

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2019-S-07
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TX 78040
June 17, 2019
5:30 P.M.**

SUPPLEMENTAL MINUTES

I. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez of Yesenia Escobedo to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Yesenia Escobedo to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Vielma were not present.

II. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action to host the Texas World Series Tournament to be held in Laredo with expected attendance of over twenty thousand people from ten different countries over the course of eight events; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.)

Jose Luis Maldonado, Texas World Series President, reported that the 2019 Texas World Series will be held in Laredo from February 20-24, 2020, after several qualifying tournaments from summer to winter 2019. The Texas World Series expects over 20,000 teams and guests from the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Ecuador, Japan, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, and the United States. He estimated that the World Series will utilize 120 hotel rooms for five nights and requested \$51,000 to cover costs such as the hotel rooms, 250 rings, 40 baseball boxes, City of Laredo baseball fields, Marshal Parade costs, and a parade after-party. He reported the following qualifying events and their dates:

June 28-30, 2019	District Baseball Tournament
July 18-21, 2019	Regional Baseball Tournament
August 1-5, 2019	World Series Category 9-12
September 13-15, 2019	Laredo Sporting Parade/Latin Am. Baseball Tournament
November 15-17, 2019	State Baseball Tournament
December 14, 2019	Anna Park Children Christmas Party 5

Aileen Ramos, Convention & Visitors Bureau Director, reported that this is the first time staff has seen Mr. Maldonado's presentation. She asked for time so that staff may meet with him and calculate the true financial need of the organization and what the City can provide. She noted that CVB staff worked with Mr. Maldonado earlier this year for a smaller event during the Washington's Birthday Celebration.

Graciela Briones, Assistant Parks & Leisure Services Director, confirmed that at the last World Series, the City utilized Slaughter Park, Cruz, Taylor, and Uni-Trade Stadium baseball fields for their events and ceremonies.

Cm. Gonzalez noted that there will not be another Council meeting before the June 28-30, 2019 event. MPT Balli asked what is needed for this first event. Mr. Maldonado answered that just the fields would be needed.

Dr. Marte Martinez initiated a motion to waive the fees for use of the City's fields during the District Baseball Tournament. Anita Stanley, Assistant Parks & Leisure Services Director, reminded Council that there are currently other leagues going on. She asked Council for time so that staff may review the schedule and identify the City's availability to accommodate Mr. Maldonado's schedule of events.

Dr. Martinez voiced his understanding that this schedule of events would be treated like separate events and asked if the funding would come from hotel/motel occupancy tax. MPT Balli clarified that some funding would come from this source, but some would come from Parks' budget. Ms. Ramos agreed that there are often multiple components to these events, which staff needs to analyze in order to determine appropriate funding or assistance. She confirmed that this schedule of events will encompass the next budget cycle as well.

Cm. Rodriguez added that the City already has dates set aside for events at Uni-Trade Stadium, so Mr. Maldonado's events cannot conflict with those already scheduled at the venue.

Robert Eads, Co-Interim City Manager, agreed that staff can meet with Mr. Maldonado and make sure that there are no scheduling conflicts with Mr. Maldonado's request. He reminded Council that rescheduling or not having a baseball game would result in a cost to the City.

Motion to waive the fees for use of the City baseball fields for the June 28-30, 2019, District Baseball Tournament and direct staff to meet with the Texas World Series and bring a proposal with scheduling and funding back to Council.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Vielma were not present.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

MPT Balli was not present.