

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2015-R-03
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
FEBRUARY 17, 2015
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pete Saenz led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Pete Saenz,	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez,	District I
Esteban Rangel,	Mayor Pro-Tempore, District II
Alejandro Perez, Jr.,	District III
Juan Narvaez,	District IV
Roque Vela, Jr.,	District V
Charlie San Miguel,	District VI
Roberto Balli,	District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.	City Secretary
Jesus Olivares,	Interim City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of February 2, 2015.

Motion to approve the February 2, 2015 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez arrived at 5:40 pm and Cm. San Miguel arrived at 6:20 pm.

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Communiqués

- a. Invitation by Border Olympics Board of Directors to the 84th Annual Events.

Hector “Tito” Garcia, Treasurer of Border Olympics, officially invited the Mayor and City Council to their 84th Annual Events.

Citizen comments

Veronica Aleman stated that it is our obligation as citizens to address the concern at the heart of hardworking citizens of Laredo. She added that the solutions were out there and already existed and that they should start on the process of transformation to resolve things in a nonviolent way.

Roberto Garza said that he opposed the Municipal Management District which he felt was there for profit. He added that he believed that downtown could be turned into something better.

Andres Sanchez stated that the plastic bags ban was unconstitutional. He added that they demanded an immediate veto of this ban and that it would be in the best interests of downtown.

Nelly Vielma stated that she represented a group of downtown property owners who were negatively affected by the creation of the Municipal Management District. She added that it would be run by unelected board members who did not represent their interests and were not accountable to the residents of their district. She urged them to dissolve the Municipal Management District.

David Almaraz spoke against the Municipal Management District and felt that a higher burden would be placed both upon him and others. He asked for its dissolution.

Elizabeth Martinez stated that the creation of the Municipal Management District created a higher tax burden on the property owners within the downtown district. She added that future possible buyers of her property would think twice about buying it because of the additional Municipal Management District tax.

Viviana Frank reported that, as a board member of the Municipal Management District, there had been no assessment and no desire to trump anyone. She added that it was a business improvement district to create economic redevelopment in the area and was done with the approval of the City Council and the legislature. She concluded that they needed to redirect the attention to workshops so that they could work on a strategic plan for economic development

in the area.

Po Jen Hsiao, the Director General of Tainan Hsien City Government in Taiwan, was presented by Yu-Hsien Huang Del Rio, secretary of the Laredo Asian Association. The representatives expressed a desire to rebuild their Sister Cities relationship during the festivities of the George Washington Celebration.

Memo Castro stated that there was an injustice done to residents of Rancho Viejo because on June 2, Mayor Salinas and City Council approved a zone change so that maquinitas could operate at the entrance of the subdivision.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Esteban Rangel of Oscar Gomez to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Oscar Gomez to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Esteban Rangel of Monica Garcia to the Charter Review Commission.

Motion to table.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez of Armand Vanlor to the Technical Review Board Ad Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Armand Vanlor to the Technical Review Board Ad Hoc Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- d. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr., of Patty San Miguel to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Patty San Miguel to the Municipal Civil

Service Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- e. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Maria Arzuaga de Olivarez to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Maria Arzuaga de Olivarez to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- f. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr. of Alejandro Campero to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Alejandro Campero to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- g. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Hector Cortez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Hector Cortez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- h. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Israel Reyna to the Charter Review Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Israel Reyna to the Charter Review Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- i. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Jose Salvador Tellez to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jose Salvador Tellez to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- j. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Luxandra Guerra to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Luxsandra Guerra to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- k. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Victor Oliveros to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Victor Oliveros to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- l. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Elsa Galvan to the Ethics Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Elsa Galvan to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- m. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Mike Kazen to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Mike Kazen to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- n. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Esther Degollado to the Parks & Recreation Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Esther Degollado to the Parks and Leisure Services Board.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- o. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Jose Tellez, II to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jose Tellez, II to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- p. Appointment by Council Member Roberto Balli of Jamie Martinez and Sylvia Palumbo to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Janie Martinez and Sylvia Palumbo to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the 2015 Transit Capital Budget by increasing revenues and expenses in the amount of \$40,393.00 in order to appropriate transit improvements approved in FTA Grant TX-90-Y124-00. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances by deleting all existing sections of Chapter 20 entitled "Municipal Court" and replacing with new sections; establishing regulations for the enforcement of the Municipal Code of Ordinances and other applicable codes and laws; establishing rules and procedures for the operation of the municipal court and setting the salary of the presiding Municipal Court Judge; providing authorization to collect civil fines and impose court costs and fees; providing authority to designated code enforcement officers, inspectors, animal control officers or licensed peace officers of the city to issue citations for the enforcement of the code of ordinances and other laws provided herein; providing authority for the issuance of inspection and abatement warrants incidental to the enforcement of any provision of the city code; providing a repealing clause providing a severability clause; providing a penalty clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1 and 8, Block 4, Moreno Addition, located at 1819 N. Diaz Avenue, from R-1 (Single-Family

Residential District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 5 and 6, Block 1207, Eastern Division, located at 2119 Piedra China Street, from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District III

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carlos Marquez, property owner, spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Perez

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit and Drilling Permit for Oil and/or Gas Extraction and Production on 1.38 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 2715 E. Del Mar Boulevard; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 3.98 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at southeast of a private road (Phelps Road) and 300 feet northeast of FM 1472 (Mines Road), from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District VII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a bus terminal on Lot 2 and Lot 3 and the west 3/4 of Lot 4, Block 120, Western Division, located at 814 Houston Street; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit. District VIII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Francisco Rodriguez appeared before Council for their support for the zone change approval.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Balli

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for used furniture sales on Lots 7 and 8, Block 873, Eastern Division, located at 1602 East Frost Street; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit. District IV

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Gerardo Gonzalez spoke in favor for a used furniture store.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Narvaez

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 119, Block 8, Del Mar Hills, Section 1, Area "A", located at 4 Fenwick Drive, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-O (Residential / Office District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ron Whitehawk, representing the property owner, reported that they wished to be consistent with the zone change from last year on the adjoining property under the same ownership. He added that it was similar in zoning and probable land use to the offices one block to the east. He concluded that the owner wished to make sure that the property was developed with adequate parking so that there would be no need for on-street parking.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

10. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Amendment to Ground Lease ("Lease") by an between the City of Laredo, a municipal corporation ("Landlord"), and San Antonio MTA, L.P. d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Tenant")

dated October 21, 2002 and attached hereto; to allow Landlord to increase Tenant's ground space as described in Exhibit "B" of Lease for additional ground space for a generator as described in Exhibit "B-1," therefore replacing Exhibit "B" with Exhibit "B-1;" and to increase Tenant's rent by \$8,000.00 per year commencing on April 1, 2015 and shall thereafter increase in accordance with Paragraph 3 of the Lease; all other terms and conditions remain in full force and effect. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Amending Chapter 19, Motor Vehicle and Traffic, Article VIII, Stopping, Standing or Parking, Section 19-364, restricted parking areas, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Laredo: specifically adding Sub-Section 19-364 (14) which establishes the South side of the 2200 Block of Mier Street, between Jarvis Avenue and Bartlett Avenue, as a "NO Parking Anytime/Tow Away Zone", providing for severability, effective date and publication. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

12. Designating as a one-way westbound, the 2200 Block of Mier Street, between Jarvis Avenue and Bartlett Avenue, during the peak school hours of 7:15 A.M. to 8:15 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. to 4:15 P.M., Monday thru Friday, during school days, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one-way traffic and providing for publication and effective date. (AS AMENDED) (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Lease Agreement with M & M Air Cargo and Delivery Service, Inc., as LESSEE for approximately 6,017 square feet constituting Section 1 and 2,646 square feet constituting Section 2 of Building No. 170 located at 5103 Maher Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. The term is for two (2) years and six (6) months effective January 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2017. For the first six (6) months, the initial monthly rent shall be \$2,500.44. Effective July 1, 2015 the monthly rental shall increase to three thousand one hundred twenty five dollars (\$3,125.00) as per Fair Market Rent Appraisal; providing for annual CPI rent adjustments; and providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2015-O-017, 2015-O-018, 2015-O-019, 2015-O-020, 2015-O-021, and 2015-O-022.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. 2015-O-017 Amending the City of Laredo Recreation Fund FY 2015 Annual Budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$125,000.00 to be used for the transition period of March through May of FY 2015 to cover operating losses associated with The Max Golf Course. Funding will be made available through a transfer in from General Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-017.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2015-O-018 Amending the City of Laredo FY 2015 Airport Construction Fund Budget to accept and appropriate revenues and expenditures from an Insurance Claim No. PR3516 received from the Texas Municipal League in the amount of \$251,437.00 to repair the Engineered Material Arresting System "EMAS", Hillside gate, and a portion of the fence on Saunders Avenue; and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-018.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2015-O-019 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement and accept reimbursement from the Webb County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and to appropriate the City of Laredo Special Police FY 14-15 budget by increasing revenues and expenditures for an additional amount of \$19,730.00 for a total grant amount of \$1,019,730.00 from the 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Operation Stonegarden (OPSG). This funding will be used for the purchase of vehicles and related equipment, and for overtime and fringe benefit expenses used for Stonegarden operations. The term of this grant agreement is from September 1, 2014 to February 28, 2016.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-019.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2015-O-020 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease assignment from Miguel A. Rojas, as Lessee, of that lease agreement approved by Ordinance No. 2005-O-056 dated March 29, 2005 for approximately 16,291.44 square feet of land located at 1719 E. Hillside St. located at the Laredo International Airport to Adriana Martinez, as assignee and to exercise the option to extend the lease agreement for one (1) consecutive ten (10) year term, until August 31, 2025. The current monthly rental is \$1,410.46 and annually adjusted by changes in CPI, all other term and conditions remain the same and in effect; providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-020.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2015-O-021 Authorizing the City Manager to accept the dedication of two (2) Utility and Public Access easements for the road and utility improvements planned for Mauro Sandoval Drive, formerly McDonald Street. The easements are being dedicated to the City of Laredo by Esther Santos Falk and Jorge Gonzalez and are further described in sequential order below:

Parcel 1: a tract of land containing 122 square feet , more or less, situated in Porcion 31, Abstract 3116, Jose Trevino, Original Grantee, same being out of Lot 1, Block 1, Limon Subdivision as recorded in Vol 16, Page 19 Webb County Plat Records, (dedicated by Esther Santos Falk) and

Parcel 2: a tract of land containing 310 square feet , more or less, situated in Porcion 31, Abstract 3116, Jose Trevino, Original Grantee, same being out of Lot 3, Block 1, Loop 20 - Highway 359 - Commercial Plaza, as recorded in Vol. 16 page 27, Webb County Map Records, (dedicated By Jorge Gonzalez); and providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-021

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2015-O-022 Finding that this proposed action serves the public interest and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 30-year Lease and Fixed Base Operator (FBO) Agreement with Altair Aviation, L.L.C., and approving a temporary three (3) year partial waiver of the Airport's Minimum Standards approved by Ordinance No. 2006-O-202, Section E, Sub-Section B specifically the space requirements. During the three (3) period LESSEE shall have developed plans and specification to construct an approximately 21,120 square foot hangar, demolished the existing Hangar No. 162, and completed the construction, all within the three (3) year period. Failure by LESSEE to adhere to this schedule may cause for LESSEE to be in breach of the Lease Agreement and LESSEE shall not be entitled to continue to operate under the three (3) year partial waiver of the Minimum Standards. The appraised Fair Market Annual Rent (FMR) shall be \$30,600.00 and shall be adjusted annually by changes in the Consumer Price Index and at each ten (10) year anniversary by appraisal of the leased premises excluding improvements. Providing for effective date. (The Airport Advisory Board recommends approval of this item)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-O-022.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. RESOLUTIONS

15. 2015-R-13 Declaring a public necessity to utilize the area under IH-35, between Park Street and Sanchez Street, as a parking area on February 19, 2015, for the Annual Youth Parade and on February 21, 2015 for the Washington's Birthday Grand Parade and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Texas Department of Transportation for the use of said property. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2015-R-13.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. 2015-R-21 Requesting that the members of the 84th Legislative Session of the State of Texas support legislation that increases funding for the Texas Recreation and Parks Account and Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account Local Park Grant Programs, and the Texas Park System.

Motion to approve Resolution 2015-R-21.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. 2015-R-23 Authorizing the City Manager's submittal of a grant to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the United States Department of Commerce in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 to be used towards the construction of an \$8 million(approximately), 600 space parking garage to be located at Zaragoza, Grant and Santa Maria. The remaining \$6.5 million will come from property acquisition and cash match from City and possibly private funds. These funds will be used towards the construction of the first phase (promenade and parking structure) of the River Vega Project. This project received \$1.5 million for the design and engineering from EDA in 2010.

Motion to approve Resolution 2015-R-23.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. MOTIONS

18. Discussion with possible action on confirming the recommendation made by presiding Municipal Court Judge Rosie Cuellar of Diana Navarro as Substitute Judge for the City of Laredo pursuant to section 5.02 of the City Charter.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1, an increase of \$8,350.00

to modify the footing and wall at the area of most serious wash out by the creek to the San Jose Subdivision Block Wall Contract with Zavala's Construction, Laredo, Texas. Current construction contract amount with this change order is \$57,850.00. Completion date for the project is scheduled for March 2015. Funding is available in the 2010 and 2014 CO Issues.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration for approval to reject the three (3) bids received for the Santa Ursula Connector – Removal of Concrete Sidewalk (1700 L.F. x 6 Feet Wide) located at Zaragoza/Santa Ursula Intersection South to Bridge I.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to renew contract FY14-020 to Nick Benavides, Laredo, Texas to provide mowing and maintenance of the Chacon Creek Hike and Bike Trail. This contract is for an estimated amount of \$161,988.00 and maintenance area is approximately 32 acres of land which includes all areas on or next to Chacon Creek Trail. This will be the first of two - one year extension options upon mutual agreement from both parties and there is no price increase. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Departmental Budget.

Armando Cisneros asked what changed from the last meeting where this item was tabled until this meeting.

City Attorney Raul Casso explained that there was no ethical issue because the prohibition was that a committee member could not have a contract with the city; therefore, Mr. Benavides had resigned. In addition, the exception in the Ethics Ordinance had allowed for the lowest bidder to be awarded a contract.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of January 2015, represent a decrease of \$23,344.91. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII (a) RESOLUTIONS

23. 2015-R-18 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$159,727.00 to fund the Laredo Police Department and the Rio Grande Valley Financial HIDTA Task Force Initiatives. This grant is funded by the Executive Office of the President, Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) at no cost to the City. Funding will be used to pay personnel salaries, fringe benefits, overtime, travel and operating expenses from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
24. 2015-R-19 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in an estimated amount of \$100,000.00 to the Office of The Governor, Criminal Justice Department, for funding the 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) or for the period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. This funding will provide overtime for the Anti-Gang Task Force which will target Criminal Street Gangs by identifying, monitoring, suppressing and documenting criminal gang activities and implementing a database.
25. 2015-R-22 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services through the South Texas Development Council (STDC) for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department's Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids Project (HOPWA) in the amount of

\$81,652.00 for the term of February 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016.

XII (b) MOTIONS

26. Consideration to award a contract to Engineered Arresting Systems Corporation d/b/a Zodiac Arresting Systems Corporation ("ZASA"), Logan Township, New Jersey, in an amount not to exceed \$248,900.00 to repair the damage to the Engineered Material Arresting System (EMAS) blocks at the Laredo International Airport; 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 thirty (30) days. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund, subject upon approval of Final Reading Ordinance No. 2015-O-018, page 7.
27. Consideration for approval of the South Laredo Library Facility (Concrete Work Package) as complete, ratification of change order No. 1, a decrease of \$38,455.00, ratification of change order No. 2, an increase of \$6,625.80 and approval of change order No. 3, a decrease of \$250.00 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$12,770.49 to Mariano Zapata & Juan Quiroga, Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$146,159.80. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund and 2008 C.O.
28. Consideration for approval of the South Laredo Library Facility (HVAC Package) as complete, approval of change order No. 1, a decrease of \$16,040.00 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$40,916.00 to Sunbelt Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Service, Inc., Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$376,760.00. Funding is available in the 2008 C.O. Bond.
29. Consideration to renew the annual supply contract FY14-031 to the following vendors:
 1. Conney Safety Products, Madison, Wisconsin (Primary Vendor)
 2. Eagle Supply, Laredo, Texas (Secondary Vendor)

for the purchase of safety supplies in an amount up to \$150,000.00 for all City departments. This contract establishes pricing for those safety supplies most commonly utilized by City departments. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. There will be no price increase during this extension period. All items will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the user department budgets.

30. Consideration to authorize purchase of bermuda grass from BWI Companies, Inc., of Schulenburg, Texas, for a total amount of \$51,906.00, to be purchased and delivered on an as needed basis, to maintain various parks locations. This contract is utilizing Buy Board contract pricing and funding is available through Parks & Leisure Services Department Budget.
31. Consideration to renew the existing annual contract FY13-021 for the purchase of truck tires currently awarded to Southern Tire Mart, LLC, Dallas, Texas, in an amount up to \$250,000.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. All tires will be secured on an as needed basis. There will be a price decrease during this extension period. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.
32. Consideration to renew the existing six (6) month contract FY14-039 to Hollon Oil Company, Weslaco, Texas in an amount up to \$88,000.00 for the purchase of motor oil and lubricants for the Fleet Department. The term of this contract shall be for a period of six (6) months beginning as of the date of its execution. There is a price decrease being proposed on these commodities. All lubricants will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.
33. Consideration to award contract FY15-016 to the low bidder meeting specifications Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas for the purchase of one (1) aerial bucket truck in the amount \$98,607.20 for the Traffic Safety Department. The aerial bucket truck shall be used in preventative, routine, and emergency related traffic jobs. Funding is available in the 2013 PFCO and the Capital Improvement Fund.
34. Consideration to renew contract FY14-011 to Century Asphalt, Houston, Texas in an amount up to \$100,000.00 for the purchase of tack coat emulsified asphalt oil used for street paving projects. The asphalt oils are purchased on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. There will be no price increase during this extension period. Funding is available in the Public Works and Utilities Departments construction projects budgets.
35. Authorizing the City Manager to finalize the purchase of 71.28 acres of land from AI Divestitures Inc., in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 for the construction of a 6 million gallon per day (MGD) Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). The 71.28 acres are part of the old Anzon Antimony Plant located north of the intersection of Mines Road and IH 35 and south of Las Cruces Lane. The construction of the Manadas Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) will enable the City of Laredo to shut down Zacate Creek WWTP. Funding is available in the 2011 Sewer Revenue Bond.

36. Authorizing the City Manager to approve Amendment No. 1, an increase in the amount of \$33,521.00 to the professional engineering services contract with LNV Engineering - Corpus Christi, Texas, for the preparation of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant. This amendment includes the preparation of five (5) Standard Operation Procedures (SOP's) for process and equipment systems to be chosen by the City. Total contract amount including this amendment is \$217,887.00. Funding is available in the 2011 Water Revenue Bond.
37. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1, credit for \$5,000.00, acceptance of project, approval of warranty letter and release of retainage in the amount of \$5,042.50 to LED Electric and Lighting Contractors, L.L.C., Laredo, Texas, for the construction of Canopy Lights and Electrical Equipment Project at the Utilities Compound. Change order No.1, is a credit based on a \$5,000.00 allowance that was allocated to this project. There were no additional change orders to utilize the allowance amount. No working days are being added. The net total amount of project now is \$50,425.00 after change order No. 1. Funding is available in the Water Works Construction Fund.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

38. A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz
 1. Discussion with possible action regarding traffic congestion on Mines Road and possible options to alleviate the traffic problems in the area.

Melissa Montemayor, District Administrator for TxDOT Laredo District, stated that as far as an update to the Loop 20 Spur 400 project, that project did let on August 14th for \$33.8 million and was awarded to SER Construction Partners. She added that they would see construction right now which was for the movement of utilities and that they anticipated that by next August they could start the construction of the actual overpass and the main lanes. She further stated that they would first construct frontage roads and that the acquisitions would be finalized by early summer. She then explained that as far as Mines Road, there was a lot of congestion there and they had started a study to see what could be done in terms of alleviating that traffic. She further stated that the study would reveal issues such as how to adjust traffic signal timing; then a mid-term type solution such as deceleration and acceleration lanes; and finally a look at long-term improvements such as a parallel route to FM 1472 that could relieve some of the traffic.

Rolando Ortiz with Killam Development stated that there were no easy

solutions to the tremendous traffic congestion problem on Mines Road. He added that manufacturing plants in Mexico would be coming online in 2016 which would add to the congestion. He further stated that in the Killam Industrial Park Master Plan there was a major arterial running from Mines Road to Interstate 35, Vallecio Road, designed to have five full lanes and scheduled to have an overpass at I-35 as per the City of Laredo Throughfare Plan. He concluded that the Killam family was willing to entertain any options the city might have in facilitating this connection.

2. Report on recent trips to Mexico City and Ciudad Victoria, Tamps. and meetings held with high ranking Mexican Officials, and a memorandum of understanding for regional cooperative efforts, with possible action.

Mayor Saenz reported that he had the opportunity of being in Mexico City as part of a delegation to meet with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Economy. He added that they had a tremendous interest in the border area and that there was a movement of produce coming along route 40 that bypasses Nogales and brings it directly to Laredo. He concluded that they could anticipate a lot more commerce which led into the infrastructure that they needed to be prepared for.

B. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Esteban Rangel

1. Discussion with possible action on the procedures to be followed for the potential sale of El Portal retail space located at 1210 Water St. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr.)

Interim City Manager Jesus Olivares reported that they had not received clear direction from Mayor Saenz and City Council as to whether or not to proceed.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Status report on the Loop 20 Overpass at Clark Boulevard.

This item was included with the discussion of item 38-A(1).

C. Request by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action on a proposed Dead Tree Removal and Replacement/Replanting project within the boundaries of the

Neighborhood Empowerment Zone.

Cm. Perez explained that in the old Heights area, there were a bunch of dead trees that had been planted about thirty or forty years ago. He added that there was also a problem with dead pecan trees. He concluded that he wanted to start a plan of action.

Interim City Manager Jesus Olivares said that they could take a look at a schedule and work with the utility company to take care of the trees that were on the right-of-way.

Motion to start a plan of action to take out the dead trees and look for new trees.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIV. STAFF REPORTS

39. Presentation on the Pecos River and its underlying aquifers, with discussion and possible action to authorize the City Manager to award a contract for professional services to Dr. Ronald Green to conduct a study of surface water effects on the aquifers under the Pecos River. Dr. Green is currently conducting a similar study on the Devil's River. Both the Pecos and Devil's Rivers are in the Rio Grande River watershed and discharge into Amistad Dam — the City of Laredo's source of water. The studies are necessary to determine that surface waters recharge the aquifers so that Laredo and other affected communities may protect this source of water from water contractors who want to sell water to other Municipalities that do not own water rights of the Rio Grande River. The cost of the study is being shared communities that border the Rio Grande and depend on the river for water. Laredo's commitment for the study is \$27,773.00. The total cost of the study to be shared by is \$99,973.00. We are requesting that we fund \$99,973.00 less \$31,364.00 that we have collected from Irrigators of the Valley (\$2,000.00), Zapata County (\$1,591.00) and Laredo's commitment (\$27,773.00) and continue with collection efforts for the balance of \$68,609.00 from the cities of Brownsville, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Edinburg, Harlingen, McAllen and Mission. Funding is available in the Water Fund - Water Availability Division.

Utilities Director Tomas Rodriguez gave a presentation before Mayor Saenz and City Council.

Challenges to Groundwater Recharge of the Lower Rio Grande

January 24, 2014 by Ronald T. Green, Ph.D., P.G. and F. Paul Bertetti, P.G.

Geosciences and Engineering Division
Southwest Research Institute®

Groundwater Recharge of the Lower Rio Grande
Why is groundwater important to the Lower Rio Grande?

How does groundwater relate to surface water?

Importance of groundwater in Val Verde County

Effect of climate change on recharge in West Texas

Importance of groundwater discharge to Rio Grande in Val Verde County

Why is Val Verde groundwater important to the Lower Rio Grande?
That's where your water comes from...as both surface water and groundwater

Rio Grande Water Budget in Val Verde County (acre-ft)
Lower Rio Grande gets 1/3 of its water from Val Verde County

How is water conveyed to the Rio Grande and Amistad Reservoir?

Where are the High Capacity Wells in the Devils River Watershed?
TWDB well driller reports: 752 wells with measured capacity

High capacity water wells are only located near river channels

Refined Characterization of Devils River Watershed Hydrogeology
Water is conveyed through Devils River watershed as both groundwater (particularly in the upper reaches) and as surface water (in the lower reaches).

Effective management of water resources requires that the interchange of groundwater to surface water (and back) be recognized and taken into account.

Texas water law struggles with this relationship, but reality insists it be recognized.

Dye tracer tests in Sonora confirm the presence of conduits in Devils River channel

Water Budget Analysis in Val Verde County (acre-ft/yr)
Groundwater Discharge
Val Verde County

(1961-1967)

Pecos River	32,000
Goodenough Spring	89,000
Devils River	240,000
San Felipe Springs	58,000
Minor springs on the Rio Grande	2,000
Unmeasured springs on the Rio Grande	81,000
Total	502,000

Reeves, R.D. and T.A. Small. 1973. Groundwater Resources of Val Verde County, Texas. Report 172. Texas Water Development Board.

Groundwater Discharge
Val Verde County
(1961-2000)

Pecos River	194,000
Goodenough Spring	103,000
Devils River	264,000
San Felipe Springs	65,000
Cienegas Creek	8,700
Unmeasured springs Rio Grande	-
Total	634,000

Data from IBWC website 1961-2000

What Would be the Impact on the Lower Rio Grande by Water Export from Pecos and Val Verde Counties?

Future Impact of Pumping on Rio Grande Water Budget in Val Verde County (acre-ft)
Based on Proposed Water Export

There is a Need to Confirm How Amistad Reservoir (and the Lower Rio Grande) is Recharged by Groundwater from Lower Pecos River and Devils River

Scope of Required Work

Need to clearly demonstrate that exporting groundwater from Pecos River and Devils River watersheds directly depletes flow in the Lower Rio Grande

Project Objective: develop groundwater flow models of the lower Pecos River and Devils River basins based on recent reconceptualizations of the karst-dominated hydrogeology.

an update.

Interim City Manager Jesus Olivares reported that they had agreed on the funding and the question was only from where the funding would come. He added that they would maintain their 35% commitment and put together a well-rounded program that would monitor the operations and generate revenue to offset some of these costs. He further stated that the first \$150,000 for the maintenance and operations would come from the sports venue tax.

Finance Director Rosario Cabello reported that they were looking at the sale of the civic center as an option for the funding.

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

42. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of real property pertaining to a potential purchase of real property located at 1204 Matamoros, legally described as Lots 4 thru 7, Block 73, Western Division, Laredo, Webb County, Texas. Acquisition of this tract would be for municipal purposes, to include supplemental parking improvements.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of real property pertaining to a potential purchase of real property located at 1204 Matamoros, legally described as Lots 4 thru 7, Block 73, Western Division, Laredo, Webb County, Texas. Acquisition of this tract would be for municipal purposes, to include supplemental parking improvements.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After Executive Session, Mayor Saenz announced that no formal action was taken.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 28 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on February 17, 2015.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary