

**AMENDED
CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
M2017-R-16
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
October 2, 2017
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor presented the following:

1. Recognizing the Trautmann Middle School Band for being selected as the National Winner in the 2017 Mark of Excellence/National Wind Band Honors Project.

Jorge Garcia, Trautmann Middle School Head Band Director, commented that the judges were highly impressed by the wind band's skill.

Mayor Saenz presented the band with a certificate of recognition.

2. Recognizing the Customs and Border Protection executive staff at the Laredo Port and Entry and Field Operations for their truly exemplary leadership during a critical time for the Port of Laredo. They made giant strides in solidarity with their Mexican counterparts and all of the stakeholders in the trade and international commerce industry in response to the May 21st storm event that severely affected the infrastructure and operations at World Trade Bridge on both sides of the border. Their quick action to restore Laredo's and Nuevo Laredo's trade handling operations, intuiting immediate lines of communication and problem solving is to be commended. We applaud their recent work and look forward to a continued strong working relationship.

No recognitions made.

3. Recognizing the City of Laredo for being awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016.

Rosario Cabello, Finance Director, reported that this award is a Government Finance Officers Association financial award of excellence. She recognized the Finance Department staff, without whom this award could not be earned. She displayed a list of categories upon which the City is judged for the award, and the City has been found Proficient in every single category.

Mayor Saenz presented the staff with a certificate of recognition.

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2017-R-16
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
October 2, 2017
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 a moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
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 Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.	City Secretary
Horacio De Leon	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo	Deputy City Manager
Robert Eads	Assistant City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Acting City Attorney

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of September 18, 2017

Motion to approve the September 18, 2017 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Citizen comments

Sherry Medellin thanked Council for listening to her previous concerns about cars parked

around Juarez Street, noting that the issue has been remedied. She voiced her concern over the proposed street maintenance fee, as it is very difficult for those living on a low fixed income. Some rental properties are now requiring the renters to pay the water and utility bills, which adds to the burden on those individuals. She added that there are still some flooding issues in District III and commended the City for the work done to fix the recent flood damages.

Donald Eierdam recalled that Council recently raised Transit fares without broadcasting them on the department's webpage or on the buses themselves. He noted that the Transit webpage does not have any recent updates, and the email feature malfunctions. Nobody answers the phone at El Metro. The public information system at El Metro is essentially nonexistent. He asked how Council will calculate the mileage for the El Lift rides now that they have raised the fares. He also asked if he is going to be charged for being taken out of his way just because another passenger is in the van going in a different direction or location.

Richard Geissler stated that 10 years ago, the City and Webb County made a deal to turn the Canseco-Farias home into a veterans' museum, which has not come to fruition to-date. While Council is discussing revitalizing the historical Downtown Laredo section, he urged them to take action on the veterans' museum using one of the historical homes that are not being used.

Mellie Hereford asked Council to vote in favor of Cm. Altgelt's item (33 B. 1) as it is a small component of what Council needs to do. She also urged Council to approve the selection of outside legal counsel, noting that when the firms traveled to Laredo for interview, half of Council skipped the meeting. Public perception of this action is that Council resists transparency and prefer the lawlessness that takes place in the City. She voiced her opinion that Council Members' arguments that they are saving the taxpayers money is hypocritical since they slashed parts of the budget to fill their own district priority funds. This is the very reason why the City needs outside legal counsel. Citizens are very angry at Council's abuse of their hard-earned money. They want Council to forego ornamental frivolities and instead spend tax dollars carefully and thoughtfully on the basic necessities such as street repairs. Ms. Hereford asked Cm. Rodriguez why he opposed hiring outside legal counsel as unconscionable when he took the juvenile arrest record of his election opponent in order to better his chances of winning the election, pleading no contest after his arrest. Hiring outside legal counsel will cost the taxpayers, but Ms. Hereford voiced her opinion that it will be a worthwhile cost because it will curb the abuse and misuse of taxpayer money. He urged Mayor Saenz to host another workshop for the law firm presentations and demanded that Council attendance be mandatory. She asked that the outside counsel item to be placed back on the agenda.

Jose Diaz de Leon voiced his concern that a committee is being created for the secondary water source with potential members who are also under investigation by the FBI for their relationship with Dannenbaum Engineering. He asked Council to really study what options are truly available, noting that negotiations for a secondary water source out of Dimmitt County suddenly stopped with no explanation. For 15 years, citizens have been charged a fee for a secondary water source with no results from their money.

Armando Cisneros spoke in opposition of the water rights surcharge as it results in \$840,000 per year. He suggested instead that the City use that \$840,000 for the necessary street repairs rather than imposing an additional street maintenance fee on citizens.

Howard Ivy of Dimmitt Utility Water Supply Corporation reminded Council that the City can never have too much water, but can have too little. Wastewater can be reclaimed, and he estimated that the City can receive 20 million gallons per day (MGD) in reclamation Rio Grande water via reclamation permits. He reminded Council that the City needs contiguous property over the right place in the aquifer to ensure an equal opportunity aquifer.

Ruben Saenz of Dimmitt Utility Water Supply Corporation commended the City for signing a water rights agreement. Upon Council approval, Dimmitt Utility is ready to honor the commitments they made for the water rights endeavor.

David James submitted a letter addressed to Horacio De Leon from Mr. Watkins of the Dimmitt Utility Water Supply Corporation regarding the water rights fee. He reminded Council that this issue came before Council already and nothing has happened with the fees that have been collected from citizens. The hydrologist studies and preliminary work has already been done with no financial risk to the City. He asked Council to use the Dimmitt Utility Water Supply Corporation for this issue.

Reyna Ortiz, Texas A&M International University student representative for Leaders Organizing Volunteer Events, reported that the organization is working with City departments to perform volunteer activities. She asked Council to approve waiving El Metro fares for students during these volunteer events.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Adriana Alexander to the Ethics Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Adriana Alexander to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

2. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Roberto Lopez to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Roberto Lopez to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

3. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Melissa Mojica to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Melissa Mojica to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

4. Appointment by Mayor and City Council Members to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee representing the Animal Welfare Organization.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

5. Appointment by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr. of to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Arturo Cominguez to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

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

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

6. Appointment by Mayor and City Council Members of the Animal Care Services Department Director (Clarissa Rangel) to the Animal Care Facility Advisory Committee in accordance with the Health and Safety Code, Section 823.005.

Motion to approve the nomination of Clarissa Rangel to the Animal Care Facility Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Amending the City of Laredo FY 2018 Airport Construction Fund Budget to accept and appropriate revenues from a grant received from the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program being Grant Project No. 3-48-0136-84-2017 in the amount of \$5,796,502.00 to Widen Taxiway E, Rehabilitate Cargo Apron, Phase 10; Rehabilitate Cargo Apron, Phase 11 (Design); Install Guidance Signs; and appropriating said grant revenue and local match to the appropriate expenditure accounts and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment. The

City's required local match in the amount of \$644,056.00 (10%) is available in the Airport Construction Fund Budget to provide local match for FAA Grant No. 84. Total grant budget, including local match totals \$6,440,558.00.

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. Perez, and Cm. Balli were not present.

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents for the purchase of the "Surface Only" of 8402 Forest Loop, legally described as Lot 11, Block 1 Meadowlands Subdivision, Unit 1, a Subdivision situated in the City of Laredo, as per Plat recorded in Volume 14, Page 30, Webb County Plat Records, for the appraised market value of \$189,000.00 plus closing costs, from Ricardo and Esperanza Castillo. This property is being purchased to alleviate drainage issues and flooding concerns in the area. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund 2016A C.O.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2017-O-137, 2017-O-138, 2017-O-139, 2017-O-140, 2017-O-141, 2017-O-142, 2017-O-143, 2017-O-144, and 2017-O-145.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

3. 2017-O-137 Amending Chapter 11 Electricity of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo by amending Article I, Section 11-1 definitions; amending Article II, Section 11-24 fees for registration; amending Article II, Section 11-25 - reserved; amending Article III, Section 11-43 same-to whom issued, Section 11-44 same-fees, Section 11-45 same-display; amending Article IV, Section 11-63 service reconnection, Section 11-65 violations; providing a savings clause; providing for severability;

providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-137.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

4. 2017-O-138 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 3.9759 Acres (described by Meets and Bounds in Exhibit A), located north of Aguanieve Dr. and west of Cuatro Vientos Rd., from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-72-2017 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-138.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

5. 2017-O-139 Amending Chapter 23 (Parks and Recreation) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo to allow for, in part, a twenty percent discount to senior citizens (aged 62 and older) who sign up and pay the annual fee - based on financial need and also, offering a free, twelve month membership to City employees upon completion of the Health and Wellness Incentive program. In addition, allow for updating facilities and an increase to basketball league fees from \$70 - \$100 per team, facility rental fees from \$650 to \$1,000 for the gymnasium, \$200 to \$400 for the Multi-Purpose Room, \$50 to \$100 for the Multi-Purpose Room, non-profit and implementing a \$400 rate for the lobby in all recreation centers; containing a savings clause; containing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-139.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

6. 2017-O-140 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production, (plug/abandonment) on approximately 1.38 acres out of Porcion 24, Toribio Rodriguez Tract Abstract, 268, known as Killam-Hurd-Amoco Fee #6 Well, located north of E. Del Mar Blvd. and east of Bob Bullock Loop. ZC-74-2017 District VI

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-140.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

7. 2017-O-141 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production, plug/abandonment approximately 4 acres out of Porcion 26, A. Sanchez Tract Abstract 282, known as Ortiz Ranch "B" #1 Well, located south of E. Del Mar Blvd. and east of Bob Bullock Loop. ZC-75-2017 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-141.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

8. 2017-O-142 Authorizing the City Manager to add one FTE for a Crime Victims Service Coordinator position. The funding will come from the grant awarded by the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for the Violent Crime Grant under the 2018 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) for the period of October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. The acceptance of the grant was approved by Council on 09/18/17 with resolution number 2017-R-110. Funding is available in Fiscal Year 2018 - Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-142.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

9. 2017-O-143 An ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 7, "Buildings & Building Regulations," by amending Article 11, "Registration of General Contractors and Subcontractors," Section 7-20 through Section 7-31, modifying the Municipal Registration of General Contractors and Subcontractors; providing for the collection of fees; enforcement to include fines and criminal penalties; a severability clause; a publication clause; and an effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-143.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Vielma
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

- 10. 2017-O-144 Designating as a one-way southbound the 4600 to 5000 block of Daugherty Avenue, between E. Cherry Hill Drive and Leal Street, during the peak hours of 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday, during school days, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one-way traffic and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-144.

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

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

- 11. 2017-O-145 Amending Ordinance 2013-O-109 to extend the existing one-way north bound street designation on school days peak periods of the 3000 block of Urbahn Ave., between Plum St. and Frost St., an additional block to include the 2900 block of Urbahn Ave. between Frost St. and Lyon St., to be in effect 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, school days, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one way traffic and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-O-145.

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

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items #12 and #14-26.

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

Cm. Perez and Cm. Balli were not present.

X (a) RESOLUTIONS

- 12. 2016-R-112 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract with Valley AIDS Council d/b/a Westbrook Clinic (VAC) in the amount of \$49,195.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department HIV/AIDS

Ryan White Part D Program to provide HIV AIDS/STD health care and prevention services for women, infants, children and youth affected by AIDS for the term period of August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018.

13. 2017-R-113 Authorizing the City Manager to sign a water rights sales agreement between the City of Laredo and Russell Plantation, in which the City is agreeing to Purchase the right to divert and use 375 acre feet and 231.25 acre feet per annum of Class "B" irrigation water rights to the Rio Grande river for a total of 606.25 acre feet, which after Conversion from irrigation rights to municipal use rights amounts to 242.5 acre feet of municipal use rights per annum at \$3000.00 per ac./ft., for a purchase price of \$727,500.00; and further authorizing the City Manager to sign and file necessary Application(s) with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on behalf of the City requesting that said water rights be severed from certificates of adjudication no. 23-153C and 23-37C, respectively, as amended, of the seller and combined with Certificate of adjudication no. 23-3997, as amended, of the city and that the point of diversion, purpose and place of use of said water rights be changed as required by the city. Provided, however, the purchase of said water rights shall not be closed and paid for until after October 1, 2017, as provided in said water rights sales agreement. Funding is available in the Utilities Water Availability Fund.

Riazul Mia, Utilities Director, explained that the City buys water rights for future use. The City currently owns about 62,000 acre feet of water rights, which should last until 2040. However, the City needs to buy more rights. He clarified that the City is not charging a water rights fee. The water availability fund is paid for by the developer when a subdivision is being developed. The ordinance does not include a water availability fee. The City uses about 43,000 acre feet of water rights during the height of summer. There is a future project in the works for using effluent, but currently the City prioritizes securing a secondary water source.

Cm. Altgelt countered that water rights are only useful if there is water available. In the event of a drought, that water will not be available.

Mr. Mia noted that effluent is also a secondary water source; the water does not need to be pumped in from afar.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, explained that by adding additional water capacity for economic developmental growth, buying water rights is the cheapest means of securing water. Costs of water rights are cheaper than the costs of reclamation or secondary sources. He clarified that Dimmitt Utility Water Supply Corporation submitted a proposal nine years ago that was unexecuted. Mr. Mia added that the previous City Manager presented Council with four different options for that RFP, including Dimmitt County. At the time, Council opted the El Pico plan.

Cm. Altgelt suggested that the City submit a letter to Dimmitt County Utility Water Supply Corporation notifying them that the initial RFP is

moot and move on with the business at hand.

Mr. Mia confirmed that he will provide a Utility cost estimate as accepted by the Water Development Board for Council's review to make an informed decision.

Armando Cisneros noted that there are many questions that Council should answer before moving forward on this resolution.

David James stated that DUWSC submitted the information required at the time of the original RFP. It was ranked the highest of the proposals submitted. All of Council's questions have already been answered by DUWSC. The City is at no financial risk, and this would be a true secondary water source without affecting the aquifer.

Howard Ivy of DUWSC clarified that the RFP was frozen until such time that it could be determined if there was a secondary water source within Webb County. There is private funding for DUWSC's proposal, and after the debt has been serviced over 20 years, the City's water costs will decrease.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2017-R-113.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Torres were not present.

14. 2017-R-115 Nominating Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr., as the City of Laredo's candidate to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2018-2019 Term as per Section 6.03 of the Texas Property Tax Code and directing the City Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chief Appraiser of the Webb County Appraisal District before October 15, 2017. Prior to December 15, 2017, City Council will cast its 991 Votes in any manner it wishes for those individuals listed on the ballot provided by the Chief Appraiser.
15. 2017-R-116 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Laredo, Texas, adopting the Facility Naming & Recognition Commission policy; and providing an effective date.
16. 2017-R-117 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Laredo, Texas, electing to operate under the Public and Private Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2011 (the "Act"), Texas Government Code § 2267.001 et seq., and to use alternative contracting methods as described in the Act; adopting guidelines for the City's participation in public-private partnerships; and providing an effective date.

X (b) MOTIONS

17. Authorizing the City manager to execute a contract with Laredo Main Street in the

amount of \$50,000.00 for continued coordination and participation in the Texas Main Street program. This funding will allow Laredo Main Street to further its mission which is to preserve and enhance the historic character of downtown Laredo and to assist in the commercial revitalization of downtown Laredo.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Authorizing the City Manager to execute individual contracts with the following Third Party Funding recipients totaling \$313,725.00 for FY 2017-2018. Funding is available in the General Fund.

Laredo Little Theatre	\$6,500.00
Laredo Children's Museum (Imaginarium)	\$7,000.00
Laredo Crime Stoppers	\$4,000.00
Laredo Regional Food Bank	\$3,000.00
South Texas Food Bank	\$35,000.00
Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center	\$34,725.00
Bethany House	\$25,000.00
Serving Children and Adolescents	\$13,500.00
Children's Advocacy Center	\$27,000.00
Boy's and Girl's Club of Laredo	\$20,000.00
Border Area Nutrition Council	\$25,000.00
Literacy Volunteers of Laredo	\$6,000.00
Sacred Heart Children's Home	\$15,000.00
Veteran's Coalition	\$30,000.00
Casa de Misericordia	\$20,000.00
Special Olympics	\$10,000.00
Kidney Foundation	\$18,000.00
Laredo Amateur Boxing	\$5,000.00
Big Brother Big Sister	\$4,000.00
Area Health Education Center	\$5,000.00

19. Authorizing the City Manager to execute individual contracts with the following Hotel Motel Tax Fund recipients totaling \$542,000.00 for FY 2017-2018.

Society of Martha Washington	\$15,000.00
Border Olympics	\$120,000.00
LULAC # 7	\$10,000.00
Chamber of Commerce/Cola Blanca	\$30,000.00
WBCA	\$60,000.00
Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra	\$22,000.00
Webb County Heritage Foundation	\$60,000.00
Laredo Center for the Arts	\$150,000.00
Laredo Main Street/Farmers Market	\$15,000.00
Laredo Main Street/Jamboozie	\$20,000.00
Mexican Cultural Institute	\$10,000.00
Laredo Area Youth Soccer	\$25,000.00
Laredo Main Street/Artisan Bazaar	\$ 5,000.00

20. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest bidder ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$147,550.00 (base bid plus additive alternate no. 1) for the 80' x 120' George Washington Park Metal Shade – District I with a construction contract time of ninety (90) 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 January 2018. Funding is available in the 2016 CO – District I Priority Funds.
21. Consideration for approval of the Zacate Creek Channel Improvements Project as complete, approval of change order no. 2, a decrease of \$30,242.41 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$75,015.82 to Altus Construction, Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$1,302,255.34. Funding is available in the 2016 Environmental Services CO.
22. Consideration to authorize the purchase of three (3) patrol units from Lake Country Chevrolet, Jasper, Texas in the amount of \$137,910.90. The purchase of these vehicles shall be made utilizing the Goodbuy Contract Pricing Program. Funding is available in the Bridge Department Budget.
23. Consideration to award contract FY17-067 for the purchase of Ford Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) automotive parts for the City's Fleet vehicles to the following vendors:
 1. LEIF Johnson Ford, Austin, Texas, in an amount up to \$20,000.00; and
 2. Sames Motor Company, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$100,000.00.

All parts 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. The contract may be extended for two, additional one (1) year periods each upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

24. Consideration to award annual service/supply contract FY17-060 for the repairs/replacement/new installation of shades for the Parks & Leisure Department to the following vendors:
 1. Gutierrez Machine Shop, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$70,000.00; and
 2. Impression Design, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$40,000.00.

All services will be secured on an as needed basis. This contract establishes a percentage discount on original manufacturer shades and a labor rate for these services. The City of Laredo Purchasing Department shall obtain quotes from the primary and secondary vendor for all quotes that exceed \$3,000.00. The City of Laredo may add additional locations or departments for the replacement/repair/new installation of shades throughout the contract period. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. The contract may be extended for two, additional one (1) year periods each upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Parks Maintenance Budget.

25. Ratifying the emergency lease purchase approved by the City Manager for a Pitney Bowes inserter machine. This agreement utilizes the BuyBoard Cooperative Lease contract pricing. The request required immediate execution due to the urgency of processing the 2017 Property Tax Bills. The existing equipment has been malfunctioning and therefore needs to be replaced. The total cost to lease this equipment is \$11,131.44 per year and the lease is for a period of 60 months for a total of \$55,657.20. Funding is available in the Tax Department Budget in General Fund.
26. Consideration to authorize the installation of two (2) speed humps on Concord St., between Sheffield St. and Lyon St., under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps, instead of a speed cushion, which is currently required under the policy. Funding is available in the 2016 CO District IV Priority Fund in the amount of \$4,000.00.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XI. STAFF REPORTS

27. 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.

Veronica Baeza, Internal Auditor, reported no new findings since her last report.

No action taken.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XIII. 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. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Torres were not present.

28. 2017-RT-07 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute a grant award no. TX-2017-066-00 with the Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, in the amount of \$320,797.00 for fiscal year 2017 Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Program authorized under the new Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The Laredo Transit Management Inc. (El Metro) and the City of Laredo will replace three (3) El Lift Vans that have met their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB). The Transit's 15% local match is available in the Transit Sales Tax Fund.

Claudia San Miguel, Transit Director, noted that this grant is to purchase Para Transit vans.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2017-RT-07.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

29. Consideration to award a contract for the purchase of three (3) Paratransit Vans for the El Lift Division in the amount of \$296,869.23 utilizing the TXSMARTBUY Cooperative Contract Pricing with Creative Bus Sales from Irving, Texas. Funding is available in the Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Grant #TX-2017-066-00. The required 15% local match for the grant will be funded by Transit Sales Tax.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

30. Consideration to award a two year contract, (FY17-059), for the purchase of engine motor oil and lubricants for the Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (El Metro) to the following low bidders:

- 1) Arguindegui Oil, Co., Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$38,504.00
- 2) Hollon Oil Company, Weslaco, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$30,430.00
- 3) Gonzalez Auto Parts, Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$21,750.00
- 4) Arnold Oil Company, Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$8,750.00
- 5) Schaley Industrial Parts, Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$3,060.00

If the contract pricing does not exceed the current pricing structure, the contract will be automatically renewed for two (2) additional one-year period extensions. Funding is available in the Laredo Transit Management, El Metro Operations Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

31. Consideration to award contract, FY 17-064, Bus Shelter Replacement and/or Repairs Project for City Council Districts IV and V, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, ALC Construction, in the amount of \$54,100.00. This project consists of improvements to twenty-five (25) bus shelter locations in District IV and five (5) bus shelter locations in District V, which have already been identified. ALC Construction was the bidder with a complete bid package that included addendum documentation. Funding for District IV bus shelters is available in the 2015 and 2016 CO - District IV Priority Funds, and funding for District V bus shelters is available in the 2016 CO - District V Priority Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

32. Consideration to waive bus fare and parking fees at the Transit Center for the Make a Difference Day Registered Volunteers on all Metro Routes on Saturday, October 28, 2017, in Partnership with Make a Difference Day / Azteca Neighborhood Revitalization Project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

XIV. 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. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres and Cm. Vielma were not present.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

33.

A. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to consider city property for the possibility of a Veterans Museum.

Ricardo De Anda noted that there is an important need for a veterans' museum in Laredo. He recently prepared an agreement between the Laredo Housing Authority and families who want to display memorabilia, ribbons, and medals of their veteran family members with no place to show them. The Laredo Housing Authority made some place available to those families. Mr. De Anda displayed an interlocal agreement which the City entered into with Webb County for a dedicated public veterans' museum within Precinct 1 and District VIII. This agreement commits the City and County to provide \$500,000 each in funding to rehabilitate and refurbish the Farias Building for this purpose. He clarified that Webb County is responsible for veterans' issues, not the City, per this agreement. The County is also responsible for ensuring that this project is initiated and completed, involving collecting bids and hiring contractors. The only requirement of the City is to pay bills up to \$500,000. Mr. De Anda reminded Council that this project is an urban revitalization project, using taxpayer money to save an important building in an important part of town.

Jesus Segovia, Laredo Veterans Coalition member, introduced veterans and Kiwanis members present. He attended a meeting of the architects who have already performed studies on the Farias building. The cost to rehabilitate the interior of the building is almost \$500,000 alone. The exterior cost has not yet been determined. The building is not structurally sound and is too small for a museum. There is no room for expansion, and the streets are too small for school buses to park and turn around the property; visits from school children is vital to the success of a museum. The Kiwanis Club has a project in conjunction with the Laredo Veterans Coalition to use some land at the Veterans Memorial Park at North Central Park for a flag burning ground at no cost to the City or the County.

Luis De La Garza of the Kiwanis Club explained that there is a proper procedure for retiring of flags via burning which has not been done for years. He proposed a designated area for the proper retirement of flags with the JROTC. The architects Memo Cavazos and Ray Ortiz have already begun the design, and this site will be an educational and attractive contribution to the community.

Mr. Segovia added that over the last 10 years, Laredo has had over 1,000

veterans who do not have any location to display their memorabilia or share their stories. Renovating the Farias building will be too costly and take too much time. It would be more efficient to start from scratch at a new location. He reported that a few hundred veterans have already signed a document stating that they would not support a veterans' museum at the Farias building.

Memo Cavazos of the Kiwanis Club of Laredo stated that this was a standalone project that the Club has been working on for a year before collaborating with the Laredo Veterans Coalition.

Ray Ortiz of the Kiwanis Club displayed the designed site and concept of the flag retirement plaza with a small monument. Alexander High School performs a flag retirement ceremony on their campus, and Mr. Ortiz noted that the proposed site could be used by all Laredo entities that need to retire their flags.

Doug Alferd, veteran, noted his keen interest in a veterans' museum and stated that flag retirement is an important aspect of the Boy Scouts organization. This site will facilitate scouts in earning badges. He added that a large veterans' museum in New Orleans has overstock of memorabilia and needs another location to donate their extra inventory. The longer Laredo takes to establish a museum or dedicate site, the more memorabilia lost from dying veterans.

Cm. San Miguel voiced his enthusiasm for this item as there is a vested interest in local veterans and their commemoration in the community.

Mr. Cavazos confirmed that his architecture firm is working on the veterans' museum project independently with the Kiwanis Club regardless of where the location is. The project is ready to begin construction once a location is determined. He declined to voice his preference for the museum location as he is working for the Kiwanis Club.

Cm. Balli voiced his support of a veterans' museum and reported that staff had a meeting with the Webb County judge and architects about a year ago. The costs is not calculable right now. He advocated for the safety and attraction of a Downtown location for this purpose.

Mr. Segovia countered that the majority of Laredo veterans do not want the Farias building to be used. He cautioned Council that if the museum is established downtown, many of the Laredo veterans will not support or patronize it. They are not opposed to the Farias family or individuals involved, but the square footage of the house is too small and expensive to renovate and does not let the museum expand or put memorabilia outside. He asked Council to secure an agreement with Webb County to decommit the City's \$500,000 prior to proceeding with a new location.

Kristina L. Hale, Acting City Attorney, clarified that the City currently has an agreement with Webb County with \$500,000 committed. Council will need to amend the City's agreement in order to decommit those moneys. The agreement is seven years old with no timeline but clearly commits \$500,000 to a downtown veterans' museum.

Cm. Torres reported that he was contacted by some Webb County

Commissioners stating that they were willing to decommit their \$500,000, but they will drop their commitment to the property as well. Cm. Torres noted that if that happens, the City will be solely responsible for the property. He cautioned Council to make sure that the City is not overcommitting. He also reiterated his support of a veterans' museum and commemorating the service of veterans in Laredo. Webb County has wavered in its commitment of the Farias home because estimates show that it will cost more than the combined \$1 million to restore the home.

Cm. Perez voiced his concern about the Farias building, noting that it is currently owned by Webb County and that the City should save the building if needed.

Barry Bernier confirmed that the local veteran organizations sent a letter to Judge Tano Tijerina expressing their wishes for the location of a veterans' museum. The park location will serve the entire community and be more accessible than a Downtown location. The enhancement to the community will be far better served at North Central Park.

Mr. Segovia confirmed that he has about 300 signatures of local veterans expressing these wishes.

Cm. Altgelt suggested that Council host a charrette to gather public input on the location and specifications of the veterans' museum.

Cm. Vielma voiced her opinion that it is more financially responsible to relocate the prospective museum from the Farias building as this is another example of throwing good money after bad. If Webb County had a sincere commitment, it has now been seven years with no progress. She voiced her agreement that the open space of the park location will allow the museum to grow and utilize technology to engage younger members of the community.

Mayor Saenz warned Council that the donation of the Farias building to Webb County was made conditional of certain terms by the Farias family. There are limitations and legalities involved in the current situation, and he voiced his concern over incurring a lawsuit that would tie up the moneys available for the museum.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, reiterated that this project has been stalled for a long time, and it is time to meet with the County and reestablish intentions in writing.

David Alfredo reported that he owns a Christmas napkin with his grandfather's company roster, and it was his deceased mother's wish that the napkin be donated to a war museum. He listed other war memorabilia in his and his family's possession that is intended to be displayed in Laredo if there is a war or veteran museum.

Cm. San Miguel stated that this discussion and the project in general is adding too much delay to action that can be taken, which is disrespectful to the veterans who are passing away without seeing a museum established in their honor. Council is at the point where it can make a decision and move forward. The Farias building has a lot of issues which will take too much money and time to

remedy.

Motion to utilize the City property located south of the trailhead at North Central Park for a future veterans' memorial museum and to include the Kiwanis flag retirement project and to instruct staff to meet with Webb County officials to discuss the dissolution of the existing veterans' museum MOU and to reallocate the current MOU funding from the City and the County towards the new project located at North Central Park, as amended.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

1. Discussion and possible action to add "teeth" to the current ethics ordinance including but not limited to preventing elected and appointed deciding/scoring officials from meeting with or receiving anything of value from a lobbyist, someone acting as a lobbyist, a contractor and/or vendor or someone that seeks to otherwise do business with the city unless that said someone is registered as the aforementioned, an agenda is posted for the meeting and the subject and people concerned is clearly stated, and minutes if the meeting are kept. Additionally, the ethics commission should be given the authority to fine, suspend/discipline and or terminate and prevent from running and/or being hired an elected and/or appointed/employed official in the event a violation of ethics ordinance has been determined. (See generally El Paso County Ethics Ordinance). (Co-Sponsored by Council Member San Miguel)

Cm. Altgelt explained that this item provides Council the ability to reinforce the ethics ordinance. The current ethics ordinance does not go as far as many people would like it to, and to add the proposed changes would give the ordinance and Ethics Commission the power to make bold decisions should a City employee or elected official run awry.

Kristina L. Hale, Acting City Attorney, clarified that much of the language provided in the agenda item are already in the ethics ordinance. It is a model ordinance that all cities have, and an ethics ad-hoc committee reviewed the model. The Charter does not allow the Ethics Commission to discipline, recall an elected official, or cancel contracts. However, the Commission does have the power to recommend such actions to the City Manager, Department Directors, and the City Council. She referenced Charter section 2.03(B), saying the City Manager and Department Director are empowered to appoint or remove their employees. The Texas Ethics Commission have the same general opinion. If Council wants to grant the powers suggested by Cm. Altgelt to the Ethics Commission via the City Charter, those amendments must go before the voters. Some provisions were originally removed from the model ordinance by the ad-hoc committee, which can be placed back into the ordinance.

Mrs. Hale reported that the original committee was created about 10 years ago, and the committee met for two years to write the ethics ordinance. Every part of the ordinance was carefully reviewed with the input of department directors.

Cm. Altgelt noted that he would like to see the original recommendations, many of which were watered down before being incorporated into the ethics ordinance. He noted his intention to strengthen the ethics ordinance.

Cm. San Miguel reported that as part of the City's bid package, there is a page informing vendors that they are not to be contacting Council Members or City officials who will be part of the scoring or selection process. Mrs. Hale confirmed that the notification is included in bid packages, but she the bidders are not required to sign or acknowledge that section. Cm. San Miguel suggesting making it a requirement to acknowledge and sign that ethics ordinance reference with a consequence of disqualifying the bidder for failure to acknowledge that section.

Jose Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, explained that during the bid opening process, the City Secretary's Office checks to see that the bidder acknowledged any applicable bid addenda and provided a bid bond or bid check if required. The other requirements are checked by the department responsible for the bid project.

Miguel Pescador, Purchasing Director, confirmed that all formal bid solicitations include an ethics acknowledgement form.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, cautioned Council that updating the bid procurement process deviates from the agenda item and would require a policy before instructing staff to carry out any policy changes.

Cm. San Miguel reminded staff that training should be revisited every year to keep employees mindful of the policies in place. Mrs. Hale confirmed that an assistant city attorney is currently working on such a training schedule.

Cm. Perez voiced his opinion that if the original ad-hoc committee met weekly for two years to create the ethics ordinance, it has been thoroughly and carefully written already and does not need to be edited.

Motion to instruct the City Attorney's Office to bring back the original ethics ad-hoc commission's recommendations and research the ethics codes of other cities which have strict consequences for violations and to implement a requirement to acknowledge the ethics ordinance within all bids or risk disqualification and have a special Council meeting at noon to discuss this matter further, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion and possible action to conduct an audit regarding the production of City mechanics at the Fleet Department relevant to the private sector.

Cm. Altgelt clarified that by "audit" he meant a comparison study. Fleet services are time-consuming, and it may be more cost-effective to utilize the private sector to perform the maintenance and services instead.

Jack Dunn, Fleet Management Director, reported that he performed a self-audit of the Fleet Department. With 28 employees performing all of the work, the Fleet Department produced 44,825.3 hours of service, or about 30 hours per mechanic.

He reported the pay ranges of the various employee positions. He compared those wages with the average wages of the private sector, which were significantly higher than what the City pays. The labor costs charged in Fleet is around \$63 while the private sector usually charges a flat diagnostic fee of \$119 for services. Dealerships do not charge less than \$100 per hour for labor.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, confirmed that the Chief Innovation Officer position would be tasked with evaluating production and possible inefficiencies among departments with the directors and report to Council.

Cm. Vielma noted that when an employee works on salary rather than an hourly rate or commission, there may be no incentive to work quickly. Mr. Dunn explained that dealerships operate in "flag hours," a piecemeal payment incentive where employees are paid based on how much they produce. The City does not operate on flag hours

Motion to task the Chief Innovation Officer to conduct a cost-benefit analysis with regards to the Fleet Management Department as it relates to the private sector.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. Vielma

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action requesting an audit of the total expenses in the various departments and personnel incurred for the Pony league "World Series" and any items incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member George Altgelt)

Ivan Rodriguez noted that Council has to work diligently to provide the funding for services and amenities to citizens. The PONY tournament was categorized as a World Series though it resembled a zone tournament, and he is not sure how much money was ultimately spent. He voiced his opinion that this tournament was ill-advised because it did not draw international teams as advertised or many teams from out-of-state. The Parks & Leisure Services Department should be held accountable for the oversight of this tournament. Mr. Rodriguez asked Council to make sure that the City's moneys are spent carefully and wisely. After the audit, he asked Council to hold the responsible parties accountable if the results show mismanagement of the event.

Orlando Navarro countered that the World Series was an economic development tool. It was not the City that named it a world series; that decision came from PONY League. He voiced his interest in getting as many teams to Laredo to spend their money in the local economy. Any time taxpayer dollars are used, there should be an audit to ensure good business practices are implemented. Mr. Navarro noted that Council should be careful using audits as a personal attack against any particular individual, which is what is happening in this case. He reminded Council that the hotels were filled during the PONY League World Series, and singling out individuals via an audit is inappropriate.

Cm. Vielma clarified that she did not bring this item before Council as a personal

vendetta against anyone, particularly Mr. Richard Rosas, PONY League President. All Council Members have the fiscal responsibility to make sure that taxpayer dollars are wisely spent. By the time PONY League brought the world series before Council, the league had already entered into contracts and agreements, asking the City for \$60,000. Afterward, additional expenses were found regarding personnel, overtime, supplies, and areas that were not approved by Council. Those expenses need to be audited by Council because it was a deceptive representation. Cm. Vielma noted that she attended the "world series" and did not see any international teams; the event was a glorified South Texas tournament. She requested a list of the teams who attended; she only saw one team from Florida and the rest appeared to be from Texas.

Richard Rosas, Laredo PONY President, countered that the Laredo PONY League did not create the name World Series; that was mandated by the PONY corporate organization. The tournament was the South Zone World Series. There were mostly teams from Texas with some from Louisiana and Florida. It was called the World Series because it is open to teams from all over the world. He noted that an Aruba team and a Mexican team intended to attend but had travel problems that prevented them from attending. Mr. Rosas noted that a lot of improvements can be made for next year. PONY corporate hires Hotel Planner for the hotel arrangements, which is outside of his control.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, suggested that for the purposes of total transparency, the Internal Auditor should conduct this audit rather than department directors submitting their information to City management or Council.

Cm. Torres voiced his opinion that calling the tournament a world series is not as problematic as made out because it implies multiple tournaments occurring simultaneously throughout the world in the PONY baseball organization. The City Manager should have the discretion to approve personnel overtime for the tournament rather than every department director requesting approval from Council. He also noted that no one can control the success of vendors who sell from a booth at baseball tournaments. Cm. Torres stated that he will support the audit only if it includes all of the leagues that the City has assisted, not just PONY League. Cm. Vielma countered that Council never oversees the overtime of personnel; that is the purview of the City Manager. She did not intend to undermine the City Manager or his staff.

Cm. Altgelt agreed that his understanding of "world series" implied a finals-type tournament of the best teams in PONY.

Mr. Rosas clarified that the check that the Laredo PONY League received from the City was for \$12,500 to pay the contractor. Robert Eads, Assistant City Manager, confirmed that the City agreed to commit to \$60,000 as a maximum amount of support in total, not just to the PONY League. He could not confirm the City's final profit from the event.

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the public was misled and the tournament needs to be evaluated to determine if the event was worth the expenses and manpower.

Cm. Perez thanked Mr. Rosas for bringing thousands to players to Laredo and noted that he does not agree with the tone of this item. Multiple sports leagues

are undergoing audits, so the Laredo PONY League is not alone.

Rosario Cabello, Finance Director, reported that the City assigns project names and numbers for large projects such as the Laredo PONY League World Series. This allows each department to charge the project the expenses of what they have to put into the event. To-date, the amount expensed for this tournament, which has not been audited to-date, is \$324,000.

Cm. Rodriguez asked the Internal Auditor to check all of the parties receiving City assistance to help Council ensure that all parties receive the same amount. He also asked the Auditor to check whether tournaments coming to Laredo were brought before Council and if so, which Council Members advocated for them. Cm. Balli also requested the local economic impact and sales tax for this audit.

Mr. De Leon voiced his opinion that tournaments are a good investment, but the City needs to evaluate the expenses against the return on investment. Laredo needs more tournaments, but responsibly so. Cm. San Miguel echoed the same sentiments, adding that these programs will promote more tournaments.

Motion to instruct the Internal Auditor to conduct an audit of all of the expenses of the Laredo PONY League "World Series" and all leagues that the City supports in tournaments to also include City department personnel expenses and other equipment, supplies, and in-kind services utilized to support the leagues, including a "heads in beds" and actual cost report, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to authorize improvements to the Bartlett park including a basketball court, lighting and benches and any items incident thereto.

Graciela Briones of the Parks & Leisure Services Department, reported that the proposed site for a basketball court at Bartlett Park is near the enclosed restroom area by the pool. The cost estimate is as follows:

Basketball Court (contracted out)	\$65,300
4 Park Benches	\$2,600
1 Drinking Fountain	\$3,100
Lighting System	\$12,500
3-Row Bleachers Set	\$3,200
Total	\$86,700

Ms. Briones noted that a roof or canopy for the basketball court was not requested. The court is similar to the one at North Central Park.

Motion to approve the expenditures as presented using the District Priority Funds.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt was not present.

3. Discussion with possible action to authorize improvements to the Chaparral park including a hike/bike trail and any items incident thereto.

Cm. Vielma noted that a town hall meeting resulted in requests for improvements to this park.

Graciela Briones of the Parks & Leisure Services Department reported the cost estimate for the Chaparral Park improvements as follows:

1,550 LF of 5 ft concrete trail	\$16,250
8 Park benches	\$5,200
1 Drinking fountain	\$3,100
7,750 sqft of pour-in-place	\$67,812
Total	\$92,362

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Vielma

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Discussion with possible action to request a Parks City League of Sports for Seniors and Veterans and any items incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.)

Anita Stanley of the Parks & Leisure Services Department reported that staff researched what other cities and states are doing regarding this issue. Currently, Laredo is hosting several baseball leagues in three divisions: adult (age 18-50), veterans (age 51-62), and masters (age 62 and older). The adult division is conducted at Slaughter Park Monday through Friday; the veterans division is all day Saturday at Slaughter Park, Dryden Park, and Father McNaboe Sports Complex. The masters division is conducted Sunday at Taylor Park. Currently, the adult division has seven teams, the veterans division has eight teams, and the masters division has six teams.

Cm. Vielma requested that these divisions be promoted more as many constituents were not aware of their existence.

Ms. Stanley reported that 336 individuals combined participate in these leagues. The Department is working on creating a softball league in the upcoming months.

Cm. Rodriguez clarified that there is a rule in softball leagues that individuals aged 45 or older can play in any division. He agreed with Cm. Vielma that these divisions and activities need further promotion.

No action taken.

XV. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Jose A. Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 through 26 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on October 2, 2017.

Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary