

**CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
M2018-R-18
CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS 1110
HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
November 5, 2018
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor presented the following:

1. Recognizing Licenciado Mario Palos Garza on the grand achievement of reaching the 30th anniversary of his business success. An outstanding businessman committed to the economic development of our border, employing more than 1500 skilled workers in both cities. His brokerage firm is recognized as an industry leader throughout the U.S. – Mexico border where he continues to invest and develop business opportunities within the transportation industry.

No recognition made.

**CITY OF LAREDO CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
M2018-R-18
CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS 1110
HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
November 5, 2018
5:30 P.M.**

I. ALL 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
Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

Mayor
District I

Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Alejandro "Alex" Perez, Jr.	District III
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV
Charlie San Miguel	District VI
Norma "Nelly" Vielma	District VII
George J. Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.	City Secretary
Horacio De Leon	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	City Attorney

Cm. Perez joined at 7:41 p.m.
 Cm. San Miguel joined at 5:37 p.m.

Cm. Rodriguez reported that Cm. Gonzalez would not be able to attend due to a family emergency.

Motion to excuse the absences of Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
 Second: Cm. Torres
 For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of October 15, 2018

Motion to approve the October 15, 2018 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Torres
 Second: Cm. Altgelt
 For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

Citizen comments

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

None.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending Article VI [Investment Policy] of Chapter 2 [Administration] of the Code of Ordinances in order to:

1. Update Investment Officers Titles to include the Executive Director of Finance & Technology;
2. Adjust / Update the current Broker / Dealer List and;
3. Provide for an effective date.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

Public Hearing and consideration of a motion to approve the following improvements to a existing historic building at Lot 7, Block 2, Western Division, located at 1107 Iturbide St., San Agustin de Laredo Historic District, including: 1) the addition of two (2) exterior emergency doors to match existing door type, finish and materials, as identified in attached Exhibit "A", and 2) the installation of a new vinyl sign on both existing rollover doors, as identified in attached Exhibit "B."
HDLB-16-2018 District VIII

Historic District/Landmark Board Recommendation: None due to lack of quorum on 10-11-2018 and 10-25-2018. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends both improvements 1 and 2.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, informed Council that the Historic District/Landmark Board has not met, causing this item to be idle for over 30 days. As per policy, if there is no quorum, the City Manager may bypass the committee and bring the item to Council for a decision.

Vanessa Guerra of the Planning Department confirmed that the door emergency doors will be historically consistent with the door type. They are required by the Laredo Fire Department; the only historical requirement is that the door type match the existing character of the building.

Motion to close public hearing and approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 10, Block 1260, Eastern Division, located at 2202 E. Plum St., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-O (Residential/ Office District).

Staff supports the application and Planning & Zoning recommends approval of the zone change. ZC-79-2018 District IV

Cm. Torres reported that he spoke to the applicant, and there is now concern with converting this property to commercial/office space. Ms. Jacaman, the applicant, stipulated to him that she would be willing to make the property a duplex.

Vanessa Guerra of the Planning Department countered that a duplex is not an allowable use in a R-1 zone. An R-2 zone would be needed for a duplex. She added that the applicant came to the Planning Department and reconfirmed her wish to pursue an R-O zone.

Francisco Ramirez spoke in favor of the zone change application.

Motion to close public hearing and deny the R-O zone change.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

After discussing other matters, Cm. Torres returned to the public hearing. He noted that upon speaking to Mr. Ramirez and Planning staff, he wished to rescind his motion to deny.

Motion to rescind the motion to deny the R-O zone change and introduce the ordinance as a R-2.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

4. Authorizing the City Manager to convey an Easement and Right of Way to AEP TEXAS, INC., to serve the walking trails in the area known as Cheyenne Park. One (1) conveyance over a tract of land containing 15,971 square feet, more or less, situated in Porcion 30, and out of a smaller 142.87 Acre Tract of land being a part of Partition E-J and being out of Lot 1, Block 7 (8.3233 Acres), Cheyenne Subdivision Phase II as recorded in Volume 18, Page 100, Webb County Deed Records, Webb County, Texas, as Described in the Survey and Metes and Bounds Description attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and "B"; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to convey an Easement and Right -Of-Way to AEP TEXAS INC., consisting of two tracts of land. One tract containing 36 square feet and the other containing 72 square feet. Both tracts being out of Porcion 23, Leonardo Garcia, Original Grantee, Abstract 283 and Porcion 22 Doña M. J. Sanchez, Original Grantee, Abstract 277, Webb County, Texas, and being out of Lot 1, Block 2 (6.88 Acres), Shiloh Crossings Subdivision Phase 1, as recorded in Volume 29, pages 34-36, Webb County map records, said tracts being more particularly described in Exhibit "A", "B", "A-1", and "B-1"; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Amendment to Equipment Premises Temporary License Agreement between the City of Laredo and Sprint Spectrum Realty Company, LLC, for equipment space at 1501 Water Street, Laredo, Webb County, Texas and subject to an existing License Agreement between the Parties for use of the existing communications tower. Term of the First Amendment is six (6) months commencing October 7, 2018 and ending April 6, 2019; with a six (6) month renewal option. The First Amendment fee will be \$7,000.00 and the license fee for the renewal term will be \$7,500.00, if exercised.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. An ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 2, Administration, by adding Article IX, Local Preference Program, of the Code of Ordinances to set forth the guidelines for granting a local preference in city procurements; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2018-O-164, 2018-O-165, 2018-O-

166, and 2018-O-168.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

8. 2018-O-164 Amending the City of Laredo's FY 2019 Downtown TIRZ No. 1 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$72,464.00 as a result of higher tax valuations.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-164.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

9. 2018-O-165 Amending the City of Laredo's FY 2019 budget by appropriating expenditures from a drawdown of \$1,200,000.00 from the Sports and Community Venue Sales Tax fund opening balance. The funds will be used to cover the cost of the replacement of the current grass at Uni-Trade with synthetic turf.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-165.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Altgelt
For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

10. 2018-O-166 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending chapter 19 (motor vehicles and traffic), article xii (transit system), divisions 2 and 5, sections 19-562(c) and 19-601.12, of the Code of Ordinances to repeal the fixed transit service rate increase for persons 62 or over or with disabilities with El Metro/ADA paratransit identification card during off peak hours to \$0.75, approved on August 21, 2017, which became effective October 23, 2018; provide for a \$0.50 half fare rate for medicare recipients during off peak hours; and decrease paratransit fares for el lift plus and el lift premium; providing this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for severability; and providing an effective date of November 6, 2018. The proposed fare reduction will result in a decrease of revenue of approximately \$125,000.00 for the fiscal year (AS AMENDED).

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-1646

Moved: Cm. Torres

exempting community cat caregivers from certain requirements of this chapter; exempting impounded, eartipped community cats from the 72 hour minimum hold; providing that community cat caregivers may reclaim impounded community cats if eartipped or for trap-neuter-return without proof of ownership; providing for cat colony permits and registration; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

Clarissa Rangel, Animal Care Services Director, explained that this item supports a trap-neuter-return program in Laredo. Currently, the City has private groups performing TNRs, and staff wishes to support and participate the programs.

Cm. Torres noted that this ordinance comes at the recommendation of Dr. Leyendecker and the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee. The first issue to address is that the City is euthanizing too many cats; also, the adoption rate for cats is very low. The City is trying to get as many cats as possible out of the city to rescue groups, but more is needed to be done. This program is successful among the private citizens performing the neutering, and it would help the City provide services to the community.

Ms. Rangel explained that eartipping is a process in which the cat's ear is tipped to easily identify cats that have already been spayed or neutered. Cm. Altgelt asked if declawing was part of the conversation when discussing the cat population. Ms. Rangel noted that it was not considered as declawing is considered inhumane.

Cm. Torres noted that a key benefit to the City is that Dr. Leyendecker works for the City on contract, meaning that no matter how many procedures she performs, there will not be any additional costs to the City. It would be in the City's best interest to try to maximize those contract services.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-169.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

X (a) RESOLUTIONS

14. 2018-R-144 Authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant in the amount of \$872,271.00 to fund the Laredo Police Department HIDTA Task Force, The Laredo DEA HIDTA Task Force and the Rio Grande

Valley Financial HIDTA Task Force. The initiatives are funded by the Executive Office of the President, Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) at no cost to the City. Funding will be used to pay personnel salaries, fringe benefits, overtime, travel and operating expenses from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Funding for the Rio Grande Valley Financial Task Force will be used for payment of fringe benefits, overtime, and operating expenses from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Funds available in the Financial Task Force Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-144.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

15. 2018-R-154 Authorizing the City Manager to accept the contract with the Women's Health and Family Planning Association of Texas (WHFPT) in the amount of \$63,089.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Title X Family Planning Women's Preventive Health services for the term period from September 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-154.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

16. 2018-R-158 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Dalia G. Hernandez for a proposed project located at 2107 Mier St, Lot 2; Block 1220; Eastern division that consists of new construction, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a ten (10) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of Economic Development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$152,100.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$488.81 and estimated total fee waivers of \$1,599.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-158.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

17. 2018-R-159 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$13,114.70 from the Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) for the purpose of funding the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)-Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) Grant. This funding will be utilized to replace three x-ray machine laptops which are a vital component necessary in the prevention of terrorism events. No local match is required. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-159.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

X (b) MOTIONS

18. Approving the adoption of the Section 3 Program Policy by the City of Laredo Community Development Department, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Federally funded grant programs. The Section 3 Program requires that recipients of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), to the greatest extent possible, provide training, employment, contracting and other economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons, especially recipients of government assistance for housing, and to businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons, also known as Section 3 residents and Section 3 businesses.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

19. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest bidder Martinez Paving Co., Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$1,146,071.76 for the Upper Zacate Creek Hike and Bike Trail (CSJ: 0922-33-142) with a construction contract time of two hundred ten (210) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for June 2019. We received a letter of approval from TxDot on October 18, 2018, to proceed with the award of contract. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund in the Zacate Creek Hike and Bike Trail grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

20. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”), attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the South Texas Development Council (“STDC”) and the City of Laredo for the Management of the South Texas Regional Radio System (“STRRS”) and the Advance System Key (“ASK”). This is for one (1) year term beginning October 1, 2018 at an annual fee of \$40,000.00; payable quarterly in four (4) equal payments of \$10,000.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

21. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one-year service agreement with Central Square Superior Public Sector, Lake Mary FL, in the amount of \$176,563.03. The service agreement is for software enhancements and maintenance on the financial applications residing on the City's IBM iSeries computer system for the period of October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

22. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a four (4) year Service Agreement with Motorola Solutions Inc. in the amount of \$1,305,247.90 for the maintenance of the City of Laredo's P25 800 MHz Trunked Radio Communications System, as attached hereto. The service agreement provides annual maintenance for the infrastructure equipment, subscriber equipment, and support. This also includes two (2) Platform upgrades from 7.17 to 7.19 on 2020 and from 7.19 to 7.21 on 2022. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

23. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) Solar Trailers with Mini-domes and License Plate Readers (LPRs) from Wireless CCTV, LLC., in the amount of \$104,602.00. The purchase of these mobile LPRs shall be made utilizing GSA Contract Pricing. These mobile LPRs will be used in conjunction with our Operation Stonegarden deployments and will be placed in high traffic areas along roads that have been identified as threat areas by U.S. Border Patrol and have proven to be hot spots for human/drug smuggling. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund- 2016 Operation Stonegarden-Jim Hogg Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

24. Consideration to award contract FY19-006 for the purchase and installation of a LED display system to the low bidder, American LED Display Solutions Corp., Miami, Florida in the total amount \$177,256.00. This LED display system will be installed at the Uni-Trade Stadium located at 6320 Sinatra Parkway, Laredo, Texas. Estimated time for completion of this project is ninety (90) working days. Funding is available in the Sports & Community Venue Uni-Trade Operations Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

25. Consideration to award contract FY19-003 to the sole bidder, Holt CAT, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$425,000.00 for the purchase of Caterpillar Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) equipment repair parts and service for the City's Caterpillar heavy equipment. This contract establishes discount percentage pricing for the purchase of needed repairs and replacement parts and services. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and may be extended for four additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement. All parts and services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

26. Consideration to amend contract FY18-031 by 25% for the purchase of passenger car tires (Section II) with Hesselbein Tire Southwest, San Antonio, Texas in an additional amount up to \$19,950.68 due to increase in usage. The term of this contract shall expire on 3/19/19; new contract total amount will be \$99,753.40. All tires will be purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

27. Consideration to renew contract FY16-074 with Arguindegui Oil, Laredo, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for the purchase of unleaded and diesel fuel for the City's automotive fleet. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one year beginning as of the date of its execution. The OPIS markup will remain the same during this extension period . This is the second of four extension periods. Funding is available in the Fleet Management Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

28. Consideration to renew supply contract FY18-005 with Vulcan Materials, San Antonio, Texas, in an amount up to \$100,000.00 for the purchase of asphalt cold laid used for street paving projects. Any price changes to this contract will be governed by an index made up of the composite posted prices in the Laredo area of those companies published in the daily publication of Oil Price Information Service (OPIS). All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the construction project budgets. This is the first of two extension periods. There was no price increase during this extension period. Funding is available in the Public Works construction project budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

29. Consideration to renew annual contract FY16-006 with RNR Rebar Supply, Laredo, Texas in an amount of up to \$40,000.00 for the purchase of cement and concrete mix for various City Departments. The term of this contract shall be for a

period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. There was a price increase of 15% due to tariff costs absorbed by the vendor. This is the third of six extension periods. All materials will be purchased on an as needed basis. If the pricing remains the same or price adjustment has mutual agreement from both parties and the City agrees to extend the contract, the contract shall automatically renew for another one year period. Funding is available in various departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

30. Consideration to amend contract FY15-030 to the current vendor Core & Main, San Antonio, Texas to include Mach 10 Ultrasonic meters sizes 5/8" to 2" and Pit MIU 6" Transmitters. The current contract does not include this type of meter. The Mach 10 meter will allow Utilities to diversify the types of meters that are used to best fit the application. The transmitters will allow for use with other brands of meters with the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) software. There will be no increase in the current annual amount of \$1,395,114.27. The items requested are under Cooperative Contract HGAC WM08-18 which is current until August 31, 2020. Funding is available in the WaterWorks System Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

31. Consideration to renew annual supply contracts FY16-075 with the following vendors:

1. Patria Office Supply, Laredo, Texas; (Primary Vendor)
2. Laredo Janitorial Solutions, Laredo, Texas; (Secondary Vendor)
3. Texchem Corporation, Laredo, Texas; (Secondary Vendor)
4. Executive Office Supply, Laredo, Texas; (Secondary Vendor)
5. Gulf Coast Paper, Corpus Christi, Texas; (Secondary Vendor)

for providing general janitorial supplies to all City departments. This contract establishes discount percentage pricing for those janitorial supplies most commonly utilized by City departments. Approximately, \$250,000.00 is spent annually on janitorial supplies by all City departments. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This is the second of five extension periods. All items will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the user departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

32. Authorization of the selection and award of contract FY19-015 (contractor and amount To Be Announced during City Council meeting) for the purchase and installation of synthetic turf at the Uni-Trade Baseball Stadium. This vendor shall furnish all labor, materials, tools, and equipment necessary to remove the existing turf and and install the new synthetic turf according to approved shop drawings. Funding for this contract is available in the Sports & Community Venue - UniTrade Operations, contingent upon the approval of Ordinance #2018-O-165.

Miguel Pescador, Purchasing Director, informed Council of staff's recommendation to award the contract to Hellas Sports Construction of Austin, Texas. The award amount is \$1,284,905.00. Staff reviewed the submittals on Friday, November 2, 2018; earlier today; staff met with Hellas Sports Construction. He requested that Council approve this recommendation and also approve the waiver of a minor irregularity. The addendum was acknowledged and submitted but was not signed.

Anita Stanley, Assistant Parks & Leisure Services Director, clarified that the turf is suitable for multiple types of sports and events like concerts.

Mr. Pescador confirmed that staff determined the addendum without signature to be a minor irregularity; the bid is still a complete bid. He added that while this bidder's submittal was a little more expensive than the other vendor, Hellas Sports Construction confirmed that they can complete construction by the first week of February 2019, specifically February 7.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, added that staff has received concerns from Border Olympics about the timeline of installing turf at Uni-Trade Stadium and having to move their games to another venue. Border Olympics occurs in February 2019, so staff confirmed with the vendor that they could complete the job prior to the event.

Motion to approve the awarding of contract FY19-015 to Hellas Sports Construction and to waive the minor irregularity as presented and recommended by staff.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

33. Authorizing the City Manager to execute American Electric Power (AEP) Facilities Rental Service Agreement, an increase from the current monthly charge from \$4,346.02 to \$5,124.03 due to the additional facilities that were installed as a

result of the 12 to 18 MGD expansion of the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant. The rental is charged through the Retail Electric Provider. The need for the Facilities Rental and Maintenance fee is due to the AEP meter equipment and facilities that were installed after the meter. Funding is available in the Utilities Sewer System Operating Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

34. Consideration to award a one (1) year supply contract as per HGAC contact #WM08-18 to Aqua-Metric Sales Company, Riverside, California in the amount of \$174,841.93 which includes a \$32,378.13 discount for the purchase of Omni C2 Compound water meters in sizes 2" to 8" for the Utilities Department. All meters meet AWWA Standards, NSF/ANSI Standard 61 Certification, and NSF 61 Annex F and G (lead requirements). All meters will be ordered on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year as of the date of its execution. Funding is available in the Water Works Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

35. Consideration to amend existing contract FY17-036 by an increase of 25% for the Disposal of Recycling of Electronic Waste/Scrap Service with IMC Recycling Inc., Laredo, TX. This contract includes: Disposal of Recycling of Electronic Waste/Scrap, E-Scrap, TV/Computer Monitor, Broken TV/Comp, Transportation, Batteries Cell Phones, Batteries & other Household Electronics. The new contract total amount will be \$37,500.00. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

36. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract for an Investment Grade Audit (IGA) with Honeywell International, Inc. to determine energy savings at the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant, Jefferson Water Treatment Plant, the Zacate Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and all booster and pump stations under the Texas Region 4 Education Service Center for Energy Performance

Contract number R171201 at no cost to the city.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

37. Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with the Laredo Country Club for the purchase of waste water effluent to irrigate the golf course.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XI. STAFF REPORTS

38. 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.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

39. Discussion with possible action to consider a first request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer Agapito Perez.

Motion to approve the extension of Injury Leave with pay.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

40. Discussion with possible action to consider a second request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer Arturo Vela.

Motion to approve the extension of Injury Leave with pay.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

41. Presentation with possible action regarding cost savings on part-time temporary staffing agency employees as requested by City Council and any other matters incident thereto.

Monica Flores, Human Resources Director, reported that the City has a total of eight part-time out of 111 through the contract staffing agency. Of those eight employees, three are City retirees, so they were not included in the calculation of cost to the City; to convert them to City employees would cease their retirement payments. Of the five remaining, the cost of converting them to City employees amounts to a possible cost savings of \$8,400.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, reminded Council that there is a value to the retired employees that come back as temporary part-time employees; they have experience and are hand-selected for the duties that they perform.

Cm. Torres asked if it is worth it to pay Elite to manage these part-time employees or to convert them to City employees and save the \$8,400 annually. Mrs. Flores clarified that if these employees were converted to City employees, the City would be responsible for any type of claim or liability that might come up with the employee, like worker's compensation. That has an added cost that the City cannot foresee ahead of time.

Cm. Perez noted that he has had some projects and needed short-term temporary assistants. He spoke in favor of using the staffing agency for these needs.

No action taken.

42. Presentation by the Solid Waste Department, regarding the cleaning of trash bins throughout the City as per Council request, with discussion and possible action.

Stephen Geiss, Solid Waste Director, recalled that at the last Council meeting, staff was directed to research the cost of providing a trash bin cleaning by the Solid Waste Department. Staff first researched what is being done by other cities and found that no other Texas city cleans trash bins for its citizens. There are some private companies in different cities that provide the cleaning service. Mr. Geiss reminded Council that the current ordinance for garbage and rubbish collection stipulates that "All City refuse or recyclables collection carts shall be kept clean and washed out as often as necessary so that they will remain in a sanitary condition....The person, firm or corporation violating any provisions of this section shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense, and a separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during which the violation occurs or continues to occur." Mr. Geiss noted that he is not certain that

the penalties are being enforced, but it exists in the current ordinance. There are about 71,000 green bins and 64,000 blue bins deployed in the City for a total of approximately 135,000 bins. If one bin can be washed every five minutes, then one cleaning of all bins would take 675,000 minutes (11,250 hours). Dividing this time by one man year (2080 hours) would require 5.4 full-time employee (FTE) positions to complete one cleaning in one year or 11 FTEs to complete two cleanings per year. Additionally, washing equipment, vehicles, supplies, fuel, and maintenance would be required, adding to the costs to the City.

Mr. Geiss noted that the local contractor for this type of services charges \$10 per bin; the most bins that they have been able to clean per day is about 40 bins. The contractor does not currently have the capability to clean all of the City's bins. Utilizing the private sector to clean bins ranges in price. He reported that after paying for the additional washing units, FTEs, fuel, supplies, maintenance and disposal of dirty water, the Department would have to spend an additional \$2,993,250 for two cleanings a year.

Cm. Vielma asked for a cost comparison between adding a second trash pick-up day per week versus offering trash bin cleaning services. Mr. Geiss noted that if the City drops the recycling pick-up and instead picks up trash twice a week, there will be no additional cost. However, adding a second trash pick-up day to each week would be an additional cost of about \$1.5 million per year.

No action taken.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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

No action taken.

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

No action taken.

43. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the 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 II Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- a. One (1) Speed hump on Frio Plaza, between S. New York Ave. and Columbia Dr. \$2,500.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

2. Presentation by the Rio Grande International Study Center on its first Run with the Monarchs sponsored by the with City of Laredo.

Adrian Zapata of the Rio Grande International Study Center thanked the City for its assistance with the first annual Run of the Monarch at the Chacón Creek Hike and Bike Trail.

Tricia Cortez of the RGISC reported that this event was the first large-scale Laredo event to honor the Monarch Butterfly. Staff built a new Monarch garden/waystation with 80 nectar and pollinator plants for the event; 150 registered runners and walkers participated in the race. There were 30 stations set up for booths and activities, and the City of Laredo Health Department hosted a Zika Action Day. She informed Council that the Monarch butterfly's population has been dwindling by 80-90%; this species is unique in its journey from Canada through Laredo on its way to Mexico. Scientists say that due to extreme loss of habitat in the American Midwest, the Monarch butterfly could vanish in as little as 20 years. She thanked specifically Cm. Rodriguez, Anita Stanley of Parks, Lyzette Limon of Health, Riazul Mia of Utilities, John Porter of Environmental Services, Graciela Briones of Parks, and Christy Lara of the City Manager's Office for serving as key partners with the City.

B. Request by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action to amend the sign ordinance to allow subdivision sign entrance signs within city right of way under certain conditions as provided for in 2014-O-133.

Cm. Perez reported that there have been some developers on the south side of Laredo that have not been allowed to put up an entrance monument like at Alexander Estates. He noted that what is being allowed in North Laredo is being denied in South Laredo, and entrance monuments add to the character and beauty of the area.

Victor Linares, Acting Building Director, noted that there are two ordinances affecting this issue; one in 2014 and one in 2017. Two possible locations are considered when dealing with monument signs, either on the edge of the property line or in the center of the right-of-way in the street. Both ordinances allow for subdivision signs on the edge of the property line. Ordinance 2014-O-133 allows for subdivision entrance signs to be within the City right-of-way. In 2017, the ordinance was amended; and part of that amended included increasing the square footage and restricting subdivision entrance signs within a platted section to allow a private structure in the right-of-way. Subdivision entrance signs require an electric permit as they require lighting as well as a plumbing permit for

the landscaping. Mr. Linares clarified that the only difference between the 2014 and 2017 ordinances is that the 2017 ordinance specifies more restrictive terms for subdivision entrance signs.

Cm. Perez asked for a recommendation that will allow for South Laredo developers add a monument sign that will look nice and add an element of art to the area. Mr. Linares confirmed that staff could consult with the City Attorney to assure there is liability to the private structure and establish criteria for lane width buffers.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, stated that this is common in other cities and confirmed that staff can bring an ordinance amendment back to Council for approval at the next Council meeting.

Cm. Altgelt asked what liability there is in a private structure in the right-of-way. Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, explained that the liability exists because the structure is in the City's public right-of-way, which they are allowing the private structure owner to occupy.

No action taken.

C. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct the 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.
 - a. One (1) Speed hump on the 2000 block of E. Price, between N. Malinche Ave. and N. Urbahn Ave. \$2,500.00.
 - b. One (1) Speed hump on N. Ejido., between Kearney St. and Clark Blvd. \$2,500.00.
 - c. One (1) Speed hump on Kearney St., between N. Arkansas and N. Ejido Ave. \$2,500.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

D. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to widen Bartlett Ave. north of Jacaman Rd. (intersection) and any other matters incident thereto. Funding is available in District V Priority Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action authorizing City Manager to establish a pilot program with Lime Electric Scooters and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Torres noted that when he saw this agenda item, he performed some research. It looked great at first, but then he saw news articles about recent incidents with the Lime Electric Scooter company in which the scooters caught on fire. This news raised a red flag, and he asked if Council can approve a pilot program without going through the procurement process.

Cm. Balli added that he is unsure how this is a City pilot program bringing in a private company.

Cm. Vielma explained that these issues were discussed in preparation of this item. She noted that the City of Lubbock was working on an ordinance for this service, and a private company came in and began leasing their scooters while the City was still working on its ordinance. Her intention was to begin the pilot program while the City works on an ordinance to determine how to enforce the service, secure permits, and establish fees. She clarified that the pilot program would be a very similar program to the El Lift and Uber pilot programs that the City initiated. This company operates their work locally and will bring a fleet of about 30 employees to study the area and determine key locations where citizens would pick up and drop off the scooters and bikes.

Cm. Balli noted that some cities are banning these scooter and bike services because of injuries. Cm. Vielma countered that this is why the City should consider a pilot program, because they are very successful in some cities but should be weighed against the potential nuisance. There will always be liability or risk that people will not pay attention properly when operating scooters, but the incidents of car accidents far outweigh any accidents on an electric scooter. She voiced her opinion that the community will likely welcome this service as they welcomed Uber and Lyft. She asked for the City Attorney's recommendation.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, noted that the current problem is that there is no current ordinance on record, so anybody could start a leasing company. For that reason, there should be regulation in place.

Cm. Torres noted that he would support the creation of an ordinance that establishes permitting fees and regulation, but he will not support a pilot program with Lime Electric Scooters based on his concerns with their safety and equipment.

Robert Eads, Traffic Director, informed Council that the City does have a current ordinance that does not allow motorized vehicles on sidewalks. Council would first need to modify that ordinance to allow them on sidewalks. He noted that there is limited areas where these electric scooters can be located because the

City lacks the infrastructure. However, the Traffic Department is supportive of any initiatives that provide alternative transportation, including biking, walking, and scooters. He noted that this item is the impetus to start that initiative and conversation. Lime Electric Scooters is a willing partner at no cost to the City. The City of San Antonio partnered with Lime Electric Scooters, and the key benefit to San Antonio is the data derived from the company's studies and application.

Motion to direct staff to modify the existing ordinance to allow electric scooters on City streets and develop a new ordinance to determine how to enforce the electric scooter leasing service, secure permits, establish fees, and address any related concerns.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

E. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to implement a requirement that when a candidate running for municipal public office appoints a treasurer, they must take an online training in Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA), Ethics Training, Public Corruption Training and any matters incident thereto.

Cm. Altgelt reported that Cm. San Miguel requested that Council, in his absence, pass a motion to direct staff to come back with recommendations at the next Council meeting.

Cm. Vielma noted that if this motion passes, she would like to see a clarification that the candidate and the treasurer both take the training. Cm. Balli stated that his first understanding of the item was pertaining to the candidate's campaign treasurer, but after a second reading, he believed Cm. San Miguel's intention to be for the candidate. Once a potential candidate appoints a treasurer, then the training requirement would be triggered. Cm. Vielma reiterated that the treasurer should be trained as well.

Cm. Torres voiced concerns over this item. While he supports training as it pertains to ethics, TOMA, and public corruption, he noted that Council likely cannot add additional requirements to what is already required by state law to run for public office.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that besides the general rules in the Texas Election Code, home rule cities can provide additional provisions that do not conflict with the Code. However, those requirements must be by City Charter. Therefore, this suggested requirement would need to be added as a Charter amendment.

Cm. Torres noted that while the City cannot currently make this a requirement of candidates, the City can make this training mandatory once a candidate is elected to office.

Mrs. Hale added that making this training mandatory for elected officials can be done by ordinance. She clarified that the ethics ordinance does not apply to candidates for office.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, reminded Council that staff has an orientation for new Council Members, which can be made a part of the ordinance.

Motion to direct staff to develop an ordinance that requires newly-elected officials to take Texas Open Meeting Act training, ethics training, and anti-public corruption training as provided by Texas Municipal League or any other entity within the official's first year of taking office as well as an overview of City-related business that the City Attorney's Office deems appropriate, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

F. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion with possible action to obtain any and all information, plans, data, and source data on Hachar Road from Dannenbaum Engineering and their subcontractors for all services performed regarding the Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) regarding the same and that said information be shared with Verde Corp.

Cm. Altgelt explained that after the April 2017 raid, Council voted to cease further business relations with Dannenbaum Engineering; at that point it was decided that the work left undone would be taken over by Verde Corp., who is the developer for Hachar Road. Verde Corp. actually hired Dannenbaum Engineering to finish the project on their own. Therefore, the City is back where it started with the pressing need to finish the Hachar Road project.

Cm. Torres asked if the assumption is that Dannenbaum is withholding this information from Verde Corp. Cm. Altgelt agreed that this is his impression.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, reminded Council that the information belongs to the City, not Dannenbaum. With Council's approval, he confirmed that he will release a letter the following day to release the information to Verde Corporation. He clarified that the City only has paper information, not digital.

Motion to direct staff to obtain any and all information, plans, data, and source data on Hachar Road from Dannenbaum Engineering and their subcontractors for all services performed regarding the plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E) regarding the same and shared that information with the City and Verde Corp.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding the pending humanitarian crisis and surge of immigrants to the US Mexican Border in the coming weeks and the City's coordinated response thereto.

Cm. Altgelt noted that nobody knows better about border security than citizens who live on the border. Laredo has already made some preparations as a City for the pending surge of immigrants seeking refuge in the United States, but he asked for a report to the public from staff and security agents.

Greg Alvarez, Customs and Border Protection Director of Northern Operations, reported that CBP is actively following the movement of the migrant caravan approaching the United States along the entirety of the southwest border. The caravan has not committed to a particular location along the border, so he could not provide an estimate of how many migrants will reach Laredo's bridges. It appears that a large portion of the group will make it to Mexico City, Mexico, and the group or a portion of the group may head in the direction of the Rio Grande Valley. However, the group may instead head in the direction of California. The City of Laredo led a table-top exercise and invited CBP to participate. For Laredo, Mr. Alvarez noted that migrant surges are not new issues. CBP is prepared to process individuals that present a claim for refuge in the United States. That will take some time depending on the size of the group, realistically a few weeks. He stated that the Department of Defense is providing logistical support to CBP and the Department of Homeland Security should a large group arrive at the border and not be compliant.

Cm. Altgelt asked if any federal resources are allocated to border communities, not just law enforcement, to deal with the potential health and humanitarian issues during the caravan's attempted entry into the country. Mr. Alvarez referred to the Department of Defense resources that law enforcement requested. When processing large groups, law enforcement will often provide medical treatment, and a medical facility to treat up to 800 individuals with minor medical needs on-site has been requested. Long-term treatment will follow a different process in which law enforcement will escort an individual to a contracted hospital for continued treatment. Mr. Alvarez explained that the table-top exercise he mentioned is an exercise completed by a variety of stakeholders in the community to test the stresses and eventualities on the system in preparation for a surge of activity at the border. The Laredo Fire Department hosted this table-top exercise, which identified some gaps in the system to be corrected. He noted that the Mexican government has offered asylum and working or housing conditions for the migrants. Therefore, a significant portion of the caravan has branched off and is being processed by the Mexican government. Another large portion of the group has also decided to return home and is being transported back by Mexican officials. He estimated that the group is about 50% single males and mostly Hondurans and Guatemalans. However, there are differing reports regarding the makeup of the group. He voiced his confidence in law enforcement's ability to handle the demand on resources when and if the group gets to Laredo's border.

Felix Chavez, Customs and Border Protection Laredo Sector Interim Chief Patrol

Agent, reported that on any given day along the southwest border, CBP apprehends 1,000 to 1,500 individuals trying to enter the country illegally. Administration has been meeting daily in regards to the caravan and making preparations. He stated that Laredo has about 1,700 Border Patrol agents and is prepared to leverage those agents to help control the situation at the border.

Cm. Altgelt asked what other cities along the Texas-Mexico border are doing in response to the migrant caravan. Chief Chavez responded that, based on the conversations he has had with other cities, they are making the same preparations as Laredo. He stated that non-governmental organizations have been asked to prepare to facilitate any long-term individuals receiving medical care. He was not aware of any pathogenic or public health concerns regarding the caravan at this time.

Mr. Alvarez noted that public health concerns were already discussed at the table-top exercise, and the migrants who have been processed have not been found to be carry any pathogenic threats. He noted that the customs processes at the ports will be impacted by the arrival of this group. In the event that the group attempts to rush through the port or enter with violence and out of compliance, CBP plans to shut down the facility, which will cause a disruption of operations. The duration of that disruption is difficult to estimate. Mr. Alvarez noted that shutting down the facility is a last resort for law enforcement.

Cm. Altgelt asked if there was a way to direct the caravan to the Colombia Bridge so that the port's financial impact will not be too heavily affected. Mr. Alvarez agreed that this is part of law enforcement's plan; Cm. Altgelt's question was already brought up during preparations. He noted that this plan is only doable on the US side; the Mexican side does not have control of the bridge and cannot control the people.

Cm. Altgelt voiced his trust in City officials and law enforcement to successfully handle the situation at the border. He recalled a headline that troubled him that referenced so-called "militia men" heading south to the border, in which a civilian population of "vigilantes" intend to take matters into their own hands at the border. He asked about law enforcement's plans to prevent this group from interfering. Mr. Alvarez assured Council that the resources available to law enforcement are all-encompassing, meaning that law enforcement is prepared to handle the caravan at the border as well as any protestors, demonstrators, activists, and members of groups like the "militia men."

Chief Chavez informed Council that he previously worked in Arizona, where "militia men" was also an issue. Law enforcement strategy is to reach out to that group and articulate the expectations and consequences. If any groups or individuals engage in what CBP perceives as false arrests, then they will be turned over to the US Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Cm. Vielma asked if the Mexican government is allowed to stop individuals in the group and ask for identification to inform the United States of any criminal recidivists attempting to reenter the country. Chief Chavez confirmed that government officials in Mexico are vetting the group members to the best of their ability and investigating any criminal activities associated with the members.

Mr. Alvarez confirmed that the processing of a migrant is the same for everybody with no special exception to women and children. Family units will be processed under the current protocol. Cm. Vielma recalled a comment made by President Trump that law enforcement should engage with individuals throwing rocks as if they were shooting firearms and asked if that is indeed the directive among law enforcement. Mr. Alvarez clarified that CBP will interact with the group; the Department of Defense is only in a supportive role in terms of logistics. When dealing with group members, CBP will be suited as a preventive measure in case of any hostility or violence. If violence occurs, CBP will act defensively the same way that they currently do, to preserve life and order. Chief Chavez clarified that there has been no change to the CBP's use of force policy in preparation of the pending group's arrival.

Cm. Balli voiced his understanding that CBP will process as many individuals as possible but may have to issue orders to appear, meaning that some individuals will be released into the community and told to appear before a judge at a particular time. He asked for an estimate of CBP's capacity to process the group and at what point officials would start releasing families or individuals into the community.

Mr. Alvarez noted that he is unable to give an estimate of the throughput for processing. Moving individuals or family units is the decision and responsibility of ICRO, who has bed space for 2,000 individuals.

Mr. De Leon reported that in 2014, there was a mass migration to the border which included mostly women and children. Officials noticed at the time that there was a large outpouring of support from charitable organizations with food and social services. Non-profit agencies rallied for a humanitarian effort. Now, City officials are researching ways to facilitate those efforts in an orderly way and in a proper venue. Officials are talking to bus tickets and requesting them to be prepared for large groups hoping to travel.

Steve Landin, Laredo Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator, cautioned Council that once the migrants are released into the community, there will need to be a coordinated effort from different areas of the community to assist them. As Mr. De Leon said, this happened once before in 2014, and the private sector truly stepped in to provide assistance. City officials discussed setting up a potential secondary facility for longer term medical care and possibly offering housing specifically for the migrants. The City's current emergency housing resources are schools and other shelters that have to continue to function in the community. He recommended a portable treatment center and portable housing over a large area. Once the migrants are released into the community, staying in the housing facility is voluntary; they cannot be detained unless they are detained by the federal government for some reason.

Michael Smith, United Methodist Church pastor, reported that members of the church are in the caravan and sending updates to him daily. Holding Institute is part of a nine shelter team along the US border working with the United Nations High Commission of Refugees. He noted that the organization's first priority is to serve people on the Mexico side of the border. The municipality of Nuevo Laredo has designated a space to house several thousand people if needed. Their concern is that people will not want to stay. UMC's commitment is to send food

once the migrants secure a place to stay for the interim. The church has limited space to house anyone, but that will not stop them from trying to help. He agreed that most migrants' intentions are to leave Laredo as quickly as possible, but changes often occur last-minute and they need help in securing housing, medical care, and food. The majority of the church's support in 2014 came from private individuals; UMC was promised support from the federal government but never received it.

Cm. Balli asked how many individuals who receive notices to appear find themselves stuck in Laredo as opposed to being able to move on. Mr. Smith estimated about half and recalled that the majority of the last migrant group had enough money to travel. Those that stayed in Nuevo Laredo has assimilated into the community. He emphasized that transportation is the main source of need for migrants. He reminded Council that while this caravan is a new one, the community sees people every week who are coming to legal clinics asking for advice and assistance. He encouraged Council to prepare to make these kinds of preparations as a "norm" in Laredo's community.

Cm. Balli made a motion to authorize the City Manager to fund bus tickets for any caravan migrant who is in need of the assistance. Mr. De Leon voiced concern over that motion because the City does not have the budget for this expense. Staff would need to bring the amounts to Council for approval, and the situation could get out of hand easily. Cm. Balli clarified that the funding of bus tickets up to \$10,000 would be the last resort utilized if all other resources are exhausted. The alternative to not buying the bus tickets would be the strain on the City's other resources.

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, applauded the non-profit organizations that participated in the last event, as they provided much-needed resources and services to migrants in need. He recalled that the major issue was that many of the bus lines did not have the capacity to transport them all; people were having to wait several days as there were no bus tickets to purchase. Cm. Altgelt suggested that it may be more cost-effective to charter a bus to a family facility or processing facility rather than purchasing individual bus tickets.

Cm. Torres noted that by making these preparations, Laredo may be sending mixed signals to migrants that the City is welcoming them and promising to take care of them over the other border cities. He voiced his concern with sending that type of message. It appears that Holding Institute is prepared to handle any potential migrants that travel through Laredo and will notify the City if they need assistance. He reminded Council that the City tried to provide free bus passes for its own youth and was unable to do so but are now trying to spend money on migrants who do not intend to stay in the community. Providing free fare to San Antonio might also put Laredo at odds with San Antonio by passing the buck to them. Mayor Saenz agreed with Cm. Torres's sentiments, adding that the City can always hold an emergency meeting if the situation becomes dire and more concrete.

Cm. Altgelt agreed with Cm. Torres's statement that while Laredo is a caring community, Council's obligations are to its City's wellbeing and the wellbeing of its residents. If there is a humanitarian crisis down the road, the City will respond to it, but the City is not laying out a welcome mat in this current situation.

Mr. Smith reiterated that there has not been any assistance from the City in the past for UMC's response to migrant caravans, and he is not currently asking for any. He noted that he is only present to provide information.

Motion to authorize management to fund up to \$10,000 for bus tickets for caravan migrants who are in need of assistance.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt, rescinded after discussion.

Motion dies for lack of a second.

3. Discussion with possible action to rescind the Request for Qualification (RFQ) to LNV and save the money and to have the City design build a protected bike lane from the Wiengarten property on Del Mar and I35, under 35 and south along Santa Maria to Chicago Street and any matters incident thereto. Project to be paid from District VII CBDG and Priority Funds. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Nelly Vielma)

Robert Eads, Traffic Director, reported that staff has been working with LNV, who were selected on August 18, 2018 to design this part of the roadway. The work has been a little tedious with many players involved, and he noted that the City would like to continue working with LNV if possible as there is value to their services. The City is about to lose its only Traffic Engineer in its employment, which will put the City in need of engineering assistance. He relayed that LNV has expressed willingness to move forward, as well.

Cm. Altgelt stated that the project becomes very technical from the Wiengarten to Chicago going south towards the river. In that area, the City needs some technical expertise. There is still not a deal finalized with LNV, and Cm. voiced his concern that the money spent on design could very well be captured and spent on the lane of infrastructure between Del Mar and I-35 and Chicago and Santa Maria.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, informed Council that staff can change the scope of the design to Cm. Altgelt's specifications.

Cm. Balli stated that Cm. Altgelt's idea does not affect what needs to be done on the District VIII side, and he agreed that LNV has performed great work to-date. He noted that when looking on the long-term needs of the City, there will need to be a company like LNV to retrofit and create new bike lanes throughout the City. He recognized the benefit of continuing to work with LNV but confirmed that he would support Cm. Altgelt's wishes since the bulk of the work is in District VII.

Cm. Altgelt stated that, given the feedback from Council and staff, he would agree to leave the arrangement as it is but would like to see staff finalize an agreement with LNV within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Eads confirmed that this discussion has given staff the direction needed to continue work.

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, added that his staff has also been in discussions with LNV. He wanted to ensure that the routes were confirmed definitely to avoid any delays later in the project.

No action taken.

G. Request by Council Member Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action to adopt an Equality Anti-Discrimination Ordinance in the City of Laredo and any matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

Cm. Balli noted that the City has anti-discrimination language across some of its employment ordinances, but there is not a comprehensive anti-discrimination ordinance covering housing, public accommodations, and City contractors, among other areas. There are federal protections for certain groups against discrimination based on race, gender/sex, and nationality. However, other groups are not equally protected. He voiced his desire to display Laredo as a welcoming community where everybody's voice counts in equal measure. He noted that he researched the Cities of Austin and San Antonio for reference, and the City of Austin has a very comprehensive anti-discrimination ordinance that protects individuals based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, and HIV-positive or AIDS status. This applies to housing, employment, public accommodations, and serving as City contractors. Cm. Balli noted that if a contractor works with the City, then he or she should provide the same protections that the City requires since there is taxpayer money involved. He made a motion directing staff to prepare a similar ordinance for Council adoption.

Cm. Altgelt and Mayor Saenz voiced their support of Cm. Balli's motion and ordinance recommendation.

Cm. Vielma noted that the City of Austin applies this ordinance to private employment as well as City employees and contractors. She asked if Cm. Balli's intention is to apply this ordinance to the private sector as well.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, noted that there are currently two lawsuits filed against the City of Austin because of the anti-discrimination ordinance being applied to the private industry. The City of Austin is confident that its ordinance will be upheld; Mrs. Hale reminded Council that it is a policy decision for Council to make whether to apply the ordinance to the private sector or City employees and contractors only.

Jorge Tovar, Jordan River Church pastor, noted that faith-based organizations should not be forced to endorse alternative lifestyles to which they may disagree. As Americans, he noted that people should not be forced to accept or participate in things that go against their own, deeply-held religious beliefs. He noted that the Supreme Court recently found that government agencies show bias against institutions of faith. He voiced his opinion that this law is bad for Laredo and will cost taxpayers a lot of money to defend the City in lawsuits.

Mayor Saenz asked the City Attorney to bring the language before Council for

review to ensure that the City does not discriminate against any group.

Cm. Balli clarified that his intention is largely for the ordinance to apply to City employees and contractors; the only apparent area in which it would apply to the private sector is in public accommodations and housing.

Mrs. Hale informed Council that Austin, San Antonio, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Plano all have anti-discrimination ordinances that deal with private employment; those ordinances are broadly applied.

Cm. Altgelt noted that the intention of this ordinance is to, in instances where there is inequality and injustice, Council can use the ordinance to rectify the injustice. Council's intent is not to invade the sacred province of an individual's or business's religious beliefs. Cm. Torres voiced his agreement with this explanation, adding that Council wishes to ensure that any public funding that is utilized by contractors for City business are applied in a way that practices equality.

Sister Rosemary Welsh noted that Laredo has the reputation of wanting to hear every voice and perspective. This ordinance would be the codification of a practice that the community is already performing. She added that Casa De Misericordia is prepared to close its education center and use the space for housing of migrants if needed.

Selena Cruz expressed her gratitude for Council facilitating this discussion.

Anselmo Castro reiterated that many faith-based organizations provide assistance to anyone that needs the help, regardless of any of the classifications against which a person can be discriminated.

Jose San Luis Cortez thanked Council for the assistance extended to the migrants that may pass through Laredo.

Mayor Saenz noted that he does not want the LGBTQ community to feel threatened by any of the discussion taking place regarding this issue. He reiterated that Laredo is a caring, inclusive community and has space for everyone and every group that composes this city. Everyone needs the freedom to express themselves.

Motion to direct staff to prepare an ordinance for adoption similar to the anti-discrimination ordinance in effect with the City of Austin.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez was not present.

XV. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. San Miguel were not present.