

**CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
M2017-R-11
July 17, 2017
5:00 P.M.**

Mayor Pro-Tempore Alex Perez, Jr., presented the following:

1. Invitation by Mr. Enrique Gonzalez, President of the Laredo Licensed U.S. Customs Brokers Association who will host a South Border Conference and would like to invite the Mayor and City Council Members and all Laredo to come and join them on October 25-28, 2017.

Enrique Gonzalez announced that the inaugural South Border Conference will be at La Posada Hotel, hosted by three Customs Brokers Associations in Laredo, Brownsville, El Paso, and New Mexico. It was established to focus on specific US-Mexico border issues. He anticipated more than 130 participants and reported multiple speakers. The conference will include a border tour and demonstration designed to entertain and educate.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez asked City management to meet with Mr. Gonzalez regarding this event.

2. Recognizing Amici Bad Boys Karate for their success at the US Open ISKA World Martial Arts Championship held on June 30-July 1, 2017 at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Hugo Cortez, Amici Bad Boys coach, commended his students on their hard work and introduced the team members. He added that he is always accepting new students.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez congratulated the students and their parents and presented the team with certificates of recognition.

3. Recognizing the Laredo Chapter of the National Hispanic Institute on their first-ever Stream-a-thon. The event consisted of eight hours of debates and discussions, ranging from topics such as the environment to local crime, and a myriad of other topics that are prevalent to today's society. The event was live-streamed for the community to watch, and donate if they chose to. The purpose of the stream-a-thon was to raise funds for members of the National Hispanic Institute to attend a competition in Austin, Texas known as the Great Debate. There, they will showcase their speaking abilities and represent our beloved community.

Viya Gomez Tellez, Laredo NHI coach, reported that the chapter members debated topics with City figures regarding the Laredo and Latino community. Chapter members are from all high school campuses in Laredo. The Stream-a-Thon was an eight-hour event, and over \$1,000 were raised for expenses to attend the Great Debate in Austin, Texas.

Laredo NHI chapter members introduced themselves.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez congratulated the team members on their accomplishments and presented the team with a certificate of recognition.

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2017-R-11
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
July 17, 2017
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tempore Alex Perez, Jr., called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tempore Alex Perez, Jr., led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Pro-Tempore Alex Perez, Jr., led a moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Alejandro "Alex" Perez, Jr.	Mayor Pro-Tempore, District III
Alberto Torres Jr.	District IV
Norma "Nelly" Vielma	District V
Charlie San Miguel	District VI
George J. Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII
Heberto "Beto" Ramirez	Acting City Secretary
Horacio De Leon	Interim City Manager
Cynthia Collazo	Deputy City Manager
Robert Eads	Assistant City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Acting City Attorney

Cm. San Miguel joined at 5:36 p.m.

Motion to excuse Mayor Saenz and Cm. San Miguel.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of June 19, 2017 and June 20, 2017

Motion to approve the June 19, 2017, and June 20, 2017, minutes.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Citizen comments

Juan Avila noted that signs were previously brought into Council Chambers, but recently he was prevented from bringing them in.

Kristina L. Hale, Acting City Secretary, clarified that there is no ordinance prohibiting signs from Council Chambers and that the chair has the discretion to determine whether signs are a distraction. Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez allowed signs to be displayed during the relevant agenda discussion.

Mr. Avila noted that Senate Bill 4 is crucial to the people of Laredo. Council should strongly consider the best interest of the citizens of Laredo. He asked Council to make the right choice during their vote and claimed that Mayor Saenz was absent in order to avoid this topic.

Jesus Flores recalled past incidents in which U.S. Customs & Border Protection or Homeland Security arrested individuals crossing the border illegally who had been charged with violent crimes or had ties to the Mexican mafia. He read a portion of the Laredo Code of Ethics prohibiting City officials or employees from inducing others to engage in activity relating to a particular party. However, a Democratic Chair and a former Democratic Chair sit on Council currently. Cm. Vielma is an immigration attorney. These Council Members have a conflict of interest regarding the Senate Bill on today's agenda.

Orlando Navarro of the Laredo PONY League invited the public to attend the PONY League World Series starting Tuesday, July 18, 2017. Over 90 teams will participate in the World Series event. He thanked City staff for their support and collaboration for this event.

Leticia Lamar Botello of Our Laredo played a video presentation from Our Laredo inviting the public to a presentation on July 22, 2017, at the Holding Institute at 5:30 p.m.

Francisco Castillo stated that the water park proposal is impressive and long overdue. He also voiced his support of Council joining the lawsuit related to Senate Bill 4. He asked Council to put politics aside and join the people in fighting SB-4. Mr. Castillo also promoted the apprenticeship program and reminded Council that this week is Probation and Parole Week, commending the work of probation and parole officers.

Donaciano "Chano" Aldrete noted that he was a supporter of the Bartlett extensions because he is a frequent user of that area. In the last week, Bartlett has been reduced to three lanes due to accidents. A lane change will not correct improper driving techniques. He asked Council why these changes are happening to Bartlett, which affect the public greatly. McPherson is a dangerous street, and drivers are becoming increasingly aggressive as they

become more frustrated with the traffic problems. Better traffic flow is necessary for this busy area.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro “Alex” Perez of to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Arturo Diaz to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

2. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro “Alex” Perez of to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Alonzo Santos to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing allowing interested persons to comment on the 2017-2018 One Year Action Plan which identifies the projects proposed to be funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City anticipates receiving \$3,401,417.00 in 43rd Action Year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, \$847,266.00 through the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and \$309,407.00 through the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). An additional \$2,800.00 is anticipated to be received through CDBG program income, \$72,200.00 in Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan funds, and \$160,000.00 in HOME program income. The following projects are proposed to be funded:

CDBG FUNDS

Community Development Administration	\$672,939
Housing Rehabilitation Administration	\$284,384
Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program (PI)	\$469,612
Code Enforcement	\$508,573
Graffiti Removal Program	\$47,382
Downtown Senior Recreational Program	\$161,327
El Eden Park Improvements	\$540,000

Ochoa/Sanchez Park Improvements	\$100,000
District IV Sidewalks	\$80,000
Ponderosa Park Improvements	\$100,000
De Llano Park	\$80,000
District VII - Bike Lanes	\$180,000
District VIII - Bike Lanes	\$180,000
TOTAL	\$3,404,217

Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Administration	\$9,172
Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program	\$63,028
TOTAL	\$72,200

HOME FUNDS

HOME Program Administration	\$84,536
Downpayment Assistance Program (PI)	\$160,000
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$390,050
CHDO	\$127,090
Infill Housing	\$245,590
TOTAL	\$1,007,266

ESG FUNDS

ESG Program Administration	\$23,062
Emergency Shelter - Shelter Operations	\$85,000
Emergency Shelter - Essential Services	\$45,000
Street Outreach	\$10,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$78,345
Homelessness Prevention	\$60,000
HMIS	\$8,000
TOTAL	\$309,407

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

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

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

2. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2-D, Block 2, Ramirez Business Park, located at 502 South Creek Dr., from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District). ZC-50-2017

Staff **does not support** the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Zone Change. District II

Motion to open public hearing.

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

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

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, confirmed the location of the address and stated that the Future Land Use map does not recognize the address as a manufacturing area. It is still recognized as a heavy duty commercial area. Also, staff was not completely sure of the applicant's intentions. It is currently vacant land.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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

3. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an Amusement Redemption Machine Establishment on Lot 1, Block 1, Bruni at Fiesta Subdivision, located at 102 Altamar Dr., Suites 7 and 8. ZC-51-2017

Staff **does not support** the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends **denial** of the Conditional Use Permit. Therefore, the applicant has exercised the right to appeal this decision directly to City Council. District II

Motion to open public hearing.

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

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

Guadalupe Ramirez spoke in favor of the Conditional Use Permit. This will be for a new business. The application was initially denied by staff because it is not compatible with other uses on Altamar Drive, but her building is the only one on Altamar Drive. Across the street and to the east is a vacant lot used by Cervantes Trucking. To the south is another vacant lot used by Lamar Advertising. To the west is another vacant lot with a Valero on the corner. To the north is a residential subdivision. Ms. Ramirez noted that the reason for her denial is not valid as she is surrounded by vacant lots. There were no letters received in opposition for her application. The hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, clarified that the ordinance regarding amusement redemption machine establishments says that it shall not be located within 200 feet of a district boundary, and this property does not meet that requirement. Also, there are 35 parking spaces available on the property, but the business would need 57 spaces. He confirmed that no letters were sent in response to this application. The location is not close to Zaffirini Elementary school.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Vielma

Cm. Altgelt

Cm. Balli

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

4. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 12.35 acres out of Tract QMM Investments, LLC., Abstract 283, Porcion 23 L. Sanchez, located south of Flecha Ln. and west of F.M. 1472, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). ZC-54-2017

Staff **does not support** the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Zone Change. District VII

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Hector Patiño, District VII resident, noted that he is working hard to promote business in his community. He spoke in favor of this project.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, found a quick-claim deed from the owners of the

railroad right-of-way. Staff did not support this item because the Future Land Use map shows this property as agricultural, and staff makes recommendations following the Future Land Use map without deviation.

Cm. Altgelt that he would like to see a plan that addresses multiple traffic concerns in the area.

Alejandro Quillones stated that there is no way to connect traffic any other way. Property will need to be bought in two areas to bridge a connection.

Motion to table pending a plan to address traffic concerns.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

5. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 42.95 acres out of Tract QMM Investments, LLC., Abstract 283, Porcion 23 L. Sanchez, located south of Flecha Ln. and west of F.M. 1472, from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District). ZC-55-2017

Staff **does not support** the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Zone Change. District VII

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Hector Patiño, District VII resident, noted that he is working hard to promote business in his community. He spoke in favor of this project.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, found a quick-claim deed from the owners of the railroad right-of-way. Staff did not support this item because the Future Land Use map shows this property as agricultural, and staff makes recommendations following the Future Land Use map without deviation.

Cm. Altgelt that he would like to see a plan that addresses multiple traffic concerns in the area.

Alejandro Quillones stated that there is no way to connect traffic any other way. Property will need to be bought in two areas to bridge a connection.

Motion to table pending a plan to address traffic concerns.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

6. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning W one-half of Lot 1, Block 229, Western Division, located at 1308 Scott St., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff **does not support** the application and Planning & Zoning Commission recommends **denial** of the zone change and applying for a CUP instead. Therefore, the applicant has exercised the right to appeal this decision directly to City Council. ZC-52-2017 District VIII

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

Jose Parra stated that he intends to use the property as an auto mechanic shop and auto sales.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, noted that the lot in consideration is a very small lot. Staff believes that rezoning to a B-3 will overload the property. The property is surrounded by residences. Mr. Bratton provided photo evidence that the owner is using the street for overflow parking and is already operating as an auto mechanic shop. He estimated that Mr. Parra is before Council because he has been cited. The property is not currently zoned for operating an auto mechanic shop. He clarified that auto sales are allowed in a B-1, but auto mechanic operation is not. To change to a B-3, Mr. Parra would need enough parking as required to perform both functions.

Cm. Balli stated that he has driven past this property frequently and believes that the property owner has always operated his business responsibly. He asked staff to work with Mr. Parra.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 8.10 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at South of Flecha Lane and West of FM 1472 (Mines Road), from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-45-2017

Staff **does not support** this application and Planning & Zoning recommends approval of

the zone change. District VII

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Hector Patiño, District VII resident, noted that he is working hard to promote business in his community. He spoke in favor of this project.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, found a quick-claim deed from the owners of the railroad right-of-way. Staff did not support this item because the Future Land Use map shows this property as agricultural, and staff makes recommendations following the Future Land Use map without deviation.

Cm. Altgelt that he would like to see a plan that addresses multiple traffic concerns in the area.

Alejandro Quillones stated that there is no way to connect traffic any other way. Property will need to be bought in two areas to bridge a connection.

Motion to table pending a plan to address traffic concerns.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

8. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 3.859 acres out of Porcion 24, T. Rodriguez, OG, Abstract 268, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located South of International Blvd. and West of Springfield Ave., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District). ZC-42-2017

Staff **does not support** the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Zone Change. District VII

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

Wayne Nance of Porras Nance Engineering spoke in favor of this item. He noted that this property does not follow the Future Land Use map, but the zone change is very logical. The current intention is multi-family structures with a possible convenience store

on the corner. A B-1 is an unaggressive zone change for the area.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

9. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance closing the section of De La Garza Lane between Ocean Drive and Wye Oak Street to motorized vehicular traffic and continuing its use as a pedestrian and bike way; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

10. Authorizing the public sale for the "Surface Only" of 6.9441- acre tract to AEP Texas Inc., sole bidder in the amount of \$1,500,000.00. The said tract is legally described as a 6.9441-acre parcel, out of a 70.6155-acre tract, recorded in volume 395, pages 442-454, Official Public Records of Webb County, Texas situated in Porcion 23 (A-283), Leonardo Sanchez, Original Grantee, in the County of Webb, Laredo, Texas.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, stated that staff will bring back an appraisal of the property with funding information for Council's reviews. He voiced no opposition to the reallocation of funds towards property acquisition.

Motion to approve and allocate funds for the acquisition of surrounding properties in the area.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

11. Authorizing City Manager to enter into a lease with the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo

Inc., for the premises known as Northwest Boys and Girls Club located at 4500 Santa Maria Street, Laredo Texas; the lease is for a ten (10) year term with two five (5) year options to renew. A yearly rent of one (\$1.00) dollar will be paid for the term of the lease.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

12. An ordinance amending chapter 2, article I of the code of ordinances by adding a new section 2-11 to establish procedures for the debarment of a vendor; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FIRST AND FINAL READINGS

13. 2017-O-090 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo Texas, Amending Chapter 6, Animals and Fowl, Article VII, of the Code of Ordinances by adding Section 6-125 Creating an Animal Neglect Registry and Section 6-126 Creating an Offense and Providing for a Penalty; Providing that this Ordinance shall be Cumulative; Providing a Severability Clause; Providing for Publication; and Declaring an Effective Date.

This item is replaced with Item #1 on Supplemental Agenda M2017-S-05.

X. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2017-O-071, 2017-O-075, 2017-O-076

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

14. 2017-O-074 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1 thru 4, Block 1027, Eastern Division, located at 1701 Norton St., from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-32-2017 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-074.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

15. 2017-O-075 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 1, The Plantation Subdivision, Unit 2, located at East of Rae's Creek Dr. (Private), and South of Country Club Blvd.,

from RSM (Residential Suburban Multi-Family District) to R-1 (Single Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-35-2017 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-075.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

16. 2017-O-076 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for an Ice Cream Parlor Selling Wine Infused Ice Cream (Alcohol), on Lot 1A, Block 1A, McPherson Acres Development, Unit I, located at 5702 McPherson Rd. Suite 1; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-37-2017 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-076.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

17. 2017-O-077 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1, Cuatro Vientos Sur Commercial, Unit 1, located at 3120 La Pita Mangana Rd., from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-38-2017 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-077.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

18. 2017-O-078 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, Lomas Del Sur Subdivision, Unit III, located at 3301/3319 Lomas Del Sur Blvd., from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-39-2017 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-078.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

19. 2017-O-079 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1, and 2, Block 1, San Isidro/McPherson Subdivision, Phase IV, Cantera Court, located at 9802 McPherson Rd., from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-46-2017 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-079.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

20. 2017-O-080 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the South 46.3' of Lot 4, Block 533, Western Division, located at 2301 Vidaurri Ave., from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District). ZC-31-2017 District VIII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-080.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

21. 2017-O-081 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1 and 2, Block 2, Khaledi Heights Subdivision, located at 10002 and 10012 Bob Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). ZC-33-2017 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-081.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

22. 2017-O-082 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a restaurant serving alcohol on Lot 1A, Block 1A, McPherson Acres Development, Unit I, located at 5702 McPherson Rd., Suite 5. ZC-43-2017 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-082.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-086.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

27. 2017-O-087 An ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 2, Article V, Boards, Commissions, Councils, etc., of the Code of Ordinances by adding Division 5, Section 2-250 formalizing the establishment and creation of the Fine Arts and Culture Commission and by adding Section 2-251 providing for authority and duties; approving the establishment of a Mural Arts Grants Program; adopting rules and procedures for evaluation of mural grant applications and allocation of funds; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-087.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

28. 2017-O-088 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Equipment Premises Temporary License Agreement between the City of Laredo and Texas Telecommunications, 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 Temporary License Agreement is one (1) year commencing April 7, 2017 and ending April 6, 2018; with a six (6) month renewal option. The annual license fee will be \$12,500.00 and the license fee for the renewal term will be \$6,250.00, if exercised.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-088.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

29. 2017-O-089 An ordinance amending Chapter 19, Article VIII, Section 19-355 (Administrative Adjudication Of Stopping, Standing, Parking), of the Municipal Code of Ordinances by adding subsection (G) to provide for a review by the Administrative Hearing Officer of citations for parked in a disabled space issued on or after May 12, 2016, but before May

12, 2017; providing a repealing clause; providing for severability; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

This item is replaced by Item #2 on Supplemental Agenda M2017-S-05.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, except #37, 40, 42, and 53.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

XI (a) RESOLUTIONS

30. 2017-R-72 Authorizing the City Manager to accept the contract amendment from the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in the amount of \$171,000.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Women's Health Preventive Services and Family Planning for the term period from September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2019.
31. 2017-R-73 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a contract from the Health and Human Services Commission for Title V Child Health and Dental Services in the amount of \$69,750.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department Child and Dental Preventive Patient Care and Prevention Services for the term period from September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

XI (b) MOTIONS

32. Submission of the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Budget as per Article VI, Section 6.02, Submission of Budget, which states that "At least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year, the City Manager shall present to the Council a budget for the ensuing fiscal year with an accompanying budget message."

Horacio De Leon, Interim City Manager, read a statement regarding the FY2017-2018 proposed budget for the period of October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. The FY2017-2018 proposed budget document reflects the City's priorities and commitment to its citizens to ensure that essential City programs and services are efficiently and effectively maintained and that opportunities for growth and development are duly pursued. The FY2017-2018 proposed consolidated annual budget totals \$647,565,137.00, an increase of 4.4% from last year. The total net operating budget, excluding operating transfers, is \$501,177,099.00, with a closing fund balance projecting at \$196,056,309.00. The City's property tax rate, for the 14th year in a row, remains unchanged. City management will strive to implement a new work ideology that promotes greater efficiency through the use and sharing of data and technology and the development of partnerships. Employees will be expected to become more productive by working smarter. Also, emphasis will be placed on promoting

transparency and accountability. The City will implement a results-driven management philosophy that takes on the challenge to effectively utilize data and technology to evaluate performance and programs and ultimately improve services and a culture of transparency and accountability. Similarly, maintaining fiscal responsibility will be critical. The proposed FY2017-2018 budget includes adjustments to user fees and bridge tolls, and efforts to leverage resources will be implemented.

Mr. De Leon confirmed that the budget workshops will take place August 14-16, 2017.

33. Submitting the Proposed 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as per Article VI, Section 6.05 of the City Charter, which states that that "the City Manager shall prepare and submit a five (5) year capital program at least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year."

Horacio De Leon, Interim City Manager, distributed the proposed Capital Improvement Plan to be discussed in detail during the budget workshops. The Plan totals \$562,157,329.00 for five years.

34. Authorizing the City Manager to amend contracts with the following providers for medical services for the City of Laredo Health Department Healthy Texas Women and Family Planning Programs in the amounts and terms stipulated below and renewable for an additional two (2) years, contingent on funding availability.

Provider	Amended Amount per Year	Total Amount	Term
Celso Rodriguez, M.D.	\$17,400.00	\$52,200.00	October 1 - September 30
Salah Rafati, M.D. - Radiology Clinics of Laredo, S. A.	\$40,000.00	\$120,000.00	September 1 - August 31

Funding is available through the Health Department budget.

35. Consideration to renew contract number FY15-037 to provide temporary employee contracts to the following bidders: 1. Elite Employment Services, Laredo, TX, as the primary vendor; and 2. At Work Personnel Services, Knoxville, TN, as the secondary vendor. Currently both vendors provide the City of Laredo with a labor pool for those departments that might require temporary staffing throughout the fiscal year. All services will be secured on an as needed basis and the estimated contract amount for this fiscal year would be approximately \$2,600,000.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year. There will be no price increase during this extension period. This is the last extension. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.
36. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute Interlocal Agreements between the City of Laredo and Webb County Sheriff's Office, Jim Hogg County Sheriff's Department, Starr County Sheriff's Office, Zapata County Sheriff's Office, Rio Grande City Police Department, Roma Police Department, Jim Hogg County Appraisal District, Zapata County Appraisal District, and Starr County Planning Department for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and Database Maintenance services for the period of September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2019.

37. Authorizing the City Manager to ratify the payment of the total amount of \$93,898.27 for past legal invoices and to authorize additional monies for legal services to the Firm of Greenberg Traurig, L.L.P., as it relates to the filing of the Petition Reply Brief on the Merits with the Texas Supreme Court on the validity of the City's Checkout Bag Reduction Ordinance in Case No. 16-0748. Funding is available in the City Attorney's General Fund.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss Item #37.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Rodriguez were not present.

Following executive session, Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez reported that no action was taken.

No action taken.

38. Adopting the following schedule of hearings and proceedings for voluntary annexations for calendar year 2017.

August 18, 2017 - Application submittal deadline for requests for voluntary annexation.

September 18, 2017 - Council authorization to draft annexation agreement and service plan for submitted annexation requests.

October 2, 2017 - First public hearing before City Council on proposed annexations (Noticed by publication on September 15th; not less than ten (10) or more than twenty (20) days before the hearing).

October 16, 2017 - Second Public hearing before City Council on proposed annexations (Noticed by publication on September 29th; not less than ten (10) or more than twenty (20) days before the hearing).

November 2, 2017 - Planning and Zoning Commission review of proposed annexation and proposed zoning designations.

November 20, 2017 - Introduction of an ordinance instituting annexation proceedings and adopting a service plan for the areas to be annexed (Not more than forty (40) nor less than twenty (20) days from the date of public hearings. Proposed effective date of annexation January 1, 2018).

December 4, 2017 - Final reading of annexation ordinances.

39. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with RZ Communications, the only authorized dealer, for the acquisition of one hundred and ten (110) Zebra Mobile Printers, in the amount of \$142,569.60. With this purchase, the remainder of the Patrol police units will be retrofitted to be compatible with the e-citation module. Funding is available in the Municipal Court Department budget.

40. Consideration to authorize the purchase of an Indoor Video Display Equipment for the Laredo Energy Arena from Daktronics, Brookings, South Dakota in the amount of \$929,922.80. The purchase of this video display equipment shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. This indoor centerhung display equipment will be replacing the original jumbotron which has been in use since the Arena first opened. Funding is available in Sports and Community Venue Fund.

Horacio De Leon, Interim City Manager, clarified that the equipment is 17 years old and is limited in its capacity. There is a loss of opportunity in using this outdated technology.

Xavier Villalon, Laredo Energy Arena General Manager, noted that some pixilation obscures the visibility on the jumbotron's screens with no repairs possible. The requested jumbotron is a suitable replacement. While it is expensive, there are sponsorship opportunities. The replacement is up-to-date with partial high definition as needed.

Mr. De Leon clarified that this expenditure is part of a replacement fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez and Cm. Perez were not present.

41. Consideration to reject all the submittals received for RFQ FY17-022 Design-Build Services for the Riverbank Drive Connection Project. Funding for this project is available in the 2016 C.O.
42. Consideration to award contract FY17-042 for the Chacon Creek Hike/Bike Trail Maintenance to low bidder Romo Contractors, Laredo, TX for an amount of \$85,900.00 per year. This is a two (2) year contract, subject to future appropriations and can be automatically renewed for two (2) additional years, if price remains the same and upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding for this contract is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

Nick Benavides noted that procurement policy violations on the part of Romo Contractors could have a negative impact on this project: the non-submittal of Addendum #1, which is an automatic disqualification; the failure to list subcontractors as mandated by the discretionary contracts disclosure form; and failure to list the scope of work and contractor's failure to visit the site prior to the bid opening.

Miguel Pescador, Purchasing Agent, confirmed that this project used a formal bid process. The addendum was issued because of some pre-bid questions that needed to be addressed. There was no change in scope of the service. The contractor filled out all paperwork as required. The recommended low bidder did visit the site. There was a lot of local competition. Mr. Pescador noted that all bids seemed to be in order and recommended Romo Contractors. Romo was at the pre-bid and visited the site to ensure they could perform the work. He voiced his opinion that it is a proper bid.

Mr. Benavides clarified that the bidders visited the site after the bid was opened, which is not in line with the procurement process.

Cm. Balli asked if the City is not going to follow its procurement process, then why have a process in place. It makes the City look bad to award bids to vendors who did not follow the procurement policy.

Mr. Pescador clarified that all matters were addressed and that staff is comfortable recommending Romo Contractors. The addendum issued was only issued as a deadline extension; the scope of the work was not changed. Because the addendum only extended the deadline, staff did not find it a major irregularity that Romo Contractors did not acknowledge the addendum.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

43. Consideration to award annual service contract FY17-046 to the sole bidder Fox Truck World LLC., San Antonio, TX, in an amount up to \$150,000.00 for the purchase of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) truck parts and service for the City's automated side loader trucks. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. This contract may be extended for four (4) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. The City shall provide the parts. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.
44. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) Broce self propelled sweeper from Cooper Equipment, San Antonio, Texas in the amount of \$61,342.90. The purchase of this sweeper for the Parks & Leisure Services Department shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. This sweeper is a new piece of equipment and shall be used to maintain and clean the Chacon Trail and parking areas for all the City's parks. Funding is available in the 2014 Public Property Finance Contractual Obligation Bond proceeds.
45. Consideration to award a two year contract FY17-044 to CABCO Auctioneering Services, Laredo, Texas for auctioneer services for the sale of city surplus vehicles and equipment; CABCO's auctioneer (commission) fee is 20% of the gross sales. The intent of this contract is to conduct turn key public auctions, in accordance to Laws of the State of Texas (TX Department of License and Regulation), for disposal of surplus items on an as needed basis.
46. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) backhoes from Nueces Power Equipment, Laredo, Texas in the total amount \$159,571.87 for the Public Works Department. These new backhoes will be replacing units 4170 (17 years old) and 4121 (11 years old) which have already reached their useful life. The purchase of this equipment shall be made utilizing the HGAC (Houston Galveston Cooperative Purchasing Program). Funding is available in the 2013 & 2014 Public Property Finance

Contractual Obligations.

47. Consideration to authorize the purchase of three (3) Ford F-250 crew cab trucks and one (1) Ford F-150 regular cab truck in the total amount of \$105,531.00 from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas through the GoodBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing. These trucks are replacement vehicles for units #2301, #2416, and #1969 which have already reached their useful life. The Ford F-150 is a new unit. All the trucks will be assigned to the Parks & Leisure Department for operations. Funding is available in the 2014 Public Property Finance Contractual Obligation Bond proceeds.
48. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) gator utility vehicles, one (1) compact utility tractor, one (1) loader, one (1) lift cutter from John Deere Government & National Sales, of Cary, North Carolina in the total amount \$60,819.31 for the Laredo Bridge System. The 2 gators are replacement units and tractor is a new addition; the purchase of this equipment shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. Funding is available from the 2017 Bridge Fund.
49. Consideration to award contract number FY17-047 to the sole bidder S.C.C. Pure Materials, Laredo, Texas in amount up to \$500,000.00 for the purchase of the following paving, and construction materials:
 - a. Flexible base Type D – Crushed Concrete, F.O.B. Public Works or Utilities Department Compound Job Site - \$17.50/ton
 - b. Flexible base Type D – Crushed Concrete, F.O.B. Vendors Plant, Picked up by City Trucks - \$14.50/ton

This contract is for the purchase of materials required for all city paving and construction projects. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. This contract has four extension periods. All materials shall be purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department, Utilities Department, and construction project budgets.

50. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of June 2017, represent a decrease of \$586.97. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.
51. Consideration for acceptance of the South Laredo 36" Sanitary Sewer Collector Assessment Project to Ace Pipe Cleaning, Inc. and approval of Final Change Order No. 1, an increase in the amount of \$21,605.85 to adjust items and quantities of work actually done in place with 313 additional working days. Also, authorizing the release of retainage in the amount of \$17,609.35 and payment in the amount of \$151,326.85 for a total Final Payment amount of \$168,936.20. Final contract amount is \$503,513.85 and total contract time is 358 working days. Funding is available in the 2014 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond.
52. Consideration for acceptance, release of retainage in the amount of \$16,849.00, approval of change order No. 1 for an increase in the amount of \$11,410.00 for a total final contract amount of \$179,900.00, for a final payment in the amount of \$28,259.00 to Romo Contractors LLC. for Masonry Wall for Utilities Fleet Parking Facility. The construction contract time was extended for an additional fifty (50) working days in this change order. The new contract time is one hundred and forty (140) working days.

Funding for this contract is in the 2011 Sewer Revenue Bond.

53. Authorizing the City Manager to award an Architectural and Engineering Services contract in the amount of \$242,220.00 to Sepulveda Associates Architects, Inc., Laredo, Texas for the design, technical drawings, bidding documents, specifications, construction administration services with production printing, and as-built for the North Laredo Waste Water Treatment Plant Administration Building. Funding is available in the 2011 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, clarified that this administration building is just for the wastewater treatment plant. This is one of the City's newest plants without an administration building. Once the Zacate plant is shut down, this building will be essential. It will be designed as energy efficient as possible.

Motion to approve subject to the named architect coming before Council with a LEED certified plan.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XII. STAFF REPORTS

54. 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.

No discussion or action taken.

55. Update on reducing flooding for the residents of Forest Loop by John Porter, Environmental Services Director.

No discussion or action taken.

56. Discussion with possible action on the recommendation by the Interim City Manager for the positions of City Secretary and City Attorney, and any other matters related thereto.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss Item #56.

Moved: Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Rodriguez were not present.

Following executive session, Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez reported that no action was taken.

Horacio De Leon, Interim City Manager, noted that given the lack of qualified applications, his recommendation for City Attorney remains to be Kristina L. Hale, the Acting City Attorney.

Motion to approve the recommendation of Kristina L. Hale as City Attorney.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 4 Against: 3 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez	Cm. Torres
Cm. Perez	Cm. Vielma
Cm. San Miguel	Cm. Altgelt
Cm. Balli	

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

Motion fails.

Mayor Pro-Tempore reported that no candidates have been interviewed for the City Secretary position, so Council will not take action to fill this position until a recommendation is made.

Cm. Balli stated that previously, Council gave City management direction to bring a recommendation to today's Council Meeting. Mr. De Leon has not followed the directive.

Mr. De Leon clarified that the directive was to place this item on the agenda and not necessarily provide a recommendation. As no interviews took place, there is no recommendation.

Cm. Balli countered that there is no reason for City staff not to conduct interviews and asked him to move forward with this process.

Monica Flores, Human Resources Director, confirmed that 109 applications were received for this position. Out of those, only 9 applications qualified. The position of City Manager closes on July 20, 2017.

Cm. Vielma noted that Council should wait for the City Manager position to be filled permanently before recommendations are made and Council following staff recommendations. Cm. San Miguel voiced his agreement.

Cm. Torres noted that he has consistently voted against recommendations until the City Manager position is filled permanently as well.

Motion to direct City management to interview and recommend a candidate for the City Secretary position and the City Attorney position.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

57. Presentation with possible action on Customized Job Order Contracting Program, a procurement method for renovation/repair projects available to the City of Laredo.

No discussion or action taken.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

XIV. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

58.

A. Request by Council Member Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action for the City of Laredo to intervene in the lawsuit involving Senate Bill 4 as a plaintiff joining the City of El Cenizo and LULAC vs. the State of Texas. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro "Alex" Perez, Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr. and Council Member Nelly Vielma)

Cm. Balli noted that he has tried repeatedly for the past month to bring this item before Council. The Mayor has been traveling to New York and Cancun and has refused to be a part of a Special Council Meeting.

Cm. Altgelt noted that while the Mayor is out of town, he has made efforts to partake in this discussion. He also iterated that the Mayor is traveling on behalf of the City and not for leisure. While the Mayor does not have a vote, he has made efforts to make comments on the record at this meeting, and Council should extend the professional courtesy to allow for them rather than criticizing his absence.

Raul Reyes, Mayor of the City of El Cenizo, Texas, and President of LULAC #12, noted that hatred and division is prominent in the nation, trickling down to communities in Texas. Senate Bill 4 is a reckless and dangerous bill, and larger Texas municipalities with more federal and state funding to lose have joined the lawsuit as plaintiffs. No dollar amount is more important than standing up for the rights of the people. He reminded Council that if SB-4 goes into effect and Laredo police officers engage in immigration operations, the Police Chief will no longer have control in reprimanding the officers. City Council will no longer be allowed to speak out against this law. He asked Council Members opposed to joining the lawsuit to reexamine the stakes. Council should consider that this bill will disrupt families of mixed citizenship, particularly separating parents from their children.

Cm. Balli stated that Laredo has never been a sanctuary city, but Laredo law enforcement has never been instructed to target illegal immigrants. He noted the potential for Laredoans, who do not experience much racial discrimination in town, to experience it when they travel out of town.

Ricardo De Anda informed Council that if the City joins El Cenizo in this lawsuit,

the City will not be charged any legal fees or expenses. He confirmed that there is no deadline or population size limit for the City to join the lawsuit. However, the City should take action as soon as possible. He could not confirm whether the City of Laredo could be negatively affected by joining the lawsuit. There are multiple avenues in which the City could join the lawsuit, and the attorneys on the suit can advise the City on the best option. The rights at issue are: the first amendment right to speak, the right of the police chief or sheriff to direct his or her officers without risking fines or imprisonment, the fourth amendment protection of unlawful search or seizure or detainment for not carrying identification, the sovereignty of the state and freedom of interference. He confirmed that the thrust of the lawsuit is to overturn as much of this law as possible, if not completely.

Mayor Betty Flores, former Laredo Mayor, voiced her personal opinion that Senate Bill 4 is premature as the United States should fix its broken immigration laws. As the Economic Vitality Committee Chair, Mayor Flores has been instructed by the Laredo Main Street Board of Directors to specify the economic concerns of Laredo's Downtown sector as a vibrant part of the community. Business owners are concerned that the discriminatory nature of SB-4 and its targeting of Laredo's Mexican shoppers will bring disrepute to Texas and dissuade Mexican consumers from visiting Laredo. Municipalities in the Valley are taking action via Mexican shoppers boycotting Texas vendors and businesses unless they litigate against SB-4. Mayor Flores voiced her opinion that this bill is the worst economic threat to Laredo. She asked Council to consider the economic effects on the City by SB-4 and to take a stand that welcomes Mexican shoppers and protects the financial interests of the City.

Cm. Altgelt noted that an additional problem with this bill is that it forces the City of Laredo to perform unfunded immigration investigations.

Mr. De Anda continued that the City would be a client of the attorneys of the ACLU, much like any other attorney-client relationship. If the client has a cause of action with a particular intention, the attorneys would pursue that claim or intention.

Mayor Pete Saenz, via teleconference from New York, apologized for his absence as he was needed in other engagements out of town. He voiced his opinion that the City must consider the lasting impact of this bill on Laredo. His interpretation of this lawsuit would turn Laredo into a sanctuary city. While the bill has issues, there are many risks to being considered a sanctuary city. He recommended an approach in the middle of the road, such as a resolution.

Cm. Altgelt confirmed that Laredo is not a sanctuary city; SB-4 is merely a symptom of the larger problem of Congress not confronting immigration reform. The unfunded mandate of cities to perform immigration patrol is another issue. He recalled an incident in court in which an opposing attorney knew that a witness was not a United States citizen and attempted to have him detained and delivered to immigration officers. That attorney was told that the federal courthouse is a sanctuary for victims and witnesses to come forward and provide truthful testimony without fear of punishment or detainment. Cm. Altgelt encouraged Council to listen to conscience and vote to join the lawsuit.

Cm. Torres stated that he has no conflict of interest on this issue even though he is the Democratic Party Chair because he has a duty to the rights of his constituents. He will not vote to become a sanctuary city, and while he hopes that this lawsuit is successful against SB-4, if it fails then Laredo has no choice but to be a law-abiding city. This law will affect Laredo more than Texas cities farther north. Critics of this lawsuit condemned Council for using taxpayer dollars to fund a lawsuit, but Council was informed by Mr. De Anda that the City will not have to pay for their participation in the suit.

Kristina L. Hale, Acting City Attorney, noted that the City contacted the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund as well as the ACLU of Texas, both of which informed Mrs. Hale that they could not represent the City of Laredo at the preliminary injunction stage and recommended that the City file an amicus brief, which is a brief in support of the plaintiff's position.

Cm. San Miguel stated that when the Senate bill first came out of legislative session, no Council Member attempted to put it on the Council agenda. Now that it has passed, there are criticisms of delays in discussion due to the Mayor's schedule. Sanctuary cities essentially are ones that do not enforce the law; no member of Council agrees to become a sanctuary city.

Mr. De Anda clarified that this bill makes it legal for law enforcement officers to detain a witness or victim of a crime and ask them for proof of their immigration status. This bill does not protect victims of crime but places them at greater risks. He also clarified that a sanctuary city does mean that the city will not enforce the law. The term is a political expression meant to demonize localities that care about the sanctuary of courts, hospitals, and political agencies. There is no legal definition of a sanctuary city; it is a political term meant to be whatever the political figure wants it to be.

Cm. Vielma noted that she also does not have a conflict of interest as staying out of this issue could prove more advantageous to her business. She has witnessed terrible instances in which victims of crimes lose trust in law enforcement because of their immigration status. The bill exempts churches that employ off-duty officers, schools, hospitals, federal health and community centers, and mental health centers. Women and children are particularly at risk of further victimization due to this bill. Cm. Vielma voiced her concern about racial profiling and discrimination and safety risks as minorities reach for identification. Wrongful deportation is also a major problem. For local law enforcement to enforce federal immigration law is equivalent to commandeering.

Cm. Gonzalez stated that as a law enforcement officer, he is in opposition to the bill.

Cm. Rodriguez emphasized that he will vote to protect families and residents in Laredo.

Sister Rosemary Welch of Sisters of Mercy noted that the organization works very closely with law enforcement. However, since the introduction of SB-4, the shelter has seen a dramatic decrease in the number of individuals who want a police escort to the shelter. The shelter has received a significant number of calls from victims saying that they are in danger and need help but can not call police

because the police will call immigration. Once they arrive at the shelter, they feel safer talking to law enforcement. Sister Rosemary confirmed that the bill does not protect shelters for victims of domestic abuse.

Israel Reyna stated that SB-4 is one in which he would practice civil disobedience should it pass. He voiced his opinion that it should not be the duty of a police officer stopping someone for jaywalking to ask them for proof of their citizenship. This law is divisive and will encourage further criminalization or discrimination against undocumented residents and workers. He discouraged Council from watching the developments from the sidelines.

Graciela Villarreal voiced her gratitude that Council would not have to be convinced to join the lawsuit. She noted that she was once an illegal immigrant at the Sisters of Mercy shelter and fears the same or worse conditions for other women in Laredo if SB-4 passes.

Seven Flores reiterated that Council should join the lawsuit and oppose the bill. He noted that Cm. San Miguel showed his ignorance of the bill's ramifications or basic terminology.

Pablo Castillo stated that if Council opposes SB-4, then they are helping criminals. He recalled an incident where he was struck by a vehicle while walking to his car. The driver of that vehicle did not have identification, insurance, or vehicle registration. Mr. Castillo was taken to the hospital via ambulance and was disappointed that law enforcement did not call Border Patrol. If SB-4 had existed, his issue would have been handled differently. Laws exist for our protection, and he asked Council not to join the lawsuit against Senate Bill 4.

Mellie Hereford asked why this discussion is taking place, especially since Laredo is not a sanctuary city. She encouraged Council to host an educational workshop about this bill as many Council Members clearly do not understand the bill or know what a sanctuary city is.

Oscar Lopez noted his disappointed that state government would consider Senate Bill 4 a solution to the nation's immigration problems. He knows many people who, while they are in the process of renewing visas, are at risk of being deported or having their families separated. He urged Council to join the lawsuit.

Jesus Ochoa stated that SB-4 equates to hate and racism. Hispanics are not the only residents of Texas that are undocumented. Undocumented Canadians, Europeans, Asians, Africans, and people of other nationalities all live in Texas currently; however, those nationalities were not in mind when Senate Bill 4 was drafted, approved, and signed. This bill is rooted in racism and discrimination. Thousands of families will be affected by this bill, including innocent young people brought to this country by parents and not through their own decision. Mr. Ochoa asked why Laredo, a border city, has not taken action until now.

Karina Alvarez, a teacher in low-income communities, noted that she is already seeing detrimental effects of this bill before it is even enacted. Children are having conversations with their parents about their fears of deportation or school absences. Ms. Alvarez noted that children are being taught to fear law enforcement officers, which is a shame. This bill threatens families of mixed

status.

Motion to join the City of El Cenizo as a plaintiff in the lawsuit against Senate Bill 4 or to file an amicus brief if unable to participate in the lawsuit, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to donate a refuse truck to the City of Rio Bravo, Texas.

No discussion or action taken.

B. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action to develop an ordinance requiring all businesses providing advertising services to require proof of Litter Permit in order to print or produce advertisement, and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

No discussion or action taken.

2. Discussion with possible action to reconsider the Litter permit fee/per litter/dog fee; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

No discussion or action taken.

C. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action on City of Laredo Municipal Court outstanding citations and warrants, to include possible allocation of Warrant Officers; and any other matters incident thereto. (Presentation by Judge Rosie Cuellar)

Cm. Torres noted that he was shocked to learn about over \$8.4 million of outstanding citations, equivalent to 31,000 outstanding warrants Laredo. This money is revenue for the City which has gone unrecovered. Judge Rosie Cuellar had conveyed to him that she needs warrant officers to help recover citation fees or resolve warrants.

Rosie Cuellar, Municipal Court Judge, asked for Council's support on this item. As of January 2017, the municipal court has only one clerk dedicated to issuing warrants. To-date, that amounts to \$2.7 million. Judge Cuellar noted that Laredo PD had warrant officers assigned to municipal court for this purpose. The court has a bailiff position unfilled for the past four years; Judge Cuellar asked Council to consider assigning an officer to fill that purpose. Assigning current LPD officers to serve as warrant officers on a temporary basis would also be welcome.

Cm. Altgelt suggested funding the bailiff position already posted and providing an armed security guard to handle court security, freeing up the two PD officers for warrant execution. He clarified that the two officers or their positions would be

permanently assigned to warrant execution.

Claudio Treviño, Laredo Police Chief, voiced his agreement with Cm. Altgelt's suggestion, though he noted that the Police Department does not have the manpower to provide more than two warrant officers.

Cm. Torres stated that Council can start with one permanent team of two warrant officers and review funds during the budget process to consider adding another team of two warrant officers.

Cm. Balli cautioned that there would be some complications to consider when hiring non-police officers, like motor vehicles, staffing, and related matters. Chief Treviño agreed that using police officers rather than non-police staff would avoid complications.

Motion to hire a court armed guard for the purposes of court security, a bailiff, and reassign the two police officers currently serving in the Municipal Court to execute warrants, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to review the Parks & Leisure Services fees schedule to provide discount rates for students, senior citizens, and city employees; and any other matters incident thereto.

No discussion or action taken.

D. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to amend the City of Laredo Priority Procedures Manual to (1) modify the term limits of appointees to City commissions, boards, and committees created by Mayor and Council; (2) provide for a waiting period after term limit has been reached; and (3) limit the term of a "holdover" appointee; and any other matters incident thereto.

No discussion or action taken.

2. Discussion with possible action to create an independent non-profit organization to undertake fundraising and other activities to benefit the mission of the Laredo Animal Care Services and any other matters incident thereto.

No discussion or action taken.

E. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct management if we have any profits from Mud Run 5 to donate them to the Laredo Veterans Coalition.

No discussion or action taken.

F. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion with possible action to include in the Friday Packet and posted online a statement as to all weekly expenditures between 30-50k. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Charlie San Miguel, Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, and Council Member Nelly Vielma)

No discussion or action taken.

2. Discussion with possible action to have a change to our Ordinance to allow for food trucks in parks and any issues incidental thereto.

No discussion or action taken.

3. Discussion with possible action to determine whether to renew the lease of M&M Air Cargo and any issues incidental thereto.

Motion to go into executive session to determine whether to renew the lease of M&M Air Cargo and any issues incidental thereto.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Rodriguez were not present.

Following executive session, Mayor Pro-Tempore Perez reported that no action was taken.

Kristina L. Hale, Acting City Attorney, noted that if the Council takes action after 11:00 p.m., any action is voidable.

Guillermo Castro of M&M Air Cargo asked Council to consider a five-year lease with an extension option. He had to obtain a lawyer to protect his interests, but he voiced his eagerness to continue working with the City.

No action taken.

4. Discussion with possible action to pass an Ordinance that addresses Safe Passage. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Charlie San Miguel and Council Member Roberto Balli)

No discussion or action taken.

XV. ADJOURN

Motion to hold a Special Council Meeting to address agenda items not addressed.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rodriguez was not present.