

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2018-R-20
CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS 1110
HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
December 3, 2018
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
Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV
Norma "Nelly" Vielma	District VII
Charlie San Miguel	District VI
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. Balli joined at 5:32 p.m.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of November 19, 2018

Motion to approve the November 19, 2018, minutes.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Balli was not present.

Citizen comments

Cynthia Vazquez voiced her concern about the runoff election polling place changing locations from the Santo Niño school park to another park and equated the action with voter suppression. She added that Cigarroa High School has early voting on Saturday, but there is no school held on Saturday; as a mother, she voiced her reluctance to vote on a Saturday. However, other schools have the ability to vote on Thursday and Friday. She asked why South Laredo is facing discrimination. She also asked if a conflict of interest exists for Cm. Torres's campaign manager as she leads a "Rock the Vote" campaign. Ms. Vazquez also noted that the new polling place is not handicap-accessible.

Raquel Barrera, resident of Patio Lane, reported an issue in her neighborhood. In October 2018, she and neighbors came before Council and spoke against the venue Callo Hacha's zone change permit because they play very loud music that affects the neighbors. In October, Council granted the applicant permission to extend their hours with the understanding that music would only be played indoors. Ms. Barrera reported that the owner or manager at Callo Hacha is not complying with that requirement. She asked for Council's help in enforcing the agreement and requirements. The surrounding residents cannot sleep anymore because of the loud music and need resolution of the problem.

Rosa Martinez, resident of Patio Lane, echoed the same sentiments as Ms. Barrera regarding the noise nuisance of Callo Hacha. She noted that the noise level is very bothersome and agreed that the establishment still provides music outdoors which violates the requirements of their permit. She asked Council for help in resolving the issue. Cm. Vielma asked the City Manager to help investigate the establishment for any Conditional Use Permit violations. Cm. Balli also asked the Laredo Police Department respond to any noise complaint calls regarding the establishment.

Maria Violeta Arispe also reported noise complaints regarding Callo Hacha and noted that she is also affected by the loud music.

Miguel Conchas of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce noted that the former Mercy Hospital building is going to go into receivership in the next couple of weeks. He reported that he was invited to a meeting with the building's owners and an investor. He noted that the gentleman seemed highly interested in investing in the building and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Carranco family for the development of the building. He asked Council to delay legal action in order to see if there is a serious development deal comes to pass.

Olivia Varela of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation informed Council that she is working on a project for the Old Mercy Hospital building; the project has

mixed-use commercial development potential. There is a proposal for a free-trade plaza, office space, restaurants, and a potential residential component. There will also be a park on manicured grounds, turning the abandoned eyesore in a modern, urbanized zone. Ms. Varela noted that Laredo EDC has been in communication for with an investor from China over the past six to nine months working on Laredo Lomas Properties, Ltd., on this project with the potential to create a positive economic impact not only in District III but throughout the City. She voiced her support of economic development by the private sector as Las Lomas moves towards formalizing its contract agreement. She asked the City to support the project and give it a chance to come to fruition.

Cm. Torres asked the City Manager to look into this project as described by Mrs. Varela and the Chamber of Commerce as an option before finalizing any legal remedies at play. Horacio De Leon, City Manager, confirmed that staff has been in communication with the entities referenced. As this item is not on the Council agenda, he declined from providing further explanation but confirmed that staff will follow up with the parties and then Council.

Ricardo Quijano noted that Council is not supposed to engage citizens during the public comment section, but Council has followed up with staff or asked questions of staff in relation to comments made by businesses or organizations. He asked what has happened to the Lazy River project, as Laredoans have not been informed on the status of the project recently. He also asked why a Council Member has been allowed to construct a pool at his residence without a permit. He spoke with the Building Director about the pool permit issue and was told that the Department needs to catch an individual in the act when constructing a pool. Mr. Quijano stated that he brought up this question before and was sent a certified letter from the City Attorney's Office confirming that the pool was renovated and instructing him to cease and desist. He voiced his opinion that this response was an attempt to suppress the public from speaking out against the wrongdoing of elected officials. He noted the hypocrisy of an elected official's personal pool being completed quickly while the taxpayers are still paying for a lazy river project that has yet to be completed after two years.

David Cardwell voiced his concern over how Council spends his tax money. He noted that the Sisters of Mercy water park, also known as the Lazy River project, was awarded to Sunset Pools for \$1.3 million dollars over 180 calendar days. However, it is now almost three years after the fact, and the project is still not complete. He assumed with all of the recent ribbon cuttings and events, there would have been a ribbon cutting event at the Lazy River. He asked Council to confirm when the project will be completed and whether it will meet all safety requirements, what is now delaying the project's completion, whether it will be open in time for spring break 2019, and whether any fees or sanctions are being applied to the contractor for not having completed the project on time. He asked Council to put an item on the next agenda to bring a staff report on the project and recommendations to bring the project to completion.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

Recognizing all participants and agencies that provided services at no cost during the 3rd Annual Stand Down for Homeless Veterans event held on November 15, 2018 at Jarvis Plaza. Three Hundred and Six (306) attendees participated at the event including Four (4) Homeless Veterans, Sixteen (16) Veterans, and Sixty (60) Homeless Individual.

ORGANIZATIONS:

1	New Vision Community Church	11	South Texas ADRC	21	Border Region
2	Big Jag's Barber Shop	12	Health and Human Services Commission	22	The Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans, Methadone HHS Department
3	Fire Fighters Union	13	Laredo Housing Authority	23	Workforce Solutions of South Texas
4	The Salvation Army	14	Holding Institute	24	Doctors Hospital
5	Veteran Affairs Office	15	Mercy Ministries	25	Bethany House
6	Veterans Treatment Program	16	Gateway Community Health Center	26	TAMIU Si Texas
7	Texas Veterans Commission	17	UT Health Dental	27	TAMIU School of Nursing
8	Texas Veterans Leadership Program	18	Gracias Texas Program (UT Health SA)	28	Webb County Community Action Agency
9	Laredo Veterans Center	19	Driscoll Health Plan	29	Webb County Indigent
10	Family Endeavors	20	PILLAR	30	Webb County Veterans Service Office

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, recognized all City and community staff members who participated in the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans event. He reminded Council that the event approaches homeless veterans in the community to provide essential services as quickly as possible. While the focus is homeless veterans, the event services any individual that arrives and asks for help. Services were centered around housing, employment, legal services, health, and veteran assistance. Food was provided by the Salvation Army. Mr. Garcia presented photographs of the event, noting that the City of Laredo Health Department provided flu vaccinations. There was a mobile shower unit, and a local barber provided free haircuts. The Downtown location has been ideal for the event, and over 30 entities, not including City Departments, participated and offered assistance throughout the day.

Cm. Gonzalez thanked all organizations and Department for helping serve the

homeless veterans in the area. Mayor Saenz also expressed his gratitude for the hard work done by the organizations and Departments in showing care for the members of the community. He presented each organization a certificate of recognition.

VII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

None

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

Public Hearing and consideration of a motion to approve the following improvement to an existing historic building at Lots 8, 9 & 10, Block 70, Western Division, located at 1219 Matamoros St., Locally Designated Historic Landmark, including: 1) a proposed new "El Abrazo" Mural, on the south wall of the Sames Moore Building (AKA Rialto Hotel) as further described in attached Exhibit "A". HDLB-02-2019 District VIII

Historic District/Landmark Board Recommendation: The HDL Board tabled this item at their regular HDLB meeting of November 8, 2018, and were unable to reach consensus at the special meeting of November 20, 2018. Therefore the applicant has since exercised the right to appeal this decision directly to City Council. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the proposed improvement ("El Abrazo" Mural).

Sandra Gonzalez, artist and art teacher, explained her mural proposal was approved in May 2018 by Council. However, the Historic District/Landmark Board could not reach an agreement in their special meeting. She clarified that her mural would not be painted on the original brick wall of the Rialto Hotel. It will be created on the newer wall that was added in the late 1990s. The HDLB were concerned about her painting technique, and she wanted to explain it for Council's understanding. Ms. Gonzalez noted that the technique she intends to use was developed by the City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program in the 1980s. The technique uses "parachute cloth" made of polytab non-woven material. Panels will be installed when the mural is complete, and the technique has proven to withstand the elements over a period of 20-25 years. The material can take on the surface on which it is being applied. She added that the technique and material allows for the whole community to participate in the mural's creation.

Ms. Gonzalez reported that in Philadelphia, if the building or neighborhood is

designated as historic, artists are only allowed to paint on stucco walls. It is prohibited to paint on historic brick, even if the brick has already been painted. She assured Council that her technique will not damage the historical building, can be removed via power-sanding or repainting if the City chooses in the future, and will bring a cohesiveness to the community as all community members will be able to help paint the mural based on her drawing. She displayed examples of previous murals that she has painted for various commissions and cities.

Michelle Marie Romani, Historic District/Landmark Board Vice-Chair, reported that three board members supported the project at the board meeting. There are no real ramifications to the historical character of the building. However, some board members did not fully understand that the mural project was already in place with an ordinance and that there were no architectural issues with the building. She spoke in favor of the mural project.

Motion to close public hearing and approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2018-2019 Hotel Motel Occupancy Tax Fund budget by appropriating \$513,000.00 from fund balance. The funds from Hotel Motel Occupancy Tax fund balance will be draw down to cover renovation expenses and other costs associated with the Convention and Visitors Bureau Office relocation to El Portal.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to submit a continuation grant application in the estimated amount of \$137,800.00 to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) through the South Texas Development Council (STDC) for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Project (HOPWA) to assist with housing and utilities for the term of February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents resulting from the award of this grant.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

4. Motion to open public hearing #4.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately approximately 5 acres out of Porcion 23, Leonardo Sanchez Survey, Abstract 283, located south of Shiloh Dr. and east of Kirby Dr., as further described by Metes & Bounds on Exhibit A, located south of Shiloh Dr. and east of Kirby Dr., from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to AG (Agricultural District).

Staff **supports** the application and Planning & Zoning Commission recommends **approval** of the Zone Change. ZC-05-2019 District VI

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Vielma was not present.

5. Motion to open public hearing #5.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 11, Block 1, Sierra Vista Unit IV-A, located at 4619 U.S. Highway 83, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff **does not support** the application and Planning & Zoning Commission recommended **approval** of the Zone Change. ZC-85-2018 District I

An individual, who did not state his name, noted that this property is along US Highway 83, where there are gas stations. He noted that the applicant's property is nowhere near as deep as Walmart's property.

Cm. Gonzalez reported that he has driven past the area and has seen commercial development in the area.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

6. Accepting the donation from Riverhills Investment LLC, of a 18.785 acre tract of land, more or less, situated in Porcion 35, Abstract 546, Jose M. Diaz, Original Grantee and Survey 2149, Abstract 594, R.H. Raines, Original Grantee, within the City Limits of the Laredo and Webb County, Texas, out and part of the New Santa Fe, LTD. (71.986 Acre) Tract I, recorded in Volume 4394, Pages 566-572 of the Webb County deed records in exchange for a Two Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$200,000.00) credit toward future development fees applicable exclusively to the balance of the 71.989 acre tract referred to in plat records as the Riverhill South Subdivision, the City's agreement to take water run off from the balance of the 71.989 acre tract, and an agreement that the value of the 18.785 acres in excess of Two

Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) shall be considered a donation to the City. This 18.785 acre tract being more particularly described by metes and bounds provided in Exhibit A and depicted in Exhibit B.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas establishing a mandatory orientation and training program for newly elected city officials designed to provide key information pertaining to the exercise of their legal and ethical responsibilities as well as to provide an overview of the key aspects involved in municipal government; providing for a severability clause; and establishing an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Authorizing the City Manager to renew a lease agreement by and between Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (Lessor) and the City of Laredo Department of Community Development, (Lessee). This is for the leased building space at the Laredo Transit Center, located at 1301 Farragut Street, of 6,628 square feet, second and third floors (East). The term will be for two (2) years, with a one (1) year renewal option, commencing on December 1, 2018. The monthly sum is \$4,586.58 (\$.6920 per square foot). The prorated shared cost of 20% of the electric and water bills, remain the same, except, amending number fourteen (#14) of the Lease Agreement, to include FTA regulations.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. Authorizing the City Manager to renew a lease agreement by and between Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (Lessor) and The City of Laredo Police Department (Lessee) for the lease of 2,681.61 square feet, located in the second (2nd) floor, west wing of the Laredo Transit Center, 1301 Farragut St. The rate per square foot is \$.6920, for a total monthly sum of \$1,855.67, commencing on December 1, 2018. The term will be for two (2) years, with a one (1) year renewal option. The prorated share cost of 25% of the electric bill, 25% of the water bill and the rental fee of \$30.00 per month for Parking will remain the same. In addition, number fourteen (#14) of the Lease Agreement is amended to include FTA regulations.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

X. FIRST AND FINAL READINGS

10. 2018-O-176 Ordinance authorizing the issuance, sale and delivery of approximately \$12,975,000.00 of "City Of Laredo, Texas Public Property Finance Contractual Obligations, Series 2018" for the purchase of personal property; securing the payment thereof by authorizing the levy of an annual ad valorem tax; approving and authorizing the execution of all instruments and

procedures related thereto including a paying agent/registrar agreement and a purchase contract; approving the form of an official statement; authorizing amendment to the city's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and declaring an effective date.

Noe Hinojosa of Estrada-Hinojosa reported that following Council's authorization to borrow \$12.3 million in Certificates of Obligation (CO's) and \$12.8 million in Public Property Finance Contractual Obligations (PPFCO's), the firm decided on an auction sale of the bonds. The firm received nine bids on the CO's and eight bids on the PPFCO's. The winning rate of the CO's was 3.569006% from Janney Montgomery Scott. The winning rate of the PPFCO's was 2.357172% from Citigroup Global Markets. Mr. Hinojosa asked that Council approve the recommendation of awarding the winning bidders with the sale of the bonds.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, explained to Council that these rates are better than what was originally forecasted, which will result in a savings than what was originally presented to Council.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-176.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres was not present.

11. 2018-O-177 Ordinance authorizing the issuance, sale and delivery of approximately \$12,695,000.00 of "City Of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax And Revenue Certificates Of Obligation, Series 2018" for paying all or a portion of the city's contractual obligations incurred for the purpose of (1) planning, constructing, improving and repairing city streets and sidewalks, together with right-of-ways acquisition, and drainage, traffic and street signalization, street lighting, landscaping, railroad crossing and lighting improvements; (2) planning, acquiring and installing citywide led street lights; (3) acquiring, constructing and improving municipal parks and recreational facilities; (4) acquiring municipal equipment and municipal vehicles for various city departments, to wit: city administration, health and welfare department, engineering department, parks and leisure department, public safety departments, public works department, transit department; municipal court department; traffic department; and animal care services department; and (5) paying legal, fiscal, and

engineering fees in connection with such projects; securing the payment thereof by authorizing the levy of an annual ad valorem tax; approving and authorizing the execution of all instruments and procedures related thereto including a paying agent/registrar agreement; approving the form of an official statement; authorizing amendment to the city's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and declaring an effective date.

Noe Hinojosa of Estrada-Hinojosa reported that following Council's authorization to borrow \$12.3 million in Certificates of Obligation (CO's) and \$12.8 million in Public Property Finance Contractual Obligations (PPFCO's), the firm decided on an auction sale of the bonds. The firm received nine bids on the CO's and eight bids on the PPFCO's. The winning rate of the CO's was 3.569006% from Janney Montgomery Scott. The winning rate of the PPFCO's was 2.357172% from Citigroup Global Markets. Mr. Hinojosa asked that Council approve the recommendation of awarding the winning bidders with the sale of the bonds.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, explained to Council that these rates are better than what was originally forecasted, which will result in a savings than what was originally presented to Council.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-177.

Moved: Cm. Balli
Second: Cm. Gonzalez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres was not present.

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2018-O-178, 2018-O-179, 2018-O-180, 2018-O-181, 2018-O-182, 2018-O-183, and 2018-O-184.

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

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

12. 2018-O-178 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 5.66 acres, as further described by Metes and Bounds Exhibit A, located at East of Piedmont St. from RSM (Residential Suburban Multi-Family District) to R-1

(Single Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-84-2018 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-178.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

13. 2018-O-179 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 7 and 8, Block 1764, Eastern Division, located at 2918 and 2920 Pine St., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-87-2018 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-179.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

14. 2018-O-180 amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a Restaurant Serving Alcohol on Lots 7, 8 and 9, Block 71, Eastern Division, located at 2020 Corpus Christi St.; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-89-2018 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-180.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

15. 2018-O-181 Amending the FY 2018-2019 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding three (3) Nutrition Aide, R23 positions for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program to continue to provide nutrition education and food supplemental services to women and children with nutrition and health risks and improve customer services and program performance. Funding is available through the Health Department Budget through grant funds from Health and Human Services

Commission (HHSC).

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-181.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

16. 2018-O-182 Authorizing the City Manager to execute supplemental lease agreement no. 5 to Lease GS-07B-15259 approved by Ordinance 2002-O-325 dated December 16, 2002 with General Services Administration for approximately 1,533 square feet constituting office space occupied by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) located at 5210 Bob Bullock Loop at the Laredo International Airport. Said supplemental lease agreement extends the lease term (2) years until November 2020. The monthly rent amount is \$5,171.87 and shall be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. All other terms and conditions of the lease agreement remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-182.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

17. 2018-O-183 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Article II, Chapter 28, Sign Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances by amending Section 28-23(98) to provide for subdivision signs within city right-of-way under certain conditions; providing for time place, and manner regulations for such subdivision signs; providing a cumulative and repealer clause; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-183.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

18. 2018-O-184 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant and amend the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget with a supplemental award in the amount of \$109,214.00 to fund the Laredo Police Department HIDTA Task Force. This grant is 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 fringe benefits, overtime, equipment and operational expenses from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018 for the LPD HIDTA Task Force.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-184.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

XII (a) RESOLUTIONS

19. 2018-R-157 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Oscar & Adriana G. Pena for a proposed project located at 301 Gustavus St, Lot 1; Block 282; 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 \$109,829.05, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$696.32 and estimated total fee waivers of \$1,540.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-157.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

20. 2018-R-165 Authorizing the City Manager to execute the renewal of a Clinical Affiliation Agreement between the City of Laredo Fire Department and Laredo Regional Medical Center LP DBA Doctors Hospital of Laredo. Laredo Fire Department provides

its Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic students with clinical training available at Doctors Hospital of Laredo.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-165.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

21. 2018-R-168 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Gerardo Ramirez and Teresita Isella Ramirez for a proposed project located at 1812 Benavides, west 1/2 of lot 6; block 276; western 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 \$93,500.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$287.71 and estimated total fee waivers of \$2,021.61. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-165.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

XII (b) MOTIONS

22. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an application with the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the Voluntary Clean Up Program as a co-applicant with 2310 Saunders, LLC and Crossett Development I, LLC for the property located at 2310 E. Saunders, the current location for HEB Saunders on the North East corner of Saunders and Bartlett as is required by the Texas Commission For Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Jim Morris, environmental attorney representing 2310 Saunders, LLC, reported that the City-owned property along Saunders Street where the HEB is located is in a long-term lease with Crosset Development. Mr. Morris's client has a contract to acquire that lease and take on the obligations of managing the property as a tenant of the City. He reported that due diligence was done to assess the property and surrounding properties for any

environmental issue or concern. The investigation found low levels of contaminants in the ground that appeared to come from off-site. Mr. Morris requested that the current tenant and the tenant-to-be and the City join in clean-up efforts compliant with TCEQ requirements. The TCEQ Voluntary Clean Up Program allows the parties to restrict the groundwater so that nobody will drink it. This program also came about because properties went into decline or were abandoned because nobody would buy them due to contamination and fear of liability. By going through the process, addressing the groundwater and contamination, and getting a certificate of completion of the program will allow a mechanism for “closing” the transaction with the remediation in place and protecting the entities from enforcement or liability. Mr. Morris requested that Council support this motion and direct the City Manager to join as a co-applicant for the program at this property.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute any documents as they pertain to this item and the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality for the Voluntary Clean Up Program for the property located at 2310 E. Saunders.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Amending the City of Laredo's Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program Policy and Procedures Manual pertaining to the Housing Rehabilitation Loan (HRL) and Livability Grant (LG) Programs.

Changes to the scope of the following two programs:

Housing Rehabilitation Loan (HRL) Program

- An increase to the loan amount from \$35,000 to \$50,000.
- Eliminating the requirement for the home to have the cost of repair not to exceed 40% of the estimated market value of the unit after the repairs.

Livability Grant (LG) Program

- An increase to the grant amount from \$8,000 to \$15,000. Changing the
- general eligibility criteria from no previous CDBG grants within the last year to three years.

In addition, update all necessary exhibits and reference documentation to ensure program compliance.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

24. Authorizing the award of 2017 HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds for Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) set-aside funds in the amount of \$127,090.00 to Habitat for Humanity of Laredo, Inc. The funding will be to assist in part with the construction of two (2) homes and include the purchase of one (1) lot located in Riverhills Subdivision; and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents in support of the same.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

25. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder Davila Construction, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$405,000.00 for the Community Development Department Fernando A. Salinas Elderly Rental Housing Project Located at 1806 Juarez Avenue with a construction contract time of one hundred fifty (150) 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 July 2019. Funding is available in the Home Investment Partnership Grant Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

26. Consideration for approval to ratify change order No. 1 an increase of \$27,019.40 to the construction contract with ALC Construction Co., Inc, Laredo, Texas for the Sidewalk Improvements Phase II Alma Pierce Elementary School (17 Blocks – District IV). This change order is for additional concrete sidewalk and retaining walls. Current construction contract amount with this change order is \$186,519.40. Completion date for the project is scheduled for December 2018. Funding is available in the District IV Priority Funds - 2018 CO Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

27. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder LMC Corporation, San Antonio, Texas, based on a re-negotiated value engineered proposal in the amount of \$342,581.20 for the Convention Visitors Bureau Offices at El Portal located at 1600 Water Street with a construction contract time of one hundred eighty (180) 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 August 2019. Funding is available in the Maintenance – Building and Other Improvements and Furnishing.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

28. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder Romo Contractor, LLC., Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$928,910.00 for the El Eden Park Improvements Project (Splash Park) with a construction contract time of one hundred eighty (180) 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 July 2019. Funding is available in the 2017 CDBG Grant and District I Priority Funding from 2017 CO Bond, the 2018 CO Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

29. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder AOC Calton, Ltd., dba Summit Building and Design, Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$2,133,000.00 for the City of Laredo Downtown Elderly Rental Apartments Located at 820 Convent Avenue with a construction contract time of three hundred (300) 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 March 2020. Funding is available in the 2016 and 2018 CDBG Grant/2018 Home Grant.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, explained that this location is across the street from City Hall, and the apartment complex will consist of 15 units.

Arturo Garcia, Community Development Director, reported that bids were received within the City's budgeted amount of \$2.1 million. The funding is available through HUD funds. The two floors total 10,000 square feet, and staff was able to maximize the number of units to 15 rather than the initially projected 10 units. He added that all units will be ADA-compliant, and there is a \$13,000 allowance for a mural. The elevators of the building will be able to accommodate first responders and stretchers if needed.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

30. Consideration to authorize the purchase of protective structural fire fighting suits for the Fire Department from DACO Fire Equipment, Lubbock, Tx., through the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing in the total amount of \$216,503.28. Funding is available in the Fire Department FY 18-19 operational budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

31. Authorizing the City Manager to accept a contract amendment with sole source provider Netsmart Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$222,586.60 to be paid over a three (3) year period to upgrade our current electronic medical record and health information system software to myInsight, which will improve clinic, laboratory and patient care services and operations and improve our Health Electronic Information Systems in accordance with State and Federal guidelines. Through this new upgrade we will improve quality patient care, the continuum of care and as well link our system to a community health information sharing system among providers and patients. Subject to future appropriations funding is available through the Health Department budget support service line items under grant divisions.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

32. Consideration to extend contract number FY 14-064 to United American for the Retiree Medicare Supplement & RX Plan. The term of this contract is for three (3) years with two (2) additional one (1) year extension periods. This is the last extension period allowed by the contract and will be effective January 1, 2019. There is a 3.35% rate increase. Funding is available in the Health & Benefits Fund (Medical Contribution Retirees account).

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

33. Consideration to award annual supply contract FY19-011 to the low bidder CMC Commercial Materials, Laredo, Texas for the purchase and repair of handheld landscaping equipment in an amount up to \$100,000.00 for all City departments. This contract establishes pricing and discount percentage for those handheld landscaping equipment and repair services most commonly utilized by City departments. This contract has four extension periods and can be renewed upon mutual agreement of both parties. All items will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the user department budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

34. Consideration to amend contract FY17-067 by 25% for the purchase of Ford OEM parts with Sames Motor Company, Laredo, Texas in an additional amount up to \$25,000.00 due to increase in usage. The term of this contract shall expire on 6/18/19; new contract total amount will be \$125,000.00. All parts will be purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

35. Consideration to authorize the purchase of product and services to sole source provider, SirsiDynix from Provo, UT., for an approximate annual amount of \$60,000.00. SirsiDynix is the City of Laredo Public Library integrated library system called Horizon which is the database for the library catalog which allows patrons to find items in the libraries. The other product under Horizon is Enterprise, and online public access catalog which provides an intuitive user interface while linking eBook Collection to the same catalog. The term of this service is for five (5) years, subject to future appropriations of funds. Funding is available on the Public Library General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

36. Consideration to award a two (2) year contract FY19-016 to Laredo Spring Water, Laredo, Texas in the estimated annual amount of \$30,000.00 for rental of water dispensers and purchase of water for various departments, on an as needed basis. This is a two (2) year contract and can be extended for two (2) additional one year contract with the same specifications and pricing, upon mutual agreement of parties. Funding is available on the respective departmental accounts.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

37. Consideration to renew contract FY16-034 with Industrial Property Brokers, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$476,550.00 for the purchase and hauling of approximately 135,000 tons of earthen soils to the City's Solid Waste facility. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. This is the third of six extension periods. There was no price increase during the last extension period. All earthen soils will be purchased on an as needed basis. The Solid Waste Department will use these soils to cover the landfill cells on a weekly basis in accordance to TCEQ requirements. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Services Department Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

38. Consideration to renew annual supply contract number FY15-008 to Vulcan Construction Materials L.P., San Antonio, Texas in an amount up to \$298,050.00 for the purchase of crushed limestone rock asphalt, type I, grade AA. There will be an increase of 5% during this extension period due to an increase in production and transportation costs. The term of this contract shall be for a one (1) year period. This is the fourth of five extension periods. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department and construction project budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

39. Consideration to renew and amend contract FY18-033 by 25% for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts/service for the City's Case equipment with Nueces Power Equipment, Corpus Christi, Texas, in an additional amount up to \$18,750.00 due to an increase in usage; new contract total amount will be \$93,750.00. All parts and 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. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This is the first of two extension periods. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

40. Consideration to award contract FY19-012 to Western Towers, San Angelo, TX in the amount of \$135,567.00 for the purchase and installation of a self support tower. This tower / equipment is for a complete 220 ft. self support tower for the South Laredo Waste Water Treatment Plant. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

41. Consideration to renew annual contract FY17-011 with the following bidders:

1. Andy's Auto Air & Supplies, Inc. (DBA: Andy's Auto & Bus Air, Inc.), Laredo, Texas in an estimated amount up to \$60,000.00;and

2. Rotex Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in an estimated amount up to \$40,000.00;

for air conditioning system repairs for the medium and heavy duty trucks, and construction equipment for the Fleet Division. The term of the contract shall be for period of one (1) year. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This the second of four extension periods. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

42. Consideration to renew contract FY16-063 with Rochester Armored Car Co. Inc., Omaha, Nebraska, in an amount up to \$144,351.84 for providing bank courier service for city operations to various city departments. This is a two (2) year contract subject to continued appropriations in future fiscal years. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This is the first of three (2-year) extension periods. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

43. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) 2018 Ford Transit Trans 150 LR wagon vans in the total amount of \$52,823.50 from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas through the GoodBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program's

contract pricing. The purchase of these two van vehicles is to replace vehicles used by Bridge for operations that have already reached its useful life. Funding is available in the 2019 Bridge Systems Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

44. Consideration to renew annual supply contract number FY14-084 to the following vendors:

1. Brenntag Southwest, Houston, Texas
2. Chemrite, Inc., Buford, Georgia
3. Chemtrade Chemicals, Parsippany, New Jersey
4. Pencco, Inc., San Felipe, Texas
5. Polydyne, Inc., Riceboro, Georgia

for the purchase of water and wastewater treatment chemicals for the Utilities Department. The term of this contract shall be for a period of two (2) years beginning as of the date of its execution. Approximately \$2,000,000.00 is spent on an annual basis and contract is subject to future appropriations. This is the second of three extension periods. There will be no price increase during this extension period. All chemicals will be purchased on as needed basis. Funding is available in the Water and Wastewater Treatment Division's operating budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

45. Consideration to ratify and approve purchase of maintenance parts and services for the Sames Auto Arena Ice Rink from vendor CIMCO Refrigeration Inc., Mobile, AL in the amount of \$106,491.04. Cimco is the Original Equipment Manufacturer of captive parts and services for arena ice rink plant. Repair services performed included: the repair/rebuild of three (3) Cimco Mycom Ammonia Compressors, Refrigeration System Safety Testing and Ice Rink Start-Up Service; also included is a Yearly, Quarterly Maintenance & Inspection service agreement. Funding is available in the Sports and Community Venue Sales Tax Fund.

Motion to approve.

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

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

46. Consideration to authorize the purchase of a Posi Shell applicator to be used at the landfill. The vendor is LSC Environmental Products, LLC a sole source vendor. Posi Shell is a blend of clay binders, reinforcing fibers, and polymers that, when mixed with water or leachate, produces a spray-applied mortar that dries in a form of a thin durable stucco. Posi Shell is used as an alternative to soil cover requirements for litter, vectors, scavenging, fire and odors. The estimated amount is \$110,000.00. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund in previous year's bonds 2012CO, 2014PPFCO, and 2015CO.

Motion to approve.

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

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

47. 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: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

48. Discussion with possible action to consider a fifth request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer Alfredo Rodriguez.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

49. Discussion with possible action to consider a sixth request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer James B. Boyd.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

50. Discussion with possible action to consider a fourth request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer Jesus A. Garcia Perez.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

51. 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 Agapito Perez.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

52. Discussion with possible action to consider a third 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.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

53. Report on Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Drivers in Utilities and other City departments as requested by City Council with possible action; and any other matters incident thereto.

Martin Aleman, Executive Director of Finance & Technology, reported that staff reviewed the positions that require CDL licenses. Heavy Truck Drivers currently make a minimum pay of \$11.60-12.00, depending on their grade; Mr. Aleman recommended a new hire rate of \$13.50-14.00, respectively. Heavy Equipment Operators currently make a minimum pay of \$11.80-12.68, depending on their grade; Mr. Aleman recommended a new hire rate of \$13.75-14.50, respectively. For Route Specialists, who currently make \$12.20-13.50 depending on their grade, Mr. Aleman recommended a new hire rate of \$14.25-14.75, respectively. Adjusting current employees to the new rate would affect 76 employees and will attract and retain more individuals. He clarified that this recommendation affects all CDL drivers across all City departments.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

54. Report on the 2018 Tecolotes De Los Dos Laredos contract with 2L4L Baseball, LLC. which officially ended October 31, 2018 and the Border Fest event held on October 13, 2018.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, reported that as a result of the Tecolotes coming back to Laredo, the *New York Times* interviewed the Mayor and members of the team on its Sports front page. It was a significant promotion for the City.

Martin Aleman, Executive Director of Finance & Technology, reported that the Tecolotes played 32 games, of which four sold more than 3,000 tickets. Based on the agreement with the Tecolotes, the City collected \$9,864.96 in ticket revenue splitting. The City collected \$1,943.40 in concessions revenue splitting. Border Fest ticket sales generated \$20,878.18 to the City, alcohol sales generated \$16,334.70, and food trucks sales generated \$1,125.00. The total amount of money generated to the City was \$53,379.13 for Border Fest. The City collected \$65,187.49 overall as a result of the 2L4L Baseball LLC contract, which ended on October 31, 2018. This is the most money that the City has ever collected from a contract for a City-owned facility.

Mr. De Leon added that the City executed a contract for an event featuring

Entocable at a City facility for \$25,000 at no risk to the City. That payment is pending.

Cm. San Miguel voiced his gratitude to staff for their hard work as well as the Tecolotes.

55. Discussion with possible action related to the December 13, 2018 election day voting location in Precinct 129 and any other matters incident thereto.

Jose A. Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, reported that he added this agenda item in order to give clarification as to the change in voting location. He reminded Council that they received a summary of the events and reasoning for the location change. He reported that in August, one of the polling sites was found to be problematic. For the runoff election, Mr. Valdez wanted Council to discuss the matter. However, when the runoff election resolution was presented to Council, it denoted that particular site as "to be determined." The intent was to discuss the location and decide on an alternative. During the discussion, there was much debate about the canvassing and the runoff election date selection. Due to the lively discussion, the voting location was overlooked at the time. After the Council meeting concluded, Mr. Valdez was contacted by the Election Administrator as to the alternative location only to realize that one was not selected. The Election Administration needed to post a notice of the runoff election and needed a location. Therefore, Mr. Valdez used a previous location as decided by Council at the August 6, 2018 Council Meeting. He emphasized that there was no intention of voter suppression in the matter, and he wanted to bring the item back before Council as an act of good faith to allow Council to ratify the selection or change it. He clarified that it is very late to change the voting location, but there is an opportunity to do so if Council deems it necessary. He reported that he received an email from Cm. Vielma about using the San Vicente de Paul Church, but the Elections Administrator upon calling the church was denied access for a voting location. Having been rejected, the church was no longer considered as a polling place. The Elections Administration then approached another church, that gave permission and then rescinded that permission to use the church as a voting location. Finally, the Elections Administrator and the City Secretary looked at City-owned facilities; Dryden Park was the only one within that voting precinct. After checking the location, the Elections Administration determined that they could work with the location and it was chosen for a voting location. Mr. Valdez noted that the park is ADA compliant, but he reminded Council that the Elections Administrator offers curbside voting individuals who are not easily able to go into the building. He noted that the Elections Administration can put signs on the previous location informing voters dropping off their children for school that the voting location has changed to give them sufficient notice and provide them with contact numbers. The signage would begin Monday and stay up through Election Day.

Cynthia Vazquez asked if the City Secretary found it fair to change the voting location of a precinct. She voiced her opinion that since Cm. Rodriguez did

not win his district race outright and is going to a runoff election, the voting location was changed. The Dryden Park does not have any camera surveillance, which is another issue. She informed the City that it is creating a hardship for the elderly and discriminating against South Laredo people by confusing them as to their voting location.

Mr. Valdez reminded Council that there were some issues at the Santo Niño school with Laredo ISD during the November election, who voiced their concerns and informed his office that they did not want the location used for voting during the runoff. Mr. Valdez asked for these sentiments in writing and forwarded the letter to Council. He reiterated that he is not trying to suppress anybody and noted his confusion as to why cameras are an issue at the park.

Cm. Vielma noted her great concern because she grew up going to Santo Niño to vote and carry signs. She reported that she met with the City Attorney and reviewed the resolution and the language; nowhere did it reference any change of location in voting sites. She stated that the voting location was changed unbeknownst to Council or the public. She recalled a meeting of the Commissioner's Court in which the Elections Administrator, Mr. Tellez, was specifically told not to change the site. However, it was changed for the runoff election without notice. She added that changing the location away from the school is suppressing students from voting during the school day. If Laredo ISD chooses to say no to using Santo Niño as a voting site, even though 15 other schools in the district have no issue with it, then Cm. Vielma referenced a letter from the Bishop and Father Anthony of San Vicente de Paul church as the alternative voting site.

Cm. Balli noted that he had not seen the letter from Laredo ISD and asked for a summary. Mr. Valdez read from the letter as follows:

"Dear Mr. Valdez,

"I am the Elections Officer for the Laredo Independent School District ("LISD"). In a recent *Laredo Morning Times* story it was reported of a developing initiative to possibly move the Precinct 129 polling site for the December 13, 2018, runoff election from Dryden Park to Santo Niño Elementary School, an LISD elementary school. I understand the City of Laredo has already advertised [Mr. Valdez clarified that at the time he received this letter, the City had not advertised the election notice; the County had done so] and continues to advertise Dryden Park as the Precinct 129 polling site for the runoff election.

"The District has not made and does not plan on making any arrangements for Santo Niño Elementary to serve as a polling site for the December 13, 2018, runoff election. It is the District's belief that moving the polling site at this point in time from Dryden Park to Santo Niño Elementary School will likely result in a disruption of the student activities.

"Given the circumstances that developed in this particular instance, the

District is reviewing its internal policies to determine what, if any, steps can be taken going forward so that this type of an issue is avoided in the future.

For the reasons set forth above I, on behalf of the District, respectfully request that the polling site for Precinct 129, or Dryden Park, remain as the polling site for the runoff elections scheduled for December 13, 2018.

Your consideration to this request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Jorge A. Gutierrez
LISD Elections Officer”

Mr. Valdez displayed the letter on the projector for Council and public review. Cm. Torres noted that the letter clearly states that LISD does not grant permission to use Santo Niño as a polling site. Therefore, Council needs to find an alternative site, whether it is Dryden Park or the San Vicente de Paul church.

Ms. Vazquez noted that Claudia Balli is listed on the LISD letterhead as a Trustee and asked if she is related to Cm. Balli on City Council. She noted that if the two are related, there is a possible conflict of interest.

Mr. Valdez noted that he received an email regarding the church earlier in the day on December 3, 2018. He stated that he has no problems with any polling site that Council determines. However, he noted that Mrs. Balli did not participate in any discussion regarding the Santo Niño polling site; the trustees did not vote on the matter. He noted that the Elections Officer handled the matter internally and informed Mr. Valdez of another incident that occurred at the location during the general election, upon which he declined to comment.

Cm. Torres reported that he personally contacted the Elections Administrator when he heard there were issues with the Santo Niño site. He was informed that there were issues with a candidate and people wearing political insignia walking in and out of the polling site, which are prohibited inside voting sites. This is prohibited by state law. He asked why the polling judge did not have the candidate and the individuals wearing political clothing arrested, which the polling judge has the authority to do. Cm. Torres was told that the polling judges use their discretion, and the Elections Administrator cannot force them to take any particular action.

Mr. Valdez clarified that he spoke with the Elections Administrator earlier on this day about this same situation, and he was told that the precinct judge did not know who the candidates were, so she did not recognize the individual as a candidate until it was pointed out to her. Mr. Valdez emphasized that he had suggested San Vicente de Paul church as an alternative site back in August when Santo Niño first became an issue. The Elections Administrator reached out to the church at the time, and the church said no. Mr. Valdez noted that in light of Cm. Vielma’s email from the church granting permission,

he informed the Elections Administrator, Mr. Tellez. Mr. Tellez confirmed that he would reach out to the church again to ensure that the site has full permission to be used as a polling place.

Cm. Torres informed the public that in a primary election, the party chairs have the authority to designate or select the voting sites without the approval of the Commissioner's Court or any government body. The same applies to primary runoff elections, and in some cases precincts can be consolidated to save money without affecting the election. In the general election, the Commissioner's Court has full authority to designate the sites, which they did. In the event of the runoff election, there were no state or county runoffs, so the entities that are left are the ones that decide on the polling places for the runoff. The law says that the entities must choose a site that is within the voting precinct. Dryden Park and the San Vicente de Paul church are both within Precinct 129. He encouraged Council to forget about Santo Niño Elementary School as a polling place as it is moot given the school district's refusal to use it as a location. He reiterated that Council cannot force anyone to lend the City their property as a polling site. He asked the City Secretary if the Elections Administration can acquire a mobile unit to use at Dryden Park in the event that the park is approved as a voting site.

Mr. Valdez clarified that at Dryden Park, the Elections Administration would not be conducting its election out in the elements; there is an office and concession area that would be utilized. The area has restrooms.

Cm. Torres asked the City Attorney to address Cm. Vielma's concerns that the change to the polling site would result in any voter suppression or that it was not properly noticed to Council and the public.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that in the runoff election, the decision is between the two entities that are participating in the runoff. That explains why the issue was not addressed, so the question fell back on the sites used in the August discussion. She confirmed that there is nothing illegal about the decision-making process in this case. Mr. Valdez added that the resolution gives the City Manager the authority to execute contracts and that the sites are to be decided by the Elections Administrator. He had asked the Elections Administrator to leave Precinct 129's site open so that he could get Council's feedback, which got lost among the other discussion at the August Council meeting. He noted that if anybody had wanted to deceive Council, then the site would not have been left open to be determined.

Mrs. Hale added that both entities have to agree upon the site, and Laredo College has already passed a resolution for Dryden Park as the polling place. Mr. Valdez agreed, confirming that he has a copy of their contract with the Webb County Elections Administration.

Cm. Altgelt noted that this situation seems to have a simple solution. To be fair to both candidates in this District race, the church is directly across the street from Santo Niño Elementary School. It would be convenient for voters

being turned away from the school to cross the street and vote at the church.

Mr. Valdez countered that staff initially suggested the church to the Elections Administrator. However, at the time, the church declined. He reminded Council that Laredo College already passed their resolution, but staff could contact them the next day to see about amending their resolution depending on Council's decision.

Jose R. Perez, III, the runoff candidate for the City Council District II position, stated that on August 13, 2018, the Webb County Commissioner's Court voted on the election date and approved Santo Niño Elementary School as the voting site for Precinct 129. However, since that time, the school has been eliminated as a voting site because it is being viewed as a conflict of interest as Mr. Perez is the current school principal. He noted his surprise that the alternative voting site selected is Dryden Park; although this park is adequate for sports events, it is not acceptable as a voting site. Mr. Perez noted that the park is located within steep hills, making it a safety concern for residents who walk to the polls, especially the elderly or handicapped. Also, there was no discussion as to how this new voting site will house the election. Mr. Perez added that many constituents have no idea of this change and will likely show up to the elementary school to vote. He speculated that many voters who are turned away will likely not vote after all. This change will impact voter turnout in Precinct 129. He added that the elimination of this longstanding voting site and its inadequate replacement echoes the manipulation that brought about the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He stated that all of the voting residents of District II deserve an accessible polling site and encouraged Council to put aside their personal needs as they consider the voting site for Precinct 129. Mr. Perez noted that there is an allegation that during the election he was going in and out of the elementary school throughout the day. He denied those allegations and clarified that he went to the school in the morning to drop off his son at school and only stayed 30-40 minutes. He added that the elementary school has surveillance cameras to verify his point.

Cm. Rodriguez agreed that voter suppression is a big concern. He asked whether San Vicente de Paul church is the best alternative, as it is a Catholic church and a religious institution. While he personally does not mind using it as a polling place, he asked Council to consider that not all voters are Catholic or religious and may be uncomfortable voting there. He also confirmed that the Commissioner that initiated the motion for Santo Niño has publically supported Mr. Perez's campaign and may endorse him. Mr. Perez denied that the Commissioner has endorsed his campaign. Cm. Rodriguez added that Cm. Vielma has been endorsing Mr. Perez, as is her right to do so. However, her accusations of voter suppression are uncalled for in her attempt to elevate Mr. Perez's campaign.

Rosie Centero-Hinojosa spoke in favor of San Vicente de Paul church as it is safer and easier for elderly and disabled voters. She reminded Council that multiple precincts use churches as voting sites with no problems, so the

argument that non-religious individuals would be disadvantaged is moot.

Ricardo Quijano also spoke in favor of San Vicente de Paul church as the alternative voting site. He voiced his concern that City Hall is an early voting polling place, and yet Council Members who are in the runoff are present for this meeting. It is hypocritical to accuse Mr. Perez of wrongdoing when election candidates on Council are doing the same thing.

Mr. Valdez explained to Council that in the August Council meeting, the proposed change to the location was on the agenda. It was also in Council's background information. He recalled Cm. Vielma seconding the motion to approve the item, and the item was approved with no discussion. The item was brought back for a different discussion, and Council approved it again. This explanation was also summarized to Council in a letter from the City Secretary.

Mayor Saenz voiced his opinion that it seems unfair to hold the election at Dryden Park. Mr. Valdez countered that Dryden Park was selected because the church initially declined to be used as a polling place.

Motion to select San Vicente de Paul church's hall as the Precinct 129 voting site, contingent upon the church's and Laredo College's agreement on the location, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Gonzalez

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Altgelt

Cm. Balli

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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

Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

56. 2018-RT-09 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$12,343,854 to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 (b) Bus and Bus Facilities Program under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. Funding will be used to design, and construction for the first phase of El Metro's Administration, Operations and Maintenance Facility located at the corner of N. Bartlett and Jacaman street. The required local match for this grant will be funded in by in-kind from the value of the land.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-RT-09.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

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

Motion to adjourn as the Laredo Mass Transit Board and reconvene as the Laredo City Council.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

57. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action on Texas World Series to be hosted in Laredo with an expected attendance of five thousand people from ten different countries Mexico, Puerto Rico, Honduras, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia plus local teams.

Cm. Balli confirmed that he would sponsor this item.

Jose Luis Maldonado, Laredo Baseball Select Director for the Tecolotes, reported that this World Series is for Latin American youth baseball teams from around the world. He displayed pictures of the previous tournament teams as well as a letter dated December 3, 2018, from Laredo Baseball Select requesting the use of the City's baseball fields for the second World Series for four nights and about 40 rooms at the American Suites hotel for the children participating in the tournament. The tournament is tentatively scheduled for

either February 16 and 17, 2019 or February 22-25, 2019.

Nancy Rodriguez, parent of one of the participating baseball players, noted that the Laredo Mayhem youth team has been traveling throughout Texas and in Florida representing Laredo and bringing home championships. She thanked Council for their assistance in bettering local youth sports teams and asked for the City's support in the World Series.

Anita Stanley, Parks & Leisure Services Assistant Director, confirmed that the Department assisted in the previous World Series tournament. She noted that the City just stopped play in the baseball fields, so they are currently being maintained. Mid or late February 2019 may be too soon to have the fields ready for a tournament.

Mr. Maldonado noted that February is already very busy with the Washington's Birthday Celebration and Border Olympics, so the availability to have the tournament is limited.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, voiced his concern over the 40 hotel room nights. Staff would need to discuss how that can be managed. Cm. Balli agreed, noting that 40 hotel rooms for four nights times an average of \$100 per room per night results in a significant amount of money (about \$16,000) for the City to lose out on.

Blasita Lopez, Executive Director of Marketing, Tourism, & Communications, reported that the hotel rooms that the City has sponsored in the July 2018 PONY tournament were for officials only and not for the players. Those were 15 rooms for a full week, based on her recollection. However, the City issued a bid for those rooms to local hotels to send their best available rate. She explained that the weekend of February 22-23 is the same weekend as the Air Show, meaning that the hotel rooms are going to be in high demand. Higher demand means a higher rate for hotel rooms. She encouraged Council to take all of the factors at play into consideration.

Mr. De Leon asked if the players' families will be coming with them to the tournament; Mr. Maldonado confirmed that they would travel with their children. He estimated about 4,000 families. Mrs. Lopez clarified that the hotel occupancy is expected to be about 60-70%; if needed, the City can reach out to surrounding areas for hotel space, like Zapata or Cotulla, which has been done in the past.

Mr. De Leon asked if Laredo Baseball Select would be willing to hold the tournament in March, when there are fewer events affecting the City's hotels and fields. Mr. Maldonado stated that he preferred February 16-17, 2019.

Mrs. Lopez confirmed that the 2018 PONY tournament hotel rooms were paid for through the Convention & Visitors Bureau operational budget.

Mrs. Stanley confirmed that staff would work with the City Attorney's Office to

negotiate an agreement with Laredo Baseball Select and ensure that the organization is compliant with all of the City's standards and requirements.

Mrs. Lopez asked Council to approve a new policy for the use of hotel/motel occupancy tax revenues for these types of requests, as well.

Motion to pay for the hotel rooms and provide the use of the fields as presented, paying for the hotel rooms through Hotel/Motel tax revenues.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to conduct a feasibility study to incorporate permanent cooling and heating systems for all kennels at the Animal Care Services Shelter; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

Cm. Torres noted that he placed this item on the agenda with the hopes to transform the Animal shelter with permanent heating and cooling systems. He initially intended to conduct a feasibility study to convert the outdoor shelter into an indoor shelter; however, the Animal Care Services authority notified him of alternative recommendations.

Dr. Sandra Leyendecker, veterinarian with the Animal Care Services Department, voiced her opinion that the Department needs more time to make a recommendation to Council on this issue. More time is needed to consider the factors at play; she noted that Laredo has more hot weather than cold weather. She reported that the animals are all in very good shape and are better than they have been for a long time, in her opinion. She noted that closing in the animal shelter would be too cost-prohibitive.

Clarissa Rangel, Animal Care Services Director, reported the heating costs at the Animal Care Services Department. Heating costs were calculated through purchasing and exchanging tanks at Walmart; tanks are \$43.82 each to purchase and \$14.92 to exchange. Ms. Rangel reported the heating costs as follows:

November 9th

Tanks Purchased: 40 @ \$43.82 \$1,756.80

Tanks Exchanged: 10 @ \$14.92 \$149.20

November 10th

Tanks Exchanged: 32 @ \$14.92 \$477.44

November 12th

Tanks Purchased: 10 @ \$43.82 \$438.20

Tanks Exchanged: 40 @ \$14.92 \$596.80

Walmart Total: \$3,418.44

On November 13th, staff entered into an agreement with Amerigas to provide propane services. Each tank exchange is \$13.00 per tank.

November 13th
Tanks Delivered: 250 @ \$13.00 \$3,250

November 17th
Tanks Delivered: 342 @ \$13.00 \$4,446

Ms. Rangel estimated that the Department has spent about \$15,000 on heating to-date. She projected that the Department will spend about \$50,000 annually on this expenditure.

Cm. Torres noted that he discussed with Dr. Leyendecker the possibility of making a one-time investment of permanent heating as a cost-effective alternative to spending \$50,000 every year to provide adequate, temporary heating equipment to the animals.

Dr. Leyendecker reported that she personally visited a San Antonio animal shelter and recalled volunteer work with the animal shelter in Bryan. Those shelters had outdoor facilities for their animals, and these cities experience colder weather than Laredo does. Those shelters had siding on three sides of the outdoor facilities to keep the animals warm; the facilities were roofed, and the shelters utilized heating fans. She added that the San Antonio shelter has a facility in which the animals can go indoors and outdoors at will. She reiterated her request for more time to make a decision on this item.

Cm. Torres reported that Cm. Perez had committed \$10,000 from his District III priority funds to this endeavor.

Cm. Altgelt asked how many animals have been lost as a result of cold weather. Dr. Leyendecker and Ms. Rangel confirmed that no animals have been lost due to weather. They noted that the portable space heaters that have been utilized have made a difference in keeping the temperatures of the shelter in a comfortable range for the animals.

Dr. Leyendecker stated her opinion that running lines for natural gas would be a good idea as natural gas is clean and abundant in this area of South Texas.

Cm. Vielma asked if there are district priority funds available following Council's freeze on district spending during the election. She encouraged Council to ensure that the money is available before they encumber any funds in the upcoming year. Horacio De Leon, City Manager, confirmed that he would look into the matter.

Cm. San Miguel recalled allocating \$50,000 from District VI for the animal shelter. He asked if that money has already been used. Ms. Rangel confirmed

that the project is still underway; staff has two proposals that they have received for the proposed building and will be ready to move forward. She projected that the project will be complete in a year. The project currently has \$175,000, but she could not confirm a final cost estimate for the project to-date. Cm. San Miguel suggested that if there is any money to spare from that project, the design include heating and cooling systems ahead of time so that the project does not result in a change order later to correct the issue of heating and cooling. Alternatively, he recommended redirecting any extra funds from that project to the heating and cooling issue at-hand.

Robert Tellez thanked Council and staff for meeting with him to address his concerns on this matter. He reported that he and the Co-Chair of the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee had a meeting with Deputy City Manager Cynthia Collazo the previous Friday. At that meeting, he noted that in the month of October, City staff members were transferred and sent to the Animal Care Services Department to help with cleaning and administrative duties. By early November, a letter was sent to municipal authorities reporting that the animal shelter had run out of food.

Mr. De Leon asked Mr. Tellez if his comments were related to the heating and cooling agenda item, as they need to be on-topic to be heard. Mr. Tellez clarified that he had signed up for public comments to address his concerns.

Mayor Saenz noted that the letter in question was addressed at the last Council meeting, and the while some of the concerns raised were valid concerns, he personally visited the facility and found that remedies were ongoing. He asked staff to address the remedies to lay this matter to rest.

Mr. De Leon countered that this discussion veers off-topic from the agenda item.

Mr. Tellez stated his belief that his First Amendment rights were being infringed by not being allowed to continue with his presentation.

Mr. De Leon explained that staff continues to address the concerns raised in the letter referenced by Mr. Tellez. Staff has compiled a task force composed of upper management employees to explore the issues raised. He recalled meeting with Mr. Tellez for over an hour to allay his concerns and assured Council that staff continues to investigate this matter.

Mayor Saenz asked staff to add this issue to the next Council agenda to see what the outcome is to-date.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, agreed that discussing the concerns raised in the letter referenced by Mr. Tellez is out of the scope of the agenda item. The public must be given sufficient notice of what City business is to be discussed by Council, and changing the topic from the heating and cooling system would violate the Texas Open Meetings Act. She added that Mr. Tellez had the opportunity to address his concerns during the public comment portion of the

meeting.

Mr. Tellez countered that he had spoken with the City Secretary who helped him fill out his witness registration card. He noted that the City Secretary told him that this agenda item was the place to note his concerns.

Jose A. Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, clarified that Mr. Tellez told him that he wanted to speak on Item 57 A 2. Therefore, Mr. Valdez instructed him to write that item number in the appropriate section of the registration card. He emphasized that he was not aware Mr. Tellez was going to speak on a completely different issue.

Motion to direct staff to review the possibilities of providing permanent heating and/or cooling for the animal shelter as well as alternative, cost-effective measures and include the opinion of the animal medical health authority and the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee and to include \$10,000 from District III priority funding should the money be available and to commit any leftover monies previously committed to the OB enclosure to the heating and/or cooling system recommendation as recommended by the medical health authority, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. 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. Total cost is \$2,500.00.

- a. One (1) speed hump on 1800 Reynolds St., between Tapeyste Ave. and N. Buena Vista Ave.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

C. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Charlie San Miguel

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 VI Priority Funds will be used for this project.

a. Two (2) speed humps between the 2700 and 3000 block of Anejo Dr.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

D. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action on a presentation of Dream Court.

Franco Villarreal stated that he has lived in Laredo for 39 years and is partnered with the Nancy Lieberman charities through his business. Ms. Lieberman's charities construct "dream courts" in underserved communities across the United States. To-date there are over 57 basketball courts. Mr. Villarreal noted that his organization has already raised funds to build a Dream Court in Laredo through assistance from Walmart. He clarified that he is not asking the City for any financial support, but he requested a location to build a court. Through discussions with Cm. Gonzalez, he learned that Century City is getting a roof over its current concrete basketball court. Playing on a concrete court is not always safe, and the Dream Courts are durable rubber courts. The number of basketball teams in Laredo has grown so much that there is not enough room for them to practice and adequately learn the fundamentals of basketball. He requested Council's support to use this court in Century City to serve as a Dream Court. It would allow the youth more accessibility to play and provide recognition and exposure of the City of Laredo. He reiterated that he is not requesting any financial support, as the fundraising is complete. Nancy Lieberman will make an appearance, and the Dream Court will receive national media attention. Mr. Villarreal added that his mother was an educator at Salinas Elementary for 30 years and passed away earlier this year. He noted that her impact on the children in the surrounding community also make this location ideal for a Dream Court.

Cm. Gonzalez reminded Council that the Dream Court will be available to the public at all times; it is not going to become a private court.

Motion to approve the basketball court in Century City Park as a Dream Court location as presented.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres, Cm. Altgelt and Cm. Balli were not present.

E. 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. 2800 Tinaja

b. 3100 Bismark

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

XVII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.