Ranch, spoke in favor of amending the zone change. Virginia Cookie Muller owner of La Bota Ranch, spoke in favor of amending the zone change. Alison Haynes representing Khalide Group, spoke in favor of amending the zone change.

The following citizens spoke against the zone change: Myrna Montemayor, Silvia Guzman Rivas, Naomi San Miguel, Raul Garza, David Pen, Jose Hernandez, Miriam Castillo, Andrea Montoya, Rogelio Nevarez, Anabelli Peña, Jessica Martinez, Jeanette Rios, Maria Perez spoke, Brenda Perez, Saul Garza, Talia Rodriguez, Yadira Velarde, Santos Perez, Edgar Alvarado, Magali Castañeda, Erik Vega, Lidia Perez, Jackeline Mendoza, Adrian Amid,

Interim City attorney Sylvia Firth stated that the meeting had lost quorum at 9:21 pm. Mayor Pete Saenz Advised City Council that they had lost quorum.

The following citizens written comments against the zone change: Sandra Garza, M Z, Rolando Lopez, Daniel Cantu, Genoveva Alvarez, Maria Gomez, Anna Baiham, Karina Villalba, Myrna Montemayor, Lucy Morris, Veronica Cantu, Thomas Vogo, Pedro Ballesteros, Lisa Peña, Ethel Perez, Daniel Elizondo, Pablo Collazo, Jose and Laura Ortiz, Juan Collazo, Rosa Serna, Narciso Rosa, Lizette Cervantes, Salo and Johann Otero, Ciro Gonzalez, Alex Alparo, Diana Sanchez, Javier Garza, Petra Castro, Brenda Gonzalez, Lluvia Gamez, Magali Castañeda, Vanessa Lozano, Fernando Rodriguez.

Orlando Navarro Planning and Zoning Director explained the proposed zone change. Project engineer Victor Linares described the project. Cm. Perez stated that the proposed zone change map is not consistent with the current map and that the Master Plan has already expired. Mr. Selman expressed his concern with the proposed zone change.

**Motion to table.**

Moved: Cm. Martinez.

Second: Cm. Cigarroa.

For: 5

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

MPT. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Martinez

Cm. Gutierrez

Cm. Cigarroa

Mayor Saenz

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Dr. Martinez

**Motion Carries.**

- 6. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a special use permit for a restaurant serving alcohol on Lot 1, Block 1A, Dellwood Commercial Subdivision, located 1001 Bristol Road.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed special use permit and staff does not support the application.

**Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

- 7. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** authorizing the Interim City Manager to accept Federal Aviation Administration Grant No. 3-48-0136-097-2022 and amend the City of Laredo Airport Operations budget to appropriate the grant funds in the amount of \$77,996.00. The purpose of this grant is to assist airport sponsors in providing relief from rent and minimum annual guarantee (MAG) obligations, as applicable to each eligible in-terminal airport concession in an amount that reflects each eligible in-terminal airports concession's proportional share of the total amount of the rent and MAG at the Laredo International Airport in accordance with FAA approved Concessions Rent Relief Airport Rescue Plan; 100% Federal funds and no local match is required.

**Motion to accept Public Hearing items: 7, 8 and 9.**

Gilberto Sanchez Airport Director stated that the grant is for the sole purpose of any concessions related to the Laredo International Airport.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

8. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** authorizing the Interim City Manager to amend the City of Laredo FY21-22 General Fund-Police Department annual budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$35,391.00. The revenues are from forfeiture cases involving abandoned and unclaimed money from the Laredo Police Department Property and Evidence Section. These funds will be used to purchase police equipment for sworn personnel. Funding is available in the General Fund.
9. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the FY21-22 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Juvenile Case Manager, R34 position for the City of Laredo Municipal Court. Funding is available in the Texas Office of the Governor-Criminal Justice Division - CJD grant. The grant will fund \$22,010.00 and the remainder will be funded with the Laredo Municipal Court - Truancy Prevention and Diversion Fund.

**VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

10. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division I, Section 2-19 of the Code of Ordinances to remove the requirement that the appointment and removal of the deputy city manager and assistant city manager be subject to approval by the City Council; providing a cumulative clause; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.
11. Amending Section 1 of Ordinance 2017-O-110 of the City of Laredo and authorizing to implement an Insufficient Fund Fee of \$25.00 plus the \$4.75 per axle toll fee for southbound commercial vehicles that arrive at the toll booth with insufficient funds in the Automatic Vehicle Identification (A.V.I.) System as further described in Exhibit "A" and hereby repealing all conflicting sections in all ordinances currently in effect.

**City Council to Introduce items 10 and 11.**

**IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

**Motion to accept final readings of Ordinances 12 - 18 and to wave and adopt final readings.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez.

Second: Cm. Gutierrez.

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1 (item #15)

Cm. Martinez

NP: Cm. Torres.

**Motion Carries.**

12. **2022-O-023** Re-adopting guidelines and criteria governing tax abatements by the City of Laredo in accordance with the requirements in Section 312.002 of the Texas Property Tax Code; providing for severability; providing for an effective date of February 22, 2022 through February 21, 2024; and providing for publication. **(As Amended)**
13. **2022-O-024** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a lease agreement renewal with Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., as a sole source as per a Customs and Border Protection approved security contract, for approximately 120 square feet of office space and an exclusive office entry lane for approximately 1,020 square feet at Juarez-Lincoln International Bridge (Bridge II). Lease term will be for one (1) year commencing April 1, 2022, and ending on March 31, 2023. The monthly rent will be \$5,400.00. The lease may be terminated by either party with a thirty (30) day notice.
14. **2022-O-025** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a land lease agreement between the City of Laredo (“Licensor”) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection as (“Lessee”), for ground space at 202 N. Stone Ave, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, for the continued maintenance and operation of a communications tower site. Site is approximately 20 feet by 20 feet equaling 400 square feet in size and commonly known as the “Slaughter Park RVSS” tower site. Term of the lease is one (1) initial term of 12 months, commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, with one (1) additional four (4) year renewal option and three (3) separate and successive five (5) year renewal options. The annual fee will increase from \$1.00 to \$12,000.00.
15. **2022-O-026** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all necessary documents to purchase the “surface only” of a 39.123 acre of land, more or less, being all of a 109.609 acre tract recorded in Volume 1210, pages 464-469, official public record of Webb County, Texas, lying within Porciones 23 and 24, Webb County, Texas for the amount of \$1,500,000.00. The City of Laredo will do all the necessary due diligence for this property. Funding is from the 2017 Sewer Revenue Bond.
16. **2022-O-027** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the renewal of a lease agreement with Webb County for its Head Start Program for the following parcels of land at their current rate for a one (1) year term, as referenced below:

|                         |                       |          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Jesus Garcia Head Start | 2518 Cedar Avenue     | \$954.88 |
| Tatangelo Head Start    | 2200 Zacatecas Street | \$654.12 |
| Villa Alegre Head Start | 3501 Eagle Pass       | \$948.27 |

Leases will be renewed for a one (1) year term with an option to renew for an additional term of one year at a new adjusted rate based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), with the exception of the "Jesus Garcia Head Start" property which shall be a month-to-month lease.

17. **2022-O-028** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 6 (pay administration), of the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, specifically section 2.87(c) (12) (a), by providing an adjustment to the existing wage schedule to the spread between all grades; providing for a repealing clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing for an effective date. The annual estimated cost for the table schedule is \$1,550,869.00, and the current fiscal year estimated cost is \$954,381.00. Funding will be available in each corresponding City funds.
  
18. **2022-O-029** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to extend the lease agreement for the final five (5) year successive option renewal between the City of Laredo and QSR Burgers One, L.P., (Burger King at El Metro). The term of the lease shall be for five (5) years upon the same terms, covenants and conditions, the monthly amount of three thousand five-hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) is the minimum annual guarantee of forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000.00).

## **X. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Motion to approve consent agenda Items 19 through 38.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres.

### **Motion Carries.**

#### **AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE GILBERTO SANCHEZ, INTERIM AIRPORT DIRECTOR**

19. Consideration to award contract FY22-034 to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for paint supplies Laredo Paint & Decorating Inc., Laredo, TX, and to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for glass beads Potters Industries, Malvern, PA in the amount of \$88,677.67. The contract is for the purchase of runway & taxiway paint and glass beads to keep these areas fully compliant with FAA federal airfield safety requirements under CFR Part 139. Laredo Paint & Decorating Inc. is able to supply the paint only, and Potter Industries is able to supply the glass beads only. This will be a onetime purchase. Funding is available in the Airport Operations Fund.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



DIRECTOR

20. **2022-R-035** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to support a resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas, pledging to reduce building fees to \$500.00 if the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs awards a 9% Housing Tax Credits to the TGO Amador 22, LP, for the development of affordable rental housing.
21. **2022-R-036** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to support a resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas, pledging to reduce building fees to \$500.00 if the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs awards a 9% Housing Tax Credits to the Laredo San Dario, LP, for the development of affordable rental housing.
22. **2022-R-040** Authorizing the Interim City manager to issue a resolution of support on behalf of the City of Laredo, Texas, pledging to reduce building fees to \$500.00 if the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs awards a 9% Housing Tax Credits to the Calle del Norte Apartments, LP, and its affiliates, for the development of affordable rental housing.
23. **2022-R-041** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to issue a resolution of support on behalf of the City of Laredo, Texas, pledging to reduce building fees to \$500.00 if the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs awards a 9% Housing Tax Credits to the Autumn Pointe Apartments, LP., and its affiliates, for the development of affordable rental housing.
24. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into multiple contracts and award 2021 HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) set-aside funds in the amount of \$200,000.00.
  1. \$150,000.00 to Habitat for Humanity of Laredo, Inc., to construct two (2) single family housing units.
  2. \$50,000.00 to NeighborWorks Laredo, to assist in part with the construction of a single family housing unit by acquiring one (1) vacant lot.
25. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to ratify the submission of a grant application to AEP Texas for the AEP Texas Targeted Low-Income Program in the estimated amount of \$72,000.00 and to execute all necessary documents. The program will provide for the replacement of complete central air conditioning and heating units to an estimated 15 Noise Abatement home properties. The estimated project cost is \$100,000.00, which includes a City match of \$28,000.00. Funding for the grant match is available in the Noise Abatement Fund.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** STAFF SOURCE TECLO J. GARCIA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR

26. **2022-R-033** A Resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas approving interlocal cooperation

agreements by and between the City of Laredo, Texas, with Webb County and the Laredo College District to participate in Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two, The Coves at Winfield and any other matters incident thereto. The Resolution authorizes the Interim City Manager to approve both interlocal cooperation agreements between each entity and the City of Laredo and execute any relevant documents.

**ENGINEERING:** STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, P.E., CITY ENGINEER

27. Consideration for approval of the CDBG Sisters of Mercy Water Park Splash Pad, Water Features and Other Amenities (Design/Build Project) as complete, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$52,801.60 to Mage 4Group, Ltd., Laredo, Texas. The final construction contract amount is \$400,000.00 and a total of one hundred eleven (111) calendar days. Funding is available in the 2018 and 2019 CDBG Grant.

**FLEET MANAGEMENT:** STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR

28. Consideration to renew contract (parts only) FY19-051 for the purchase of Chevrolet/GM Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts for the City's fleet vehicle repairs with Sames Laredo Chevrolet, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$100,000.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is subject to future budget appropriations. There was no price increase. This is the last extension period for this contract. All parts will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the Fleet Management Fund.

29. Consideration to renew annual parts contract FY21-045 with the following vendors:

1. BTE Body Company, Irving, TX, in an amount up to \$120,000.00 (Primary Vendor-Parts);
2. Fox Truck World, San Antonio, TX, in an amount up to \$60,000.00 (Secondary Vendor-Parts);

for the purchase of Scorpion Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts for the City's automated side loader trucks. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This contract may be extended for two (2) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement of the parties. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

**HEALTH:** STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR

30. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute an interlocal agreement between the City of Laredo and Webb County for the use of their community centers for the City of Laredo

Health Department, Patient Care and Mental Health Services for the term period from January 11, 2022 through October 1, 2022.

**POLICE:** STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

31. **2022-R-034** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$24,999.75 to the Texas Department of Transportation for the enforcement of vehicle occupant protection during the "Click It or Ticket" (CIOT) Campaign. The City of Laredo will match \$7,749.92 for a total project amount of \$32,749.67. The grant period for FY21-22 CIOT will begin May 20, 2022, through June 8, 2022. This grant is to pay overtime salaries and fringe benefits for officers to conduct intense occupant protection enforcement in order to increase occupant restraint use in all passenger vehicles and trucks. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.
32. Consideration to award a contract to Convergent Technologies, LLC., San Antonio, Texas, utilizing the State of Texas Omnia Contract No. R170502, in the amount of \$114,997.27 for the purchase and installation of a security system. The project will provide a complete and working Avigilon Security System for the Laredo Police Department that will include video surveillance, access control and video intercom for the Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Center. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund - Texas Anti Gang Center.
33. Consideration to authorize the purchase of ammunition for the Police Department in the amount of \$146,208.36 from GT Distributors, Inc. through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program's Contract No. 603-20. Funding is available in the Laredo Police Department General Fund.
34. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Great South Texas Corp, dba Computer Solutions, San Antonio, Texas, through DIR Contract No. TSO-4167, in the amount of \$51,089.25. This purchase includes the hardware, installation and configuration of four (4) Cisco 9300 switches for the new Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Center, which will house multi-agency task force combating gangs and other criminal organizations operating in Laredo and affecting the South Texas border region. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund-Texas Anti-Gang Center Grant.

**SOLID WASTE:** STAFF SOURCE JOHN PORTER, INTERIM SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR / ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

35. Consideration to amend contract FY20-083 to UTW Tire Collection Services, Donna, TX to allow for a 25% increase of \$37,500.00 to the contract, for a new annual total of \$187,500.00. This increase is necessary for the processing, recycling, beneficial use or disposal of used tires collected by the City of Laredo Landfill. This service is to comply with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulations and guidelines to

properly dispose of tires by certified transporters. The contract is still under its initial 2-year term. Contract has two (2) additional two (2) year term renewal options upon mutual agreement and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

**UTILITIES:** STAFF SOURCE ARTURO GARCIA, P.E., UTILITIES DIRECTOR

36. Consideration to award materials testing services contract to Carrillo & Associates, Inc., of Laredo, Texas in the amount of \$56,770.00 for the 16-inch water line extension from Cuatro Vientos Boulevard along Lomas Del Sur to Concord Hills to serve the proposed Sports Complex. Funding is available in the 2020A Water Revenue Bond.
37. Consideration to renew annual supply and service contract FY21-037 with E & E Air Conditioning, Laredo, TX in an amount up to \$100,000.00 to provide HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) repair services for the water treatment plants. This contract establishes an hourly service rate and cost percentage for parts. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This contract can be extended two (2) additional one (1) year periods, upon mutual agreement of the parties. All services will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the Utilities Fund - Water Treatment Division.
38. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to approve amendment No. 1 to MEG Engineers, in the amount of \$21,060.00 for additional testing services required for the Lyon Street North Ground Water Storage Tank Replacement Project. The new contract amount is \$57,660.00. Funding is available in the 2019 Water Revenue Bond.

**XI. STAFF REPORTS**

39. Discussion with possible action on ongoing audits and/or irregularities identified by the Internal Auditor including the potential assignment of other and/or additional auditing duties; and any other matters incident thereto.

Tina O. Rodriguez, Internal auditor stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

**No action taken.**

**Motion to recess regular city council meeting at 5:59 pm. and go into emergency city council meeting.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For:7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to adjourn emergency city council meeting and reconvene as regular city council meeting at 7:31 pm.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For:8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

40. Status report and update on the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Laredo and AEP and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Selman stated that he was hoping to bring you the ordinance and MOU in the March meeting.

**No action was taken.**

41. Status update on the CARES 2.0 Workforce Skills Development Program between the City of Laredo and Laredo College, and any other matters incident thereto. The program was approved by Council on 12/06/21 and provides workforce skills training, development training, and redevelopment training for individuals who may have experience layoff, furlough, or under-employment as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic with possible action.

Tecló Garcia Economic Development Director gave a presentation and a status update on the CARES 2.0 Workforce skills development program between the city of Laredo and Laredo College. Michael Gonzalez Senior Director of internal affairs from Laredo College gave a status update on the CARES 2.0 program. Cm. Dr. Martinez expressed the importance to maybe allocate some of the funds to hire more instructors. Mr. Gonzalez thanked City Council as well as the Economic Development department for their support in the program.

**Motion to explore all funding capabilities to help Laredo College improve access to teachers and to explore the 4A & 4B tax.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez

**Motion Carries.**

42. Presentation by the Laredo Commission for Women 2021-2022 Action Plan with possible action and any matters incident thereto.

Amber Avis Hinojosa, Chairman of the Laredo Commission for Women gave a presentation of their 2021- 2022 action plan. Ms. Hinojosa stated that she would like to celebrate and honor Women’s Month during the month of March with several events.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Rudy Gonzalez.

Second: Dr. Martinez.

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres.

**Motion Carries.**

Cm. Dr. Martinez Congratulated the Laredo Commission for Women for bringing a completely new action plan for this year.

43. Presentation by the Laredo Commission for Women regarding the selected nominees for the 2022 Hall of Fame with possible action and any matters incident thereto.

**Motion to approve the selected nominees for the 2022 Hall of Fame.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Torres.

**Motion Carries.**

The Laredo Commission for Women presented the following nominees for the 2022 Hall of Fame.

Business: Maria Luisa (Lula) Morales

Civic Leadership & Public Service: Tricia Cortez

Education: Elizabeth “Teena” Beckelhymer Arciniega & Mary Louis Lopez

Healthcare: Dr. Gladys Keene & Dr. Jane Cigarroa

Posthumous: Jovita Idar

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

44. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.071 (1)(A) to consult with attorney on pending litigation involving Cause No. 2019CVK00149D2 and 04-

21-00470-CV; Lakshmana Viswanath v. City of Laredo; pending in the 4th Court of Appeals, Texas; and return to open session for possible action.

**Motion to go into executive session at 10:25 p.m.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion carries.**

**No action was taken.**

**Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo mass transit board at 10: 32 p.m.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion carries.**

**XIII. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD**

**Motion to approve items 45 and 46.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

45. Presentation and possible action of the El Metro Comprehensive Operational Analysis.

RJ Garza along with Paola Fernandez and Bryan Pitcher gave a presentation on El Metro Comprehensive Operational Analysis.

46. Consideration to award a three (3) year fuel contract for Transit Department (FY22-035) for the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuels to the lowest bidder, Arguindegui Oil, Laredo, Texas

in the estimated yearly amount of \$1,365,399.04. This contract is renewable for an additional two (2) one (1) year options upon mutual consent of both parties. Funding is available in the Laredo Transit Management Inc. El Metro Operations and Maintenance funds

#### **XIV. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL**

**Motion to adjourn as the Laredo mass transit board and reconvene as the Laredo City Council at 10: 52 p.m.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

Motion carries.

#### **47. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

##### **A. Request by Council Member Ruben A. Gutierrez, Jr.**

1. Status update on Jacaman Road traffic barriers, and it's cost, and any matter incident thereto.

**No Action taken.**

##### **B. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez**

1. Discussion with possible action on the creation of ordinances to regulate the safety and security as well as hours of operations of restaurant-bars in light of repeated tragedies in our community and any matters incident thereto.

Cm. Martinez explained the importance to ensure the safety of our young Laredoans. He is requesting assistance form city council to come up with a meaningful strategy, with occupancy laws and permits to ensure establishments are working properly to maintain safety among club goers. Sandra Whitten spoke against adding more regulations to bars/club owners, she believes it is a terrible idea that would tremendously hurt business owners.

Cm. Perez stated that she believes it is not the responsibility of the Laredo Police Department to ensure bar/clubs are safe. She mentioned that business owners are responsible to maintain a safe environment by monitoring their establishment. Cm. Gutierrez explained that Laredo police officers are allowed to work at bar restaurants due to department policies. Cm. Gutierrez also mentioned that he has addressed the issue with the chief of police to have more police officers patrol the Jacaman and loop 20 area during night time.



On a written comment, Fernando Baldazo spoke against the possible action to create regulations on restaurants bars. Rey Rocha spoke against the possible action to create regulations on restaurant bars.

Police Chief Claudio Treviño stated that police officers/department cannot be held accountable for the tragedy that recently happened outside a bar in our city. He explained that police officers need to be patrolling and protecting the entire city of Laredo; therefore, it is impossible to be only focusing on the safety of bars and clubs. Guillermo Heard Fire chief, stated that various departments have been working together to come up with a plan to fix the issue.

**Motion to have our management team bring back a plan that may include taskforces, movement of police officers, or what improvement in our police moonlighting abilities, occupancy checks as well as requiring private security companies. To bring a plan back to this council to deliberate on and act upon that doesn't hurt those businesses that are doing stuff correctly but at the same time punishes those that are being bad players in our community.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

**C. Request by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez**

1. Discussion with possible action on the adoption of a Mines Road Traffic Management Plan intended to address existing and future growth demands, to include conducting a comprehensive transportation study together with the possibility of: creating overlays for the cost-effective maintenance of streets.

Cm. Perez stated that Mines Road has had trouble with traffic for years, she requested City Council's support to direct management to look into the issue and find a solution. Hector Boone provided a written comment to express his concern regarding the bad traffic issue that Mine Road has. Sandra Whitten resident of La Bota Ranch, expressed her concern with the traffic issue on Mines Road. Cm. Martinez question if any studies had been conducted regarding the possibility of connecting Mines Road with I35. Cm. Perez stated that there will not be conducting any more studies.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Pete Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

**Motion Carries.**

2. Discussion with possible action directing Interim City Manager to create an ordinance requiring Traffic Analysis Studies.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Pete Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

**Motion Carries.**

3. Discussion with possible action on the status of the Green Ranch intersection light and any other matters incident thereto.

**Motion to table for next meeting.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

**D. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.**

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the Interim City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations, under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt cushions, which is currently required under the policy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District 1 Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 4000 Calle Puebla
- 4800 Loverde

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

**E. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Vidal Rodriguez**

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the Interim City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations, under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps, instead of speed cushions, which is currently required under the policy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District 2 Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 2900 Saltillo
- Narciso

**Motion to approve as amended to include the 3300 block of South Arkansas.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

2. Authorizing Interim City Manager to discuss with Regional Mobility Authority, Webb County, and private landowners regarding funding for the Concord Hills extension project all the way to Wormser and Lomas re-alignment.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 5                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

3. Discussion with possible action to open splash pads and the Sisters of Mercy Lazy River for spring break and any other matters incident thereto.

**Motion to table.**

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 5                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa

**Motion Carries.**

**XV. ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn.**

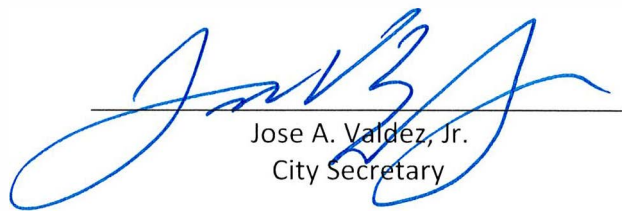
Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5                      Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Cigarroa



Jose A. Valdez, Jr.  
City Secretary