

**CITY OF LAREDO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2022-SC-04
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS
July 27, 2022
12:15 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Saenz called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Saenz.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Saenz called for a moment of silence for any particular intention.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	Mayor Pro Tempore
Mercurio "Merc" Martinez, III	District III
Alberto Torres Jr.	District IV
Ruben Gutierrez Jr.	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
Vanessa Perez	District VII 12:26 p.m.
Alyssa Cigarroa	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez Jr.	City Secretary
Samuel K. Selman	Interim City Manager
Rosario Cabello	Deputy City Manager
Miazul Ria	Assistant City Manager
Zone Nguyen	City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Torres due to being positive for COVID.

Moved: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
NP: MPT Rodriguez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Dr. Martinez, Cm. Perez.

Motion carries.

Citizen comments

Vish spoke in favor of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget.

V. STAFF REPORTS

1. Submission of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget as per Article VI, Section 6.02, which states "At least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year the City Manager shall present to the Council a budget for ensuing fiscal year with accompanying budget message."

Rosario Cabello Interim City Manager presented the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget. Ms. Cabello mentioned that the Budget is comprised with decisions made with fiscal responsibilities to ensure that the City of Laredo continues to provide essential services to the community. Ms. Cabello stated that the City of Laredo is proposing a 3% cost of living to City of Laredo employees, with a slight increase of 5 dollars in health insurance premiums. Ms. Cabello mentioned that the Laredo's Police Department Budget is in line with the Collective Bargaining Agreement of a 2% increase in salary. She also added that the City is currently negotiating with the Fire Department Collective Bargaining Agreement. Ms. Cabello stated that she is looking forward the Budget Workshops in August, in order to expand the discussions further. She added that the City is proposing a Budget that prioritizes critical needs and will begin rebuilding a foundation of efficiently and equity through integrity, innovation, professionalism, and teamwork.

Mayor Saenz expressed that he was very impressed with Ms. Cabello's presentation. Cm. Martinez thanked Ms. Cabello for a great presentation, as well as for working closely with department Directors and listening to their needs and concerns. Cm. Gutierrez applauded, and thanked Ms. Cabello for doing an amazing job. Cm. Gonzalez expressed his gratitude towards the Mayor and City Council; he also thanked Management and all City employees for keeping the City of Laredo moving forward. Cm. Perez thanked Ms. Cabello for putting the Budget presentation together, while listening to the public and employee's needs.

2. Submission of the Proposed 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as per Article VI, Section 6.05 of the City Charter, which states that "the City Manager shall prepare and submit a five (5) year capital program at least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year."

Rosario Cabello gave a brief presentation on the proposed 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Ms. Cabello stated that the Capital Improvement Plan is a five-year plan. A plan that consists on the future of the infrastructure, capital needs, and development. She stated that the funding is comprised of several resources including cash, Federal and State grants, developer contributions, and bonds. Ms. Cabello added that the plan consists of 1.8 Billion dollars for the next five years, of which 932 Million dollars are on this current year. She mentioned that the plan includes 546 Million dollars in TX-DOT

grants, 72 Million dollars in FA grants, 53 Million dollars in HP revenue bonds, 50 Million dollars for other Federal earmarks, a proposed 30 to 35 Million bond, 26 Million dollar FTA grant, 11.4 Million dollars in developer contributions, 7 Million dollars in a revenue bond for bridge, and many others.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

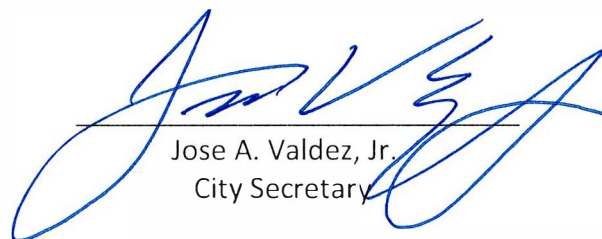
For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: MPT Rodriguez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Dr. Martinez.

Motion carries.



Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary