

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2020-R-19
LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredo.tx.swagit.com/live>
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
November 16, 2020
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order

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
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Mercurio "Merc" Martinez III	District III
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV, Mayor Pro Tempore
Norma "Nelly Vielma	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
George Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	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
Rene Benavides	City Attorney

V. MINUTES

None

Citizen comments

None

VI. RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing the City of Laredo Financial Services Department for receiving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended September 30, 2019. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Alejandra Y. Cadena to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Alejandra Y. Cadena to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of Dr. Maurice A. Click to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Maurice A. Click to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Appointment by Mayor Pete Saenz of Elmo Lopez, Jr. to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Elmo Lopez, Jr., to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

4. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez of Dr. Armando Garza-Gongora to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Armando Garza-Gongora to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

5. Appointment by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez of Dr. Robert Flores to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Robert Flores to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

6. Appointment by Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Gladys Keene to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
Second: Cm. Vielma
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

7. Appointment by Mayor Pro Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr. to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Dennis D. Cantu to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Vielma
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. Appointment by Council Member Nelly Vielma to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Asuncion Ramos-Soriano to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. Appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte Martinez of Dr. Mateo Reyes to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Mateo Reyes to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

10. Appointment by Council Member George J. Altgelt to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Winder Vasquez to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing to amend Community Development 2019-2020 One Year Action Plan to include additional funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) which is intended to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

The City anticipates receiving \$2,165,528.00 from the third round of Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV3) funds. The following projects are proposed to be funded, subject to City Council approval:

Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV3)		
1	COVID-19 Community Development Administration (CDBG-CV3)	\$430,528
2	COVID-19 Mortgage/Rental Assistance Program (CDBG-CV3)	\$235,000
3	COVID-19 Homeless Shelter Assistance (CDBG-CV3)	\$250,000
4	COVID-19 Acquisition and/or Rehabilitation of Homeless Facility (CDBG-CV3)	\$1,250,000
	TOTAL	\$2,165,528

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Community Development Department's budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$2,165,528.00 in order to appropriate Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV3) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) third round allocation.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 3, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3145 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-059-2020

Cm. Rodriguez noted his understanding that public hearings regarding zone changes would distinguish on the Council agenda the affect Council district. As districts are not listed on public hearings #3-7 and #9, he initiated a motion to table them.

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Vielma
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

4. Motion to open public hearing #4.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3147 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-060-2020

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

5. Motion to open public hearing #5.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3143 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-061-2020

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

6. Motion to open public hearing #6.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 5, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3149 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-062-2020

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

7. Motion to open public hearing #7.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3141 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-063-2020

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. Motion to open public hearing #8.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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 1, Alexander Commercial Subdivision, Phase XIV, located at 1119 Fenwick Dr., Building B, Suite 206.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-064-2020

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, reminded Council that Council districts are listed in zone change staff reports but were omitted from the headings on the Council agenda. The zone changes are also noticed to surrounding neighbors and properties. There were no letters received in support or opposition to this zone change.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. Motion to open public hearing #9.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 9.99 acres out of a 26.61-acre tract conveyed to MRMD Development Co. LLC, in Porcion 34, J.A. Diaz Original Grantee, Abstract 762, located East of Cuatro Vientos Rd., from AG (Agricultural District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-065-2020

Cm. Rodriguez noted his understanding that public hearings regarding zone changes would distinguish on the Council agenda the affect Council district. As districts are not listed on public hearings #3-7 and #9, he initiated a motion to table them.

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

10. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to lease agreements between the City of Laredo, as LESSOR, and LA Ventures and LA Ventures Terminal (as listed attached), as LESSEES, for an additional two (2) years for Ordinance No. 95-O-244, 95-O-245, 95-O-246, 95-O-247, 95-O-248, 95-O-249, 95-O-250, 95-O-251, 95-O-252, 99-O-176, 2005-O-113, 2010-O-081, and 2011-O-142 as approved by City Council on May 18, 2020 for the COVID-19 Economic Relief Program. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to lease agreements between the City of Laredo, as LESSOR, and 4-G Investments, Air Trade Laredo, Laredo Aero Center Inc., Laredo Aero Center Inc. DBA Signature Flight Support (as listed attached), as LESSEES, for an additional two (2) years for Ordinance No. 2011-O-030, 2011-O-148, 95-O-156, 95-O-157, 95-O-158, 95-O-159, 2006-O-133, 2008-O-241, 2012-O-166, 2013-O-023, 2019-O-152, 2020-O-095 as approved by City Council on May 18, 2020 for the COVID-19 Economic Relief Program. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

12. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, authorizing the City Manager to sell the “surface only” of a closed section of Buena Vista Avenue at its appraised fair market value of \$55,500.00 by state certified independent appraiser Frank Leal. It is described as a tract of land containing 0.4252 acre (18,521 sq. ft.), more or less, out of Buena Vista Avenue R.O.W., situated in the Eastern Division of the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, to Gateway Builders, LTD. The City of Laredo reserves any and all visible and apparent easements recorded or not recorded, being generally described in attached Exhibit “A”, and approving the Post Closure Property Improvement Plan as described in Exhibit “B”, which is in compliance with Section 4.10 of the Street and Closing/Sales Policy Handbook, and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Amending Article VI [Investment Policy] of Chapter 2 [Administration] of the Code of Ordinances in order to

1. Update Investment Officers Titles;
2. Adjust / Update the current Broker / Dealer List

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

14. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas to support the City of Laredo Police Department’s discretionary use of a misdemeanor citation release process when appropriate, instead of jailing individuals suspected of having committed certain misdemeanor offenses; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Elizabeth Alonzo of Laredoans Against Drunk Driving (LADD) spoke in opposition of this item, as did Dr. Christopher Craddock, Dora Maria Ramirez, Melissa Ramirez, Rebecca Gonzalez, and Veronica Jimenez; many asked for Council to specify which misdemeanors are intended for inclusion in this ordinance.

Cm. Altgelt reminded the public that this ordinance does not seek to decriminalize the illegal use of cannabis but rather to ease the burden on the criminal justice system regarding arrestable offences.

Claudio Treviño, Police Chief, noted that other cities have implemented this process, which is allowable under the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. Cm. Balli agreed that the Code already allows police officers the discretion to cite and release individuals for the prescribed offences. If a case is not going to be prosecuted, which is typically the case in small marijuana offences, then there is no need for an arrest.

Cm. Vielma suggested that this cite and release process not become simply “a slap on the wrist” but rather include education for the offender to help correct their behavior.

Motion to table and charge the Public Safety Committee to fine-tune the cite and release ordinance, coordinate with local law enforcement in the District Attorney’s Office and the Sheriff’s Office, and bring a recommendation back to Council at the December 7, 2020 meeting.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt
Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 31, Article III (Water), Division 3 (Rates and Charges) by adding Section 31.141.2 (Billing Requirements) to require apartment complexes to distinguish between charges that are assessed by the City of Laredo and those that are not.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

X. FIRST AND FINAL READING

16. 2020-O-152 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, pursuant to Section 2.11 of the City Charter, amending the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Ordinance by extending the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster for an additional month, through January 19, 2021; providing for severability; and, providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-O-152.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2020-O-150 and 2020-O-151.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

17. 2020-O-150 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, Amending Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances to provide a definition for multi-family dwellings, provide requirements for multi-family dwellings regarding garbage accumulation and collection, requiring newly

constructed multi-family dwellings to have an enclosure of garbage container, and requiring owners of multi-family dwellings with illegal dumping violations to install security cameras; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-O-150.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. 2020-O-151 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas amending Chapter 31, Article II, Division 3 – Use of Public Sewers of the Code of Ordinances by adding new definitions and abbreviations, deleting old definitions, creating a local limits table, requiring additional wastewater pretreatment measures, requiring additional information on wastewater discharge permit applications, allowing additional information to be included in wastewater discharge permits, requiring additional reporting requirements for measurement of pollutants, revising requirements for publication of users in significant noncompliance, increasing the wastewater discharge permit fee from \$50 to \$150, and authorizing analytical fees based on vendor prices; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-O-151.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE JEFFREY J. MILLER, AIRPORT DIRECTOR

19. 2020-R-180 Authorizing the City Manager to ratify the submission of a grant application to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for the Law Enforcement Officer Reimbursement Program (LEO RP) for the Laredo International Airport and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents resulting from the award. This program is to provide partial reimbursement to airport operators to provide on-site, highly visible LEO presence through flexible, fixed, or a combination of the two (hybrid) support of the passenger screening checkpoint. The maximum hourly rate for

reimbursement is actual costs not-to-exceed \$20.00/hr. The term shall be for one (1) year with two (2) additional one-year option to extend.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-180.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

BUILDING: STAFF SOURCE ARTURO GARCIA, BUILDING DIRECTOR

20. 2020-R-178 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Ramona Garcia for a proposed project located at 2804 Boulanger Street, Lot 11 Block 1726, Eastern Division that consists of an Addition, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a Five (5) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purposed of an economic development project. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$29,651.72, estimated annual tax abatement total \$552.86 and estimated total fee waivers of \$346.50 guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-178.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. 2020-R-179 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Arturo Rene Romero for a proposed project located at 1711 Moreno Ave, Lot 12, Block 7, Moreno Subdivision that consists of Addition, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for Five (5) period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of an economic development project. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$24,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$152.16 and estimated total fee waivers of \$473.50. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-179.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

- 22. Approving the submission of the amended 2019-2020 Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), contingent on the lack of substantial comments opposing the use of the funds as proposed earlier during this City Council meeting.

The City anticipates receiving funding in the amounts of \$2,165,528.00 from the third round of Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV3) funds.

This motion also authorizes the City Manager to execute all necessary documents related to the CARES Act Funding. The amended plan identifies the projects proposed to be funded, which are as follows:

Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV3)		
1	COVID-19 Community Development Administration (CDBG-CV3)	\$430,528
2	COVID-19 Mortgage/Rental Assistance Program (CDBG-CV3)	\$235,000
3	COVID-19 Homeless Shelter Assistance (CDBG-CV3)	\$250,000
4	COVID-19 Acquisition and/or Rehabilitation of Homeless Facility (CDBG-CV3)	\$1,250,000
	TOTAL	\$2,165,528

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER

- 23. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-019 surveying services by a registered professional land surveyor (RPLS) proposed projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year

renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project, per vendor, in the respective budget account. Ten (10) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M. and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Porras Nance Engineering, Laredo, Texas
2. Howland Engineering and Surveying, Laredo, Texas
3. Civil Engineering Consultants, Laredo, Texas
4. Gilpin Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas
5. S&B Infrastructure, Ltd., Laredo, Texas
6. Blue Top Companies, LLC., Laredo, Texas
7. LNV, LLC., Laredo, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-014 general architectural services for existing buildings, facilities, other amenities and proposed construction projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project per vendor in the respective budget account. Eight (8) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M. and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Sepulveda Associates Architects, Laredo, Texas
2. Cavazos Architects, Laredo, Texas
3. Slay Architecture, Laredo, Texas
4. Redline Architecture, LLC., Laredo, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Ramon Chavez, Engineering Director, noted that Able City had an incomplete application and were therefore excluded from further consideration.

Cm. Vielma voiced opposition to Cm. Mercurio Martinez's motion to include Able City and noted that all vendors should follow the established procedures.

Motion to include Able City and grant them 10 days to complete their application.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5	Against: 2	Abstain: 0
Cm. Rodriguez	Cm. Vielma	
Cm. Mercurio Martinez	Dr. Marte Martinez	
MPT Torres		
Cm. Altgelt		
Cm. Balli		

25. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-015 general civil engineering services for construction projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project, per vendor, in the respective budget account. Fifteen (15) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M.and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Crane Engineering, Laredo, Texas
2. Civil Engineering Consultants, Laredo, Texas
3. Howland Engineering and Surveying Co., Laredo, Texas
4. Porras Nance Engineering, Laredo, Texas
5. Sherfey Engineering Company, L.L.C., Laredo, Texas
6. Slay Engineering Co., Inc., Laredo, Texas
7. Gilpin Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas
8. Premier Civil Engineering, LLC., Laredo, Texas
9. LNV, LLC., Laredo, Texas
10. Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz, LLC, Laredo, Texas
11. Parra & Co., LLC., Laredo, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Cm. Vielma noted that if a firm cannot comply with the submittal process, then they may not be reliable to perform the work being asked of them.

Motion to include Peua and grant them 10 days to complete their application.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5	Against: 2	Abstain: 0
Cm. Rodriguez	Cm. Vielma	
Cm. Mercurio Martinez	Dr. Marte Martinez	
MPT Torres		
Cm. Altgelt		
Cm. Balli		

Motion to exclude LNV, Inc. from consideration as they are not a local office.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Motion dies for lack of a second.

26. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-016 general structural engineering consultant services for existing buildings, facilities, structures, other amenities and proposed construction projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project, per vendor, in the respective budget account. Seven (7) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M. and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Terracon Consultants, Inc., Laredo, Texas
2. Synergy Structural Engineering, Inc., Laredo, Texas
3. LNV, LLC., Laredo, Texas
4. Millennium Engineers Group, Inc., Laredo, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7	Against: 0	Abstain: 0
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27. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-017 mechanical, electrical, plumbing (MEP) engineering consultant services for existing buildings, facilities, other amenities and proposed construction projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project, per vendor, in the respective budget account. Six (6) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M. and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Terracon Consultants, Inc., Laredo, Texas
2. Texas Energy Engineering Services, Inc. (d/b/a TEESI Engineering) Laredo, Texas
3. DBR Engineering Consultants, Inc., McAllen, Texas
4. EED Engineering, Inc., Laredo, Texas
5. Sigma HN Engineers, PLLC., McAllen, Texas
6. H2MG, LLC., San Antonio, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultants for RFQ FY20-ENG-018 general landscape architect consultant services for outdoor areas, existing facilities, parks, plazas, streets/boulevards, other amenities and proposed construction projects FY2020–2021 & FY2021-2022 and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract for each respective project assigned on a rotation basis. Professional service agreements will be issued per project upon funding available for a one (1) year term with one (1) option for a one (1) year renewal for a total term of two (2) years. Contracts will be awarded for small projects and funding will be less than \$50,000.00 per project, per vendor, in the respective budget account. Two (2) firms responded to the request for qualifications on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 4:00 P.M. and staff recommends the selection of the following top consultants. There is no financial impact at this time.

1. Terra Design Group, Inc., San Antonio, Texas

2. MHS Planning & Design, LLC, Tyler, Texas

Consultant work performance/services will be monitored in accordance with the established guidelines and any deficiencies may result in removal from the rotation list.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to RS&H, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$410,045.40 for design and preparation of plans and specifications for the Laredo International Airport to Construct Taxiways T1 and T2. Design work is to be done on a fast track basis. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund. Local funds will be used for this work. Services for this project are eligible for reimbursement by the Federal Aviation Administration Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 1 an increase of \$711,410.79 to the professional services contract with RS&H, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for the Laredo International Airport Air Cargo Apron Phase 14. This amendment no. 1 is to provide construction administration services, full time resident project representative (RPR) services and construction materials testing services and direct expenses for Cargo Apron Phase 14. Current engineering contract amount with this amendment is \$1,481,454.79. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund Grants 90 and 92.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 2 an increase of \$75,104.00 to the professional services contract with RS&H, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for the Laredo International Airport Air Cargo Apron Phase 14. This amendment no. 2 is to provide additional design and construction administration services for the Cargo Apron Phase 14 due to additional discretionary FAA funding. Current

engineering contract amount with this amendment is \$1,556,558.79. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund Grant 87.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest responsible responsive bidder Reim Construction, Inc., Mission, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$14,833,171.90 for the Laredo International Airport Cargo Apron Phase 14 Rehabilitation with a construction contract time of five hundred seventy-five (575) calendar 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 August 2022. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund Grants 90 and 92.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration for approval of the Michigan Avenue sidewalk project from Springfield Ave. to International Blvd. – District VII as complete, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$10,307.00 to ALC Construction Co., Inc., Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$103,070.00. Funding is available in the 2015 CO Bond and 2017 CO Bond – Project Number D71909.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

34. 2020-R-184 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a development agreement with Killam Development for drainage improvements to Ponderosa and Towne East Subdivisions. This agreement includes a donation of +/- 2 acres of property and a \$283,200.00 reimbursement to the City of Laredo after the project is complete. Ponderosa Subdivision

has experienced flooding issues which can be alleviated through an upstream detention pond on the Killam property. The project and contribution will be accounted for in the Capital Improvements Fund.

John Porter, Environmental Services Director, reported that an RFQ for the design is due Friday; following that, staff will be ready to begin the actual project.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-184.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

FIRE: STAFF SOURCE GUILLERMO HEARD, FIRE CHIEF

35. Consideration to authorize the purchase of protective structural firefighting suits for the Fire Department from Dooley Tackaberry, Deer Park, TX., through the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing in the total amount of \$237,500.00. Funding is available in the General Fund Fire Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR

36. Consideration to award annual contract FY21-009 for the repair and replacement of hydraulic cylinders for the City's heavy equipment fleet to the following low bidders:

1. Laredo Mechanical, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$85,000.00 (primary vendor)
2. Gutierrez Machine Shop, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$25,000.00 (secondary vendor).

These hydraulic cylinders are found on many pieces of heavy equipment such as backhoes, loaders, and refuse trucks. This contract establishes a primary and secondary vendor that can repair these cylinders. All repair services will be secured on an as needed basis. 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. This contract has three extension periods. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR

37.2020-R-182 Ratifying the execution of a contract amendment from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the amount of \$178,721.00, with a match of \$35,745.00, for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Tuberculosis Prevention & Control/Federal Program for the term of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-182.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

38.2020-R-183 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) for an estimated amount of between \$300,000.00 and \$600,000.00 in funding with no match that will enable the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) to provide positive development services for participating youth in an effort to promote physical activity and deter substance abuse, juvenile delinquency and gang activity in our community. If awarded, the contract will be for the term period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-182.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. Authorizing the City Manager to ratify the execution of a contract with Televero Health, Inc. for telemedicine psychiatric services with Televero's telehealth platform for the City of Laredo Health Department in the amount of \$50,000.00 for Veterans Mental Health Services for the term of November 2, 2020 through November 30, 2021. Funding is available through the Health Department Veterans Mental Health Project Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

INFORMATION SERVICES & TELECOMMUNICATION: STAFF SOURCE
HOMERO VAZQUEZ-GARCIA, IST DIRECTOR

40. Authorizing the City Manager to purchase a Darktrace Enterprise Immune System from SHI Government Solutions for the total amount of \$104,512.00. Pricing under BuyBoard – Technology Contract #579-19. Funding is available in the I.S.T. I-Net Budget and CARES ACT Funding.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

- 41.2020-R-183 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a cooperative joint use agreement between the City of Laredo and The Boys and Girls Club of Laredo for the purchase of five (5) bleachers, in the amount of \$27,600.00, to be used for the mutual benefit of its members and the general public in accordance with the terms therein. Initial term will be for 25 years with an automatic yearly renewal thereafter, subject to termination upon the approval of City Council. Funds will be from District I Priority Funds.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R-183.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a park improvement agreement with 359 IP Development, Inc., a developer of the Southern Development Subdivision, and the City of Laredo for the purposes of allowing the developer to construct park amenities that fulfill the requirements of Section 24-56 in lieu of payment, the Parkland Dedication Ordinance. The developer will coordinate with the City on the amenities to be constructed and which will, upon completion, be conveyed to the City for municipal and recreational purposes.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

PLANNING & ZONING: STAFF SOURCE JAMES KIRBY SNIDEMAN, PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR

43. Motion to advance funds to the Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LW-CAMPO), in the amount of \$13,080.00 for the redesign of the MPO Website. Funds are 100% reimbursable through the Federal MPO Planning Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Motion to advance funds to the Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LW-CAMPO), in the amount of \$234,698.00, for development of a comprehensive operational analysis for El Metro. Funds are 100% reimbursable through the Federal MPO Planning Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

45. Consideration to renew contract FY18-015 to Enterprises Rent-A-Car for providing rental of vehicles for the Laredo Police Department in an estimated yearly cost of \$105,600.00; of which \$79,200.00 will be grant funded and \$26,400.00 from the General Fund. Approximately seven (7) to fifteen (15) vehicles are secured for use by the Auto Theft Task Force Grant working with the Police Department. The term of this contract, as per mutual agreement between the City of Laredo and Enterprise. It shall be for a period of (8) months (January 2021 thru August 2021); this is the last extension period of the contract. Funding is currently available in the Auto Theft Task Force Fund and General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

46. Motion to rescind contract FY20-080 to the lowest bidder RCC Roofing and Construction and consideration to award contract to second lowest bidder Zertuche Construction, Laredo, TX, to provide building repairs to Building No.374 located at 712 Maher Avenue, previously known as the Sanchez Oil and Gas Building, in the amount of \$71,333.00. This contract will include basic repairs needed at Building No. 374 in order to relocate Police Department personnel currently assigned to the LPD Annex, Building 60. Funding is available in the General Fund – Police Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

47. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source provider, Lexipol, LLC., in the amount of \$52,305.00 for the law enforcement policy manual update and daily training bulletins support services subscription. Funding is available in the Police Trust Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

PUBLIC WORKS: STAFF SOURCE JOHN ORFILA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

48. Consideration to award contract number FY21-005 to the Sole Bidder as a Secondary Vendor:
1. Patmo Concrete LLC, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$1,000,000.00.

for the purchase of ready mix cement (job site delivered) for various City Departments. The term of this contract shall be for a period of nine (9) months beginning as of the date of its execution. The contract may be extended for three (3) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in various funds including Waterworks System, Sewer System and General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

49. Consideration to renew contract FY18-032 to the sole bidder Gutierrez Machine and Welding Shop, Laredo, Texas in an amount of up to \$100,000.00 for providing welding repair and fabrication services for the Solid Waste Services Department. The term of this renewal shall be for a period of one (1) year upon mutual agreement. This is the last renewal for this contract. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Services Department Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

50. Authorizing the City Manager to approve and execute Change Order #1 totaling to a credit of (\$20,183.00) for a final contract value amount to \$139,661.00, acceptance of the project, and release of final payment totaling to \$139,661.00 to Insituform Technologies, LLC. of Chester field, Missouri for the Rehabilitation of Sewer Line on Salinas Street. The project was completed on October 13, 2020. Funding is available in the 2014 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

51. 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 table.

Moved: MPT Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

52. 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.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

53. Status report on ReCode Laredo by the Planning Director / Laredo & Webb County Area MPO Director.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

54. Status update on the 2021 State Legislative Agenda for the 87th Texas Legislative Session; and any other matters incident thereto.

Andrea McWilliams of McWilliams Governmental Affairs Consultants reminded Council that the legislative session is still uncertain at this time; there is little time to address every issue due to the precautions necessary for COVID-19 mitigation. The City's proposals include a Laboratory Response Network certification, the Laredo Border Texas Anti-Gang Center, upgrades to FM 1472 (Mines Road) from Colombia Bridge to Eagle Pass, and authorization to convert the sports venue tax to economic development taxation through a public referendum.

Dr. Marte Martinez initiated a motion to take the sports venue tax conversion to the legislative agenda with the understanding that the conversion will be done after the sports complex is completed. To Mayor Saenz's suggestion, he amended the motion to include operation and maintenance for the arena, stadium, and tennis courts.

Motion to take the sports venue tax conversion to the legislative agenda with the understanding that the conversion will be done after the sports complex is completed and to include operations and maintenance for the arena, stadium, and tennis courts, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Balli
For: 5 Against: 2 Abstain: 0
 Cm. Mercurio Martinez Cm. Rodriguez
 MPT Torres Cm. Altgelt
 Cm. Vielma
 Dr. Marte Martinez
 Cm. Balli

Mrs. McWilliams continued that the City's proposals also include broadband in rural and border communities. She noted that there are opportunities to get targeted funds for homelessness assistance for the City. Dr. Martinez initiated a motion to include the detox center in this agenda for grant and funding opportunities.

Motion to include the detox center in the legislative agenda for grant and funding opportunities.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to include telehealth grant opportunities for psychiatric care on this legislative agenda.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to add permitting and planning for Bridges IV and V to the legislative agenda.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt
Second: Mayor Saenz
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to include hospital and mental health needs on the legislative agenda.

Moved: Cm. Vielma
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Vielma initiated a motion to include workforce training to assist displaced citizens on the legislative agenda; at the request of Cm. Altgelt, she amended the motion to stipulate that the training include aerospace and avionics.

Motion to include workforce training for displaced citizens to include aerospace and avionics to the legislative agenda, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vielma
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

55. Discussion with possible action on possible polling locations for the runoff election; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Vielma asked for a change of the polling place in Precinct 310 to Harmony High School on election day.

Motion to change the polling site in Precinct 310 to Harmony High School on election day.

Moved: Cm. Vielma
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to add Uni-Trade Stadium for curbside voting and add the Joe Guerra Public Library, City Hall, Marcos Aranda Recreation Center, and Muller Elementary School as additional early voting sites, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vielma
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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

- 56 Consideration to amend contract RFP FY 17-053 to Laredo Occupational Center, L.L.C., to provide occupational medical services for the Laredo Transit Management Inc. (El Metro). The contract amount is not to exceed \$31,250.00 per year. Funding is available in the El Metro Operations Fund.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

57. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Discussion with possible action on status and impact of the "Laredo CARES Act Workforce Training Program" in collaboration with Laredo College; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Nelly Vielma)

Cm. Nelly Vielma gave a status update on the Laredo CARES Act Workforce Training Program. She stated that about 500 families were able to qualify and take advantage of the program, which consisted of 18 certifications being offered.

Dr. Ricardo Soliz noted that the program has been a remarkable initiative idea that has provided unique help for the community. He stated that he is very thankful to the City of Laredo Commission for creating that vision.

Tecló Garcia, Economic Development Director explained that they focused on the high demand jobs in Laredo to come up with a list of certifications that would benefit the community the most.

Mayor Pete Saenz congratulated Laredo College for their informative adds on TV. City Manager Robert Eads congratulated City Council and Tecló Garcia for the tremendous job that the City of Laredo has done along with Laredo College and Workforce Solutions.

Dr. Ricardo Garcia gave thanks to the City of Laredo for having an amazing vision and the trust that was provided to the Laredo College. He also announced that Laredo College will be having a virtual job fair in January 2021, for the people that took advantage of the program.

No action taken.

B. Request by Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III

1. Discussion with possible action on the creation of "dump" or "depository" stations of bulky items throughout the city. These stations are to receive mattresses, tires, furniture and bulky items for disposal; any and other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

C. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct 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 IV Priority Funds will be used for this project. Total Estimated Project Cost ~\$2,500.00.

- 1600 Price

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on amending Chapter 19, Article XII (Transit System) of the Code of Ordinances by setting the minimum number of members required for a quorum in an amount that will allow the Paratransit Advisory Committee to conduct its business; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the City Manager to authorize the Economic Development Department to coordinate with Laredo Economic Development Corporation and Laredo Chamber of Commerce the promotion of small businesses for the Christmas shopping season; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on the status of the City's Mental Health Coalition, in conjunction with Suicide Prevention Committee, regarding landing page and YouTube Channel; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to table.

Moved: MPT Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

E. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding increasing Municipal COVID Protocols during holidays; and any other matters incident thereto.

Pedro Deleon commented on the dire situation of citizens struggling and in need of assistance. He urged Council not to shut down the City given the need of residents to work.

Juan Avila, urged Council to close bars, bingos, *maquinitas*, gyms, and other nonessential businesses. Another concerned citizen who was not named expressed his support of a city-wide lockdown to slow the spread of COVID-19, adding that it was a mistake to open everything up again so soon. He suggested that only grocery stores and hospitals stay open while other businesses and services operate virtually or remotely.

Cm. Marte Martinez expressed his concern on the rise of COVID-19 positive cases in the community. He also stated that various City of Laredo physicians have reached out to him for help since local hospitals are already seeing a rise on patients being hospitalized due to COVID-19. He read into record a letter that was sent to him and written by various local health professionals with recommendations on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community with the upcoming holidays. He voiced his opinion that the community has unapologetically eschewed their responsibilities despite numerous opportunities to do the right thing.

Cm. Altgelt also expressed his concern on the rise of positive COVID-19 cases, and how the public and establishments are not following rules and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He questioned whether local leaders are doing their part to reinforce the message of safe practices.

Dr. Victor Trevino, Health Authority for the City of Laredo reported 379 deaths and fluctuating hospital capacity in an overflowing COVID-19 environment locally. The local nursing home is at capacity with 10 referrals still pending. Unless drastic mitigation measures are taken, he noted that there will be more virus-related deaths. Any establishment or activity that allows or requires one to remove their

mask is a high risk for transmission, as well as contact sports, in-home gatherings, and failure to follow guidelines when out in public. He iterated that curfews work as they have curtailed transmissions in communities in which they were implemented. Dr. Treviño also recommended increasing contact tracers.

Richard Chamberlain, Health Director, reported more than 1,000 COVID-19 cases in a seven-day period. Webb County is experiencing its second wave of outbreaks while the country realizes over 100,000 new cases every day. He reported that the Texas Department of Emergency Management is holding testing at Branch Library (1920 Palo Blanco), Independence Hills Par (1102 N. Merida), Father McNaboe Park (201 Zebu Court.), and the intersection of Zaragoza Street and Convent Street.

Guillermo Heard, Fire Chief, stated that he is working on obtaining more resources to alleviate the community's needs related to COVID-19. Hospitals are seeing COVID patients through the emergency room as many patients tend not to have primary care physicians. There are currently 89 hospital beds being used for the treatment of COVID patients.

Cm. Vielma expressed her concern on how the rise of positive cases will affect the community and local small businesses that are trying to survive the pandemic. She opposed the implementation of a curfew and governmental interference with citizens' private lives.

In response to a motion by Cm. Martinez to perform all City operations virtually, Robert A. Eads, City Manager, noted that there are already limited, if any, interactions within City operations.

Motion to direct management to perform all City of Laredo operational business virtually.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Alberto Torre, Jr.

For:3

Against:4

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Cm. Marte Martinez

MPT Torres

Cm. Altgelt

Cm. Vielma

Cm. Balli

Motion failed.

Motion to draft a letter to LISD, UISD and all private schools asking them to reduce the numbers of games and to add stricter protocols on all contact sports.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For:6
Cm. Rodriguez
Cm. Mercurio Martinez
MPT Torres
Cm. Marte Martinez
Cm. Altgelt
Cm. Balli

Against: 1
Nelly Vielma

Abstain: 0

Motion to limit all indoor social gatherings to no more than 10 people and with appropriate precautions.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez
Second: MPT Torres

For:5
Cm. Rodriguez
Cm. Mercurio Martinez
MPT Torres
Cm. Marte Martinez
Cm. Altgelt

Against:2
Cm. Vielma
Cm. Balli

Abstain:

Cm. Martinez initiated a motion to pull the occupancy permit of a business after three COVID-related violations and amended the motion to educate code enforcement inspectors to follow all rules and guidelines at the request of Cm. Altgelt.

Cm. Balli voiced his opinion that this motion is not enforceable and will not be enforced fairly, noting the potential for abuse. He and MPT Torres noted that Code Enforcement is overwhelmed with duties and responsibilities as it is without adding this operation.

Mr. Eads noted that Code Enforcement are often told to address an issue aggressively and then told to cease those efforts. Trying to police a shifting issue is very difficult for this Division.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that there are no specific guidelines regarding COVID checks at establishments. They are only recommendations for the purposes of screening. In light of the discussion, Cm. Martinez withdrew his motion.

Motion to pull occupancy permit on a business after three COVID-related violations and to educate code enforcement inspectors to follow all rules and guidelines.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez
Motion withdrawn.

Motion to create a resolution to Governor Greg Abbott to increase resources for the community.

Moved: Cm. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For:7

Against:0

Abstain:0

MPT Torres initiated a motion to request that restaurants and businesses utilize temperature checks, distance markers, and elimination of tables or seating to avoid crowding but quickly withdrew the motion as a result of confusion from staff and Council.

Motion to request that restaurants and businesses utilize temperature checks, distance markers, and elimination of tables or seating to avoid crowding.

Moved: MPT Torres

Second: Cm. Marte Martinez

Motion withdrawn.

F. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the status of the City Attorney's investigation regarding the use of "Association Business Leave" by the Laredo Fire Fighters' Union/FirePAC/"La Union" and the costs to the city tax payers for that use of leave, including but not limited to the back-filling of those shifts by senior firefighters; and whether the aforementioned organizations illegally distributed food based on politics instead of actual need; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pete Saenz and Council Member Nelly Vielma)

Guillermo Heard, Fire Chief, confirmed that of 3,000 yearly hours available for union members to use for community service, 2,551 hours have been spent for 2020; 1,200 of those hours were used for the food drive. The cost to the City in this time off as well as overtime to fill those shifts amounts to around \$41,000. He clarified that some union members used their own personal leave to participate in the food drive. He stated that, due to the adoption of the Local Government Code's definition of what constitutes "association business leave," he would moving forward not allow volunteering for food drives or community service to count as "association business."

Cm. Altgelt stated that taxpayer dollars should not go towards any employee or elected official to further a campaign or political gain. Rene Benavides, City Attorney, confirmed that misuse of association business leave has been established, though it has not been quantified.

Mayor Saenz requested a report of the City Attorney's findings in Council's Friday packet. Mr. Benavides confirmed that he will do so and noted that his investigation has reached its end since he has established that ABL has been misused. If

Council wishes to look further into this matter, he recommended that Council obtain outside counsel.

Motion to direct management to obtain an outside attorney to continue the investigation into the use of Fire Association business leave to perform political and campaign activities.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 5 Against: 2 Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez Cm. Rodriguez

MPT Torres Cm. Balli

Cm. Vielma

Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Altgelt

2. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize El Metro staff to complete the bus stop located on Farias Street at Juarez Street to include a Shelter/Canopy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District VII Priority Funds will be used for this project. Total Estimated Project Cost ~ \$1,750.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action to add additional lighting and cameras to the Mike Doyle Hike and Bikeway due to the recent maniac that has been exposing himself and groping women along the trail and an update by the Laredo Police Department as the status of the investigation; and any other matters incident thereto.

Claudio Treviño, Police Chief, confirmed that two incidents occurred a week apart; the Police Department is working with the victims to identify the suspect(s). He urged the public to call police if they have any information or are victimized.

MPT Torres urged Council to pursue the master plan to add lighting to all City parks as the perpetrator will likely move to another park with less lighting if such an option is available.

Motion to add additional lights, cameras, and cautionary signage as well as direct the Police Department to add media advisory messages using District VII priority funds, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XVII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: MPT Torres
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez
For: 7 Against: 0

Abstain: 0