

CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET LAREDO, TEXAS 78040 October 4, 2021
5:00 P.M.

The Mayor will be presenting the following:

1. The City of Laredo and Council Member Vanessa Perez recognize the Association of Logistics and Forwarding Agents, Inc., Arturo Dominguez, the Texas Department of Transportation and the Laredo Fire Department including, Chief Silvestre Rodriguez and FF/ Paramedic Reyes G. Soto for their dedication to the City of Laredo and District 7. In a time when the community needed to get our essential workers vaccinated, they devised a plan with the Texas National Guard to create a drive-up clinic where the trucking and trade industry could conveniently receive their vaccinations off of FM 1472. Through their efforts over 24 weeks, they have safely vaccinated 31,535 individuals, making our community and essential workers safer.



**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
A-2021-R-17
LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
October 4, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Saenz called the meeting to order.

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.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez Jr.	Mayor Pro Tempore
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
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
Alyssa Cigarroa	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez Jr.	City Secretary
Robert Eads	City Manager
Rosario Cabello	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Assistant City Manager
Riazul Mia	Assistant City Manager
Ana Sofia Garcia	Interim City Attorney

- Cm. Rodriguez arrived at 5:32 pm.
- Cm. Torres arrived at 5:34 pm.
- Cm. Dr. Martinez arrived at 5:36 pm.
- Cm. Cigarroa arrived at 6:10 pm.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of September 13, 2021, September 17, 2021, and September 20,2021.

Motion to Approve.

Moved: Cm. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

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

Citizen comments

Ms. Susan Modikoane had a concern with the City taking out a loan for a homeless shelter. She mentioned that Bethany House helps homeless but that most of the homeless are drug addicts and or criminals. She suggested placing a homeless shelter were there are no kids.

VI. RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing two (2) outstanding City of Laredo employees to be named as the City's Employees of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter of 2021, one whose work is mostly conducted indoors, and one from the Police or Fire Department who is subject to Collective Bargaining in accordance with Ordinance No. 2021-0-014 which establishes the City of Laredo Employee of the Quarter Program.

The City Council recognized Ricardo Oliva (Fire Fighter) and Celia Guerrero (Human Resources) were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the City of Laredo.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

VIII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

IX. PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open public hearings 1-9.

Moved: Cm. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: Cm. Cigarroa

Cliff Killam of Killam Development spoke in favor of items 3 and 4. He thanked Dr. Martinez for his leadership and stated that he had a positive and collaborative experience working with management and staff. He gave a brief power point presentation.

Cm. Torres pointed out that there has been a change with the M&O for this project. Back in 2017, the M&O was 60% to 40% in favor of the developer and now it's reversed, in favor of the City of Laredo. Mr. Robert Eads congratulated staff and the family for working together to find a solution that works for both. Mr. Teclo Garcia Economic Development Director stated that he enjoyed working with the team and he gave financial details for the project. Cm. Martinez and Cm. Rodriguez congratulated the family and management for a great job with the project. Cm. Cigarroa wanted to include criteria for appointing board members. Cm. Torres asked if Laredo College does not agree to the project, will the project continue. Mr. Killam stated that it would not continue but Mr. Garcia mentioned that the financial model would need to be recalculated in order to continue with the project.

Motion to close and introduce public hearings 1-9.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

Motion to create a board of 5 members (3,1,1) for the Coves project and to develop criteria for said board members.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

1. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY21-22 General Fund Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$350,000.00 to be collected during the FY21-22 for the AVOLVE software program to facilitate commercial and residential construction permits for the Building Department.
2. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances by adding Article VIII, Mobile Business Regulations; establishing rules and regulations for the registration of mobile businesses; establishing hours of operation and locations; providing for an annual registration; providing for an application fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00); providing enforcement; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.
3. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas amending ordinance No. 2017-0-185, which designated The Coves at Winfield Development, located in northeast Laredo, as Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two (2) - a 1,027 acre zone in northeast Laredo established in 2017 - by amending Section 4, regarding creation of the Board of Directors for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two; amending Section 5 regarding termination date of Reinvestment Zone Number Two; amending Section 8 regarding limitation of tax increment and establishment of a Tax Increment Fund; containing findings; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
4. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas regarding Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two (2) which designated The Coves at Winfield Development, located in northeast Laredo, as Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Two, pursuant to Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code, providing Preliminary Financial and Preliminary Project plans that will describe the boundaries of the Zone; creating a Board of Directors for the Zone; establishing a Tax Increment Fund for the Zone; providing findings related to the creation of the Zone; providing a date for the termination of the Zone and

providing a severability clause, revenue and cost of services information. The 1,027-acre development plans for the construction of 1,767 new homes, at least 900 multi-family units, 600,000 square feet of commercial space and amenities like a "Town Center," hike and bike trails and a Laredo College facility. The TIRZ is a 30-year agreement in which the City, and other taxing entities Webb County and Laredo College, keep 60% of new ad-valorem revenue generated by the development and 40% to be deposited in the TIRZ account to pay for the project's public infrastructure.

5. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the FY21-22 Capital Improvements Fund by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$14,967,797.00. Funds will be used to fund street improvements, equipment, land and right of way acquisition.
6. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the FY21-22 General Fund Budget to appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$17,698,031.00 Expenditures in General Fund will be used to transfer funds to the Health and Benefits Fund, the Solid Waste Fund, the Environmental Services Fund and Capital Improvements Fund.
7. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance ratifying the execution of a contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services, amending the FY21-22 Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$4,295,791.00 and amending the FY21-22 Full Time Equivalent Position Listing by adding one (1) Public Health Promotion Supervisor, R35 position, one (1) Public Information Specialist, R35 position and twenty (20) Program Promotion Specialists, R32 positions for the City of Laredo Health Department COVID-19 Vaccination Capacity Program for the term period from September 16, 2021 through June 30, 2024.
8. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the FY21-22 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Medical Billing Specialist, R27 position for the City of Laredo Health Department's EMS Billing Department. Funding is available through the General Fund Health Department Budget.
9. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending Chapter 15, "Health and Sanitation," Article I "In General" of the Code of Ordinances section 15-2 to update the fees for laboratory testing services; amending section 15-2 to update the fees for tuberculosis prevention and detection services; amending section 15-13 to update the fees for water testing services; adding a new section 15-14 for the purposes of allowing for the addition of new fees associated with the establishment of new reproductive health services; providing a severability clause; providing a savings clause; and providing for publication and effective date.

Fees are as follows:

Description	Current Fee	Revised Fee
Laboratory Testing	at Cost plus \$8.00	At Cost plus \$9.00
Tuberculosis Testing (PPD)	\$10.00 students / \$15.00 general public	\$20.00
Potable Water Testing	\$28.00	\$30.00
Non-Potable Water Testing	\$35.00	\$38.00
Micro-Organism Testing	\$60.00	\$65.00
Water Collection by Health Staff	--	\$20.00 <i>(new)</i>
Vasectomy Procedure	--	\$560.00 <i>(new)</i>

X. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

City Council to introduce items 10, 11 & 12.

10. Closing and vacating as a public easement a tract of land containing 11,422 square feet, more or less, out of a section of the McPherson Avenue right-of-way, between Block 624 and Block 701, eastern division, City of Laredo, Texas, situated in Survey 799, Abstract 239, City of Laredo, Webb County. The 11,422 square feet tract being more particularly described in the attached metes and bounds as exhibit "A". The City of Laredo reserves any and all apparent and visible easements recorded or not recorded; closed as public easement and providing for an effective date.

11. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 28, Article I, Section 28-6 of the Code of Ordinances for purposes of including R-1 residential zones to those zones in which businesses shall not produce unreasonable noise during the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.; prohibiting businesses adjacent to R-1, R-2, and R-3 from performing certain activities which produce loud noises between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

12. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into license agreements with approved local league associations for the non-exclusive use of city playing fields for youth and adult programs, the term to expire on December 1, 2021; no fee will be charged by the City to the associations in view of the public benefit in permitting the associations to use the city's facilities for baseball, softball, soccer and flag football programs; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

YOUTH LEAGUES

- Laredo American Little League
- Laredo Hillside Little League Laredo
- Northwest Little League
- Laredo Central Little League
- Laredo Baseball Select
- Pony Little League
- USA Gateway Girls Softball League

ADULT SOFTBALL

- City League

SOCCER LEAGUE

- Border Soccer League/Santa Rita
- Father McNaboe League
- United Premier League
- Unified Soccer League

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading and adopt items 13 through 30 with the exception of 15 & 22, those items will be dealt with, individually.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

- 13. **2021-O-187** Amending the City of Laredo FY2021 Capital Improvements Fund by appropriating revenues and expenditures, and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment for improvements at North Central Park in the amount of \$300,000.00 that shall include the construction of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) park, playground amenities, shades, trash receptacles and bicycle racks. Funds are from a donation by Robert P. Gutierrez.
- 14. **2021-O-188** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of approximately 8.20-acres more or less, situated in Porcion 35, Abstract 546, Jose M. Dias, Original Grantee, and out of a 358.54-acres' tract as conveyed and recorded per warranty deed dated June 3, 2015, Volume. 3801, Page. 143-147, Webb County Official Public Records, located south of Lomas Del Sur Blvd., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District). District I

15. **2021-O-189** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit (SUP) for a restaurant serving alcohol on Lot 1, Block 1, Royal Oaks Subdivision, Phase 1, located, on 110 Willow Oak St. District II

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

16. **2021-O-190** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of approximately 2.34 acres situated in Porcion 32, Abstract. 296, Antonio Trevino, Original Grantee, tract being out of Aquero Management 11, LLC; Tract I as described in warranty deed recorded in Volume 4389, Page 636-646, of the deed records of Webb County, Texas, located south of US Highway 359 and west of Las Misiones Boulevard, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District). District II
17. **2021-O-191** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of Lot 2, Block 1865, Eastern Division, located at 3003 Market St., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). District III
18. **2021-O-192** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of approximately 1.6-acres, a part of Block 32 of the Subdivision Plat of the Laredo International Airport in the northern addition, as per plat filed Record Volume 5, Page 1 and Volume 16, Page 49, Public Records Webb County, Texas, located at 1419 Pappas Street, from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to B-3 (Community Business District). District IV

Motion to approve as corrected to read for medical use.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

19. **2021-O-193** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of approximately 2.00-acre tract of land more or less being comprised of the entire individual called 1.0-acre tract 8-A thru 8-0, as conveyed to Alvarado Properties Ltd., Vol. 1449, Pg. 678 O.P.R.W.C.T., Survey 2150, Abst. 660, Dario Sanchez, Original Grantee located at 8408 Casa Verde Rd, from R-2 (Multi-Family District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). District V

20. **2021-O-194** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for an amusement redemption machine establishment on Lot 9, Block 9, Country Club Commercial Subdivision, located at 4302 E. Saunders St., Suites 1 and 2 only. District V

21. **2021-O-195** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of approximately 2.94-acres out of the 1,450-acres of land conveyed to Delfina Benavides Alexander and Josefina Alexander Gonzalez, Record Volume 414, Pages 502-506, subsequently conveyed to D & J Alexander Investments, LLC per Open Public Records Webb County, Texas., situated in Porcion 26, Agustin Sanchez Original Grantee, abstract 282, located north of University Boulevard and west of Patricia Highsmith Drive, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to R-1B (Single Family High Density District). District V

22. **2021-O-196** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by the rezoning of Lot 7 and 8, Block 92, Eastern Division, located at 719 Corpus Christi Street, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District). District VII

Motion to approve as corrected to read District III not VII.

Moved: Cm. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

23. **2021-O-197** An Ordinance amending City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 19, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article VIII Impoundment of Standing or Parked Vehicles, Section 19-350 of the Code of Ordinances, by eliminating a portion of Section 19-350(a) (8) regarding notice for abandoned vehicles; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

24. **2021-O-198** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 7 of the Code of Ordinances in order to adopt the 2018 editions of the following International Code Council ("ICC") Codes: (1) International Building Code, (2) International Mechanical Code, (3) International Residential Code, (4) International Property Maintenance Code, (5) International Energy Conservation Code; and (6) International Existing Building Code; adding sections 7-11 by adopting the 2012 Edition of the Texas Accessibility Standards; repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

25. **2021-O-199** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances in order to adopt the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Code of the National Fire Protection Association; repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
26. **2021-O-200** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinances in order to adopt the 2018 edition of the International Code Council International Fire Code; providing for local amendments to the adopted code; repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
27. **2021-O-201** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 15, Health and Sanitation, Article IX, Swimming Pools of the Code of Ordinances adopting the 2018 edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code of the International Code Council; repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
28. **2021-O-202** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances in order to adopt the 2018 edition of the following International Code Council ("ICC") Codes: (1) International Plumbing Code, (2) International Fuel Gas Code, and (3) International Private Sewage Disposal Code; repealing all ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
29. **2021-O-203** Amending Ordinance 2019-0-169 of the City of Laredo, Texas; (Laredo Commission for Women - By Laws); Article X, sections 10.04 (F) (eligibility and selection guidelines); 10.07 (scoring/rating process); 10.08 (categories) as attached. and providing an effective date.
30. **2021-O-204** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 15, Article IX, (swimming pools), of the Code of Ordinances for purposes of providing the specific permit requirements for privately owned swimming pools which are open to the general public for a fee, to include language prohibiting such use in any residential area, as well as the immediate disqualification from consideration of any application for a zone change or conditional use permit that relates to this intended use in any residential district; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; and providing for an effective date.

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve items 31 through 57.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

31. Authorizing the City Manager to execute (25) twenty-five individual contracts with the following General Fund recipients totaling \$438,443.00 for FY21-22.

Organization	Amount
Area Health Education Center	\$5,000.00
Bethany House of Laredo	\$25,000.00
Border Area Nutrition Council Inc.	\$10,000.00
Border Region MHMR Community	\$5,481.00
Boys & Girls Club of Laredo	\$50,000.00
Catholic Charities-Diocese of Laredo	\$11,000.00
Casa de Misericordia	\$15,000.00
Children's Advocacy Center	\$27,000.00
Holding Institute Inc.	\$7,000.00
Kidney Foundation of Laredo	\$10,000.00
Laredo Amateur Boxing Club, Inc.	\$7,500.00
Laredo Cancer Society	\$20,000.00
Laredo Children's Museum/Imaginarium	\$10,000.00
Laredo Stroke Support Group	\$10,000.00
Laredo Crime Stoppers Inc.	\$25,000.00
Laredo Regional Food Bank	\$10,000.00

Laredo Main Street	\$50,000.00
Mercy Ministries	\$21,000.00
Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center	\$50,000.00
Sacred Heart Children's Home	\$15,000.00
Serving Children & Adolescents in Need	\$13,500.00
South Texas Food Bank	\$10,000.00
Special Olympics Texas	\$10,000.00
Volunteers Serving the Need	\$10,962.00
Rio Grande International Study Center	\$10,000.00
Total Budget	\$438,443.00

32. Authorizing the City Manager to execute (11) eleven individual contracts with the following Hotel-Motel Tax Fund recipients totaling \$545,000.00 for FY21-22. In person events only (virtual events are not valid).

Organization	Amount
Border Olympics Inc.	\$130,000.00
Laredo Center for the Arts	\$150,000.00
Laredo Chamber of Commerce	\$30,000.00
Laredo Heat Youth Soccer, Inc.	\$30,000.00
Laredo Cultural District	\$10,000.00
LULAC 7	\$10,000.00
Mexican Cultural Institute of Laredo Inc.	\$15,000.00
Princess Pocahontas Council, In c.	\$10,000.00
The Society of Martha Washington	\$25,000.00
Washington's Birthday Celebration Association	\$60,000.00
Webb County Heritage Foundation	\$75,000.00
Total Budget	\$545,000.00

33. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract for economic development services with the Greater Laredo Development Foundation doing business as the Laredo Economic Development Corporation in the amount of \$560,000.00 for FY21-22. Funding is available in General and Bridge Funds.

Cm. Perez asked what the status was of the terms, metrics and objectives that were going to be in the contract, so where are we? Mr. Eads, mentioned that staff was working on the contract objectives that the council had. Mr. Gene Lindgren of the Laredo Economic Corporation read off a list of all the things goals that they are looking to accomplish. Cm. Perez thanked Mr. Lindgren for taking the feedback and working on a plan. She also challenged the corporation on appointing more women to their board. She also mentioned the need for a Makers Space, Mr. Lindgren stated that the organization is working towards that goal. Cm. Torres asked if they could focus on districts 3, 4 and 8, with inner city business and development.

No further action taken, prior action stands.

34. Ratification of the acceptance of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$4,199,095.00, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. Through the use of this grant, the City will provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU: STAFF SOURCE AILEEN RAMOS, CVB DIRECTOR

35. Authorizing the City Manager to execute payments to Laredo Trade and Travel Center, dba Casa Laredo, for daily operations at the Monterrey Mexico office. Total budget for FY21-22 is \$155,000.00 and expenses will not exceed this amount. Funding is available in the Convention & Visitors Bureau Department Budget.

ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER

36. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1 in the amount of \$28,020.49 to Summit Building and Design, Laredo, Texas, for the World Trade Bridge FAST Lanes Relocation Project CSJ 0922-33-178. Current construction contract amount with this change order is \$7,006,031.49. We received approval from TxDOT to proceed with change order. Construction contract time remains the same at 456 calendar days. Funding is available in the Bridge Construction Fund.
37. Consideration for approval to reject all three (3) bids received on September 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. for FY21-ENG-014, the Vista Nueva Park Octagonal Basketball Shade Project, and authorization to modify plans, specifications and re-bid the project. There is no financial impact at this time.
38. Consideration to award construction contract FY21-ENG-013 to the lowest responsible responsive bidder ALC Construction, Inc. , Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$332,176.00 for the Independence Hills Park Basketball Shade Project to include a metal

frame structure with reinforced concrete columns approximately (76' X 104') to include lighting with a construction contract time of 60 working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After a notice to proceed is issued, estimated completion date for the project is scheduled for January 2022. Funding is available in the 2021 C.O. Bond.

39. Consideration to rescind the selection of JHS Architect & Munoz, Laredo, TX as a consultant for RFQ FY20-ENG-007 City of Laredo Bruni Plaza and Bruni Plaza Branch Library Renovation/Reconstruction; and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract previously approved on October 19, 2020. A total of nine (9) firms responded to the request for qualifications and the top four (4) consultants made presentations before the evaluation committee on September 23, 2020 via teleconference. There is no financial impact at this time.
40. Consideration to award a professional services to Cavazos Architects, Laredo, Texas in the amount not to exceed \$124,000.00 for the U.S. Federal Courthouse Second Floor Interior Renovation located at 1300 Matamoros Street to include schematic design (Phase I), design development, construction documents, construction procurement, construction administration (Phase 11) and historical preservation services (Supplemental Services). Funding is available in the 2013 PPFCO Bond.

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

41. Consideration to renew and amend contract FY18-069 with ROMO Contractors, Laredo, Texas; amendment is requested to increase contract by 25% for a new total amount of \$128,750.00. This is a service contract to provide mowing and maintenance of the Zacate Creek area (from Canal St. through the mouth of the Rio Grande River). The term of this contract is for a one-year period (12 months), subject to future appropriations; this is the last extension period of the contract. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR

42. Consideration to approve ratification of 25% increase to annual supply contract number FY20-038 with Southern Tire Mart, Laredo, Texas for an amount increase of \$35,782.00 and a new contract with a total amount of \$1 75,981 .00 to provide recapped tires for the Fleet Department. The term of this contract shall expire on March 1 , 2022. Contract amendment is due to an increase in the purchase of recapped tires and to cover future expenditures until a new contract is awarded on November 2021 . Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR

43. 2021-R-223 Ratifying the execution of a contract from the Health and Human Services Commission in the amount of \$37,000.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Title V Prenatal Medical and Dental Services for the term period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. No grant match required.
44. Consideration to ratify the purchase of a Reagents COVID-19 1 000RXN from Life Technologies Corporation in the estimated amount of \$76,305.50 for the City of Laredo Health Department. Funding is available in the IDCU/COVID-19 Grant Program.
45. Authorizing the City Manager to accept an agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Dental School in the amount of \$63,399.00 for year one and may be renewed for an additional two (2) years, pending funding availability. The provider will continue to provide dental care for children and pregnant women and enhance Title V dental services by the City of Laredo Health Department from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022, pending funding availability.
46. Consideration to increase the current contract with Change Healthcare Technology Enabled Services, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$380,000.00 for support in a cost reimbursement analysis to submit appropriate reports to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Ambulance Supplemental Payment Program to generate revenue for uncompensated ambulance costs for emergency services through the term period of October 31, 2021. Funding is available in the General Fund.
47. Consideration to award contract FY21-081 to Patagonia Health in the total contract amount of \$419,984.11 for a five (5) year term for the Electronic Medical Records System (EMR) for the City of Laredo Health Department, which is essential for improving patient care. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget.
48. Consideration to authorize an office lease agreement at 6909 Springfield Avenue Suite #200B in the total amount of \$175,500.00 for a two (2) year term for City of Laredo Health Department operations with the option to extend for another year, contingent on funding availability. Funding is available through the COVID-19 Round 4 funds and Public Health Workforce.

HUMAN RESOURCES: STAFF SOURCE MELINA BERMUDEZ, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

49. Consideration to renew contract number FY17-040 for MGM Benefits Group also known as "THEbenefitsHUB," for online benefit enrollment services. This is the last extension period. Effective date for this contract is October 15, 2021. The fee is \$2.00 per employee, per month. Funding is available in the Health & Benefits Fund.

INFORMATION SERVICES & TELECOMMUNICATION: STAFF SOURCE HOMERO VAZQUEZ-

GARCIA, IST DIRECTOR

50. Approval of final year extension on the contract with Best Best & Krieger L.L.P., to advise the city on telecommunications and cable issues and transactions as requested by the City of Laredo from time to time and increase contract amount from \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00. Funding is available in the 1ST Department Budget.

LAREDO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES: STAFF SOURCE KARINA ELIZONDO, INTERIM LACS DIRECTOR

51. Consideration to renew a contract for professional services with Sandra Leyendecker, DVM for veterinary services to include general health and welfare of the shelter animals, spay and neuter surgeries, vaccinations, emergency animal health care, and any other related matters from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year. This is the last extension option for this contract. Funding is available in the Animal Care Services Budget.

PARKS & RECREATION: STAFF SOURCE JUAN J. GOMEZ, JR., PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

52. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Kraftsman Playground, Inc., Spring, Texas for the purchase and installation of an ADA Park to include playground amenities, shades, trash receptacles and bicycle racks at North Central Park located at 10202 International Boulevard in the amount of \$536,246.19. This purchase is utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program; contract pricing, contract 592-19. Estimated completion of this project is 100 working days from date of receipt of contract. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund and 2021A C.O. Bond.
53. Accepting a donation by Mrs. Santos and Mr. Ochoa of 30 trees for North Central ADA Park with an estimate cost of \$5,900.00, and any other matters incident thereto.

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

54. **2021-R-221** Authorizing the City Manager to ratify acceptance of grant in the amount of \$147,000.00 from the Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) for the purpose of funding the 2022 Local Border Security Program (LBSP). This grant does not require matching funds. Funding will be used to pay for overtime to increase patrol security along the Texas-Mexico border. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.
55. **2021-R-224** Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$49,999.50 to the Texas Department of Transportation to fund the FY21-22 STEP Impaired Driving Mobilization (IDM) program. The City of Laredo will match \$15,499.85 for a total project amount of \$65,499.35. This grant is to pay overtime salaries to officers in order to increase enforcement to arrest individuals driving while intoxicated (DWI) and driving

under the influence (DUI) of alcohol by minors. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE ART GARCIA, P.E., UTILITIES DIRECTOR

56. **2021-R-222** Accepting the conveyance of a 20-foot-wide utility and access easement over and across Lot 1B, Block 1, Beta's Subdivision, recorded in Volume 25, page 176, Plat Records, Webb County, Texas, and being more particularly described and depicted by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A" attached hereto and providing for an effective date.
57. Authorizing the City Manager to award a contract to Hach Company, Loveland, Colorado as the sole authorized manufacturer and direct distributor for an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00 for specialized equipment and supplies for sampling water quality parameters in the water and wastewater treatment plants and throughout the distribution system. This award will provide the continued purchase of Hach branded instrumentation and chemicals for the daily required TCEQ water sampling. Funding is available in the Waterworks System Fund.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

58. 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.

Motion to approve the auditor's report as presented.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 5

Against:

Abstain:

NP: MPT, Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Perez

59. Status update on current COVID-19 information as presented by Local Health Authority, Health Director and Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC); and any other matters incident thereto.

Health Department Director Richard Chamberlin gave a brief presentation.

60. Staff report on an implementation plan for the re-opening of recreation centers.

Mr. J.J. Gomez Parks and Rec Director presented his plan for re-opening. November 15 will be the start date for re-opening. Cm. Torres asked if we can require vaccine passports but Interim City Attorney stated that we could not require a vaccine passport.

61. Status update on the City/County agreement for the use of effluent water at the County Casa Blanca Golf Course, and any other matters incident thereto.

Arturo Garcia Utilities Director presented his plan and council suggested that the City Manager come up with an agreement with Webb County.

62. Status update on the current migrant crisis update as presented by the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC); and any other matters incident thereto.

63. Presentation with possible action on the Bridge Master Plan, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Eads wanted to get some direction from the city council. Mayor Saenz stated that Mr. Glafiro Montemayor wanted the county to participate in the 4/5 bridge. He also stated that without Mr. Montemayor the city and county could not do anything because he controls the land on both sides and so, Mr. Glafiro Montemayor is calling the shots. Cm. Cigarroa asked if Mayor Saenz was a director along with her grandfather and who really owns the land. Cm. Torres stated that he finds it very uncomfortable that a private developer, investor / donor can the shots here. The city is really the only one that can make this happen. He cannot recall voting on an item that authorizes anyone to start negotiating anything. Where is the communication, the involvement, I hear different things from the county, the industry and even with the Nuevo Leon government. Related to issues they had with people from Tamaulipas. Cm. Dr. Martinez said that the only way this will work is by opening dialogue with all parties that are involved. He felt that we needed to put regional interest over individual prosperity. Cm. Cigarroa asked if Mr. Montemayor would be considered a lobbyist. Cm. Rodriguez had an issue that the private sector tell the city who they have to work with. He also wants to know what happened with the medical district and that it has to be at the forefront along with the 4/5 conversations with the county. Cm. Perez stated that the MPO may be a good forum for this discussion.

Motion to allow the city manager to explore all options and that it is to be made very clear that the City of Laredo is in charge and not anybody or anyone.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into executive session for items 64 and 65 pursuant to Texas Local Government Code section 551.071 (1)(A) include management legal and anyone deemed necessary.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

64. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.071 (1)(A) to consult with attorney on pending litigation involving Case No. 2021CVK001767-D1; Tony H. Moreno v. The City of Laredo and the City of Laredo Municipal Civil Service Commission; in the 49th District Court, Webb County, Texas; pending in the Texas 4th Court of Appeals; and return to open session for possible action.

65. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.071 (1)(A) to consult with attorney on pending litigation involving Case No. 2021CVK000384-D2; City of Laredo v. Sylvia Guerra; pending in the 111th District Court, Webb County, Texas; and return to open session for possible action.

No action taken.

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

XVI. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL

66. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Discussion with possible action on the status of Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) covering Loop 20 - Cuatro Vientos Road Corridor, beginning from US 59 and ending at US 83 South; to formalize and effectuate such TRZ for purposes of generating future tax revenues from the increment value (no new tax); and apply such revenues to road and overpass projects within or connecting to such Corridor; as matching funds, new infrastructure improvements, maintenance and/or repairs; and to establish the Corridor width, area and rate of participation; and any other matters incident thereto.

City Manager started explaining what the project would encompass. Cm. Dr. Martinez asked if this item had previously passed, he was under the assumption that it had passed. City Secretary Jose Valdez Jr. stated that the request to review the video related to this item and his finding showed that the item was tabled because staff was not ready to present and it would be brought back at the next meeting, which it was not.

Motion to bring back information were the project was left off and see what is pending.

Moved: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

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

Cm. Torres asked if the area in question connected to the outer loop and the 4/5 bridge location. Mr. Eads answered that it would more than likely connect. Cm. Perez stated that there is still a lot of unfinished business on FM 1472.

Motion to bring back within 1 month and to add FM 1472 as a TRZ area.

Moved: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For:7

Against:

Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez

B. Request by Council Member VIDAL RODRIGUEZ

1. Status report by the Utilities Department regarding low water issues by HWY 359 area with possible action, and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Arturo Garcia Utilities Director mentioned some upcoming projects for south Laredo. Cm. Rodriguez requested for maps and schedules that will show what areas will be affected with the improvements. Mr. Garcia said that he will develop schedules and target dates for these projects.

No action taken.

C. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action on a public report, in an effort to promote public transparency on the "intimate/private meeting" held Saturday, September 25, 2021 with Mayor Pete Saenz, Congressman Henry Cuellar, and Tamaulipas, Mex. Governor Fransisco Cabeza de Vaca regarding the 4/5 Bridge; and any other matters incident thereto. **(Co-Sponsored by Alyssa Cigarroa)**

Cm. Torres stated that he had concerns with having intimate private meetings and not being informed or invited. Mayor Saenz explained what happened leading up to the meeting and then what actually happened at the meeting. Mayor Saenz explained that the Mexican Governor has the authority to build the bridge. Cm. Cigarroa stated that we would move forward once the master plan was approved. Mr. Balthasar Avila consultant on bridge master plan explained that the report has now been finalized and submitted. CM. Perez stated that it would benefit to explain to our Mexican counterparts the role that the city council members play because it seems that they think that the Mayor decisions are final and they need to know that without the council members vote nothing is done. We need to have someone explain to them that they need to consider the council members.

Motion to have the city council be informed through the city managers office on any developments that pertain to the 4/5 bridge and that if there are any meeting that are held and organized through any Laredo office that there be some sort of posting for transparency purposes weather it pertains to the 4/5 bridge and to also include the internet board information posting.

Moved: Cm Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

NP: MPT. Gonzalez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

D. Request by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez

1. Discussion with possible action on the status of TOMA rules for virtual attendance at meetings and policy pertaining to the acceptance of virtual comment submissions, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Perez asked why the council members could not be considered present by virtually. Cm. Cigarroa asked and made a motion to allow for video and phone comments for all committees and city council meeting.

Motion to approve virtual, phone and written comments for council meetings and committees.

Moved: Cm. Cigarroa

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 3

Against: 1

Abstain:

Cm. Torres

Cm. Gutierrez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Cigarroa

Motion fails for a lack of majority.

NP: Mayor Saenz, MPT. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

2. Discussion with possible action on the delayed status of the tree house project at the Barbara Fasken Recreation Center, and any other matters incident thereto.

City Engineer Ramon Chavez gave a status report regarding the project. He gave timelines, concerns, and challenges with the project. Cm. Rodriguez asked what options were available to council at point.

No action taken

XVII. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 9:59 pm.

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against:

Abstain:

NP: Mayor Saenz, MPT. Gonzalez, Cm. Martinez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary