

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M-2014-R-19  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
NOVEMBER 17, 2014  
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
Mike Garza,	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
Cindy Liendo,	District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.	City Secretary
Carlos Villarreal,	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

**IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of November 3, 2014 & November 12, 2014.

Motion to approve the November 3, 2014 and November 12, 2014 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**Recognitions**

- a. Recognizing Rebekah Hernandez from Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) for obtaining the 2014 Heartland Conference Women's Cross Country Championship in Wichita, Kansas on November 8, 2014.

Mayor Saenz and City Council congratulated Rebekah Hernandez and presented her with a certificate of recognition.

### **Citizen comments**

George Altgelt congratulated Mayor Saenz and his newly elected or reelected colleagues.

Jorge Ugartechea questioned Cm. Garza as to when he planned on correcting the issue of his having been employed both by the United Independent School District and the City of Laredo. He added that he needed to be more respectful.

Victor Gonzalez stated that on behalf of the various segments of the business community, they congratulated Mayor Pete Saenz on his election as Mayor of their city.

Juan Avila stated that it was a shame that it had taken this long for their City Council Members to realize that they had to release the City Manager.

Nadia Lopez representing Laredo Amigos Liberating Animals stated that they believed that the City Attorney was misinformed because they asked that only wild animals be banned from participating in traveling circuses, not banning the circuses themselves. She added that the City Attorney of Eureka Springs, Arkansas had drafted an ordinance similar to the one they were requesting. She concluded that there were twenty US cities that banned the use of animals in circuses.

Cm. Vela felt that it was important that they were transparent and that the City Attorney investigate any kind of money that was taken. He also felt that they should be transparent with their travel.

## **VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance designating the City Limits and ETJ (five miles outside city limits) as the Tax Abatement Reinvestment Zone for commercial/industrial tax abatement; establishing the boundaries thereof and other matters relating thereto; declaring findings of fact; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo  
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. Garza  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo, annexing additional territory of 80.395 acres, more or less, located north of US Highway 359 and east of the City of Laredo Landfill, as further described by metes and bounds in Attachment "A", specifically the Hurd Tract, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).

Staff supports the annexation and initial zoning, and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the annexation and initial zoning. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo  
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. Perez  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo, annexing additional territory of 1.07 acres, more or less, as further described by metes and bounds in Attachment "A", specifically the J. M. Aguilar Tract, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1 (Single Family Residential District).

Staff supports the annexation and initial zoning, and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the annexation and initial zoning. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo  
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. Narvaez  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2012-0-005 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for two (2) mobile homes on Lots 1 through 7, Block 1, Del Mar Hills Subdivision, Section 1, Area B; located at 10 East Del Mar Boulevard, by extending the expiration date for an additional ten (10) years; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit amendment. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel  
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. San Miguel  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning

Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a Restaurant Serving Alcohol, on Lot 3, Block 1, Del Mar North Filing No. 1, Building 1A of Falcon Centre at McPherson, located at 7718 McPherson, Suite 102; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm San Miguel

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for the storage of flammable and explosive products on All of Block 523, Western Division, located at 2220 Sanchez Street.

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

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Lucas Galvan, property owner, requested approval.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Liendo

## VII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2014-O-153, 2014-O-154 and 2014-O-155.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 2014-O-153 Amending Section 24.93.6 of the Land Development Code by deleting Electronic Displays From Section 24.93.6 and replacing it with Special Use Permits Requirements for Smoking Establishments and Drug and Tobacco Paraphernalia Shops in a B-3, B-4, M-1 and M-2 Zoning Districts and Tobacco Shop requiring a Special Use Permit in a B-3; and

Amending Appendix A, Definitions by adding Definitions for "Smoking Establishment and "Drug and Tobacco Paraphernalia Shop (A/K/A Head Shop)" and "Tobacco Shop"; and

Amending Section 24.63.2 Land Use Charts by adding Smoking Establishment and Drug Paraphernalia Shop requiring a Special Use Permit In B-3, B-4, M-1, M-2 Zoning Districts and Tobacco Shop requiring a Special Use Permit In a B-3 and by right in B-4, M-1 and M-2; and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-153.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2014-O-154 Amending the City of Laredo Bridge System FY 2014-2015 Bridge annual budget by appropriating \$1,128,186.00 from the Bridge System Construction Fund opening balance to be used for Bridge related projects such as Bridge I lighting project and other Bridge related improvements such as the erosion control and repairs of the expansion joints.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-154.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2014-O-155 Authorizing the City Manager to execute the renewal of a

lease agreement with Webb County for its Head Start Program for the rental of a parcel of land legally described as Lots 5 and 6, Block 113, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Located at 2802 McDonell Avenue, for a term of five (5) years at a rate of \$550.00 per month; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-O-155.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VIII. RESOLUTIONS

8. 2014-R-109 Amending Resolution No. 2014-R-06 by adding three (3) additional Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) to the list of Cooperative Working Agreements/Mutual Assistance Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding between the City of Laredo Police Department and various federal, state and local agencies, including but not limited to: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), SCAN, *et al.*, a comprehensive list is attached hereto as "Exhibit A". The Police Department's participation is part of the community service provided to our citizens, with no cost to the City of Laredo. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2014-R-109.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. 2014-R-110 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the Laredo Police Officers' Association (LPOA) and the City of Laredo for the purpose of implementing a pilot program for a compressed work week for the West Sector law enforcement employees.

Motion to table.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

Cm. Garza

Cm. Liendo

10. 2014-R-113 Ordering and proclaiming a Special City Election to be held on Saturday, March 7, 2015; ordering and to fill a vacancy for Council Member for District; designating polling places; providing for publication; and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Webb County Elections Administrator for the purpose of conducting the election.

Motion to approve Resolution 2014-R-113.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **IX. MOTIONS**

11. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of October 2014, represent a decrease of \$44,281.10. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Consideration to approve and amend the management agreement with SMG for the Laredo Energy Arena by amending sections 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 10.1 to reflect appropriate compensation language as required by bond covenant for tax exempt bonds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **X. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **X (a) RESOLUTIONS**

13. 2014-R-105 Authorizing the City Manager to apply for a grant in the amount of \$763,195.00 to fund the Laredo Police



Department HIDTA Task Force and a grant in the amount of \$47,600.00 to fund the Rio Grande Valley Financial HIDTA Task Force. Both grants are funded by the Executive Office of the President, Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) at no cost to the City. Funding will be used to pay personnel salaries, fringe benefits, overtime, travel and operating expenses from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Funding for the Rio Grande Valley Financial Task Force will be used for payment of fringe benefits, overtime, and operating expenses from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

14. 2014-R-107 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$30,000.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation to fund the STEP—Impaired Driving Mobilization Program. The City of Laredo will need to match at least 20% of the grant funds. This grant is to pay overtime for officers in order to increase enforcement to arrest individuals driving under the influence of a controlled substance during the Christmas, New Year's, Spring Break, Independence Day and Labor Day Holidays.

#### **X (b) MOTIONS**

15. Consideration for approval of the Laredo International Airport Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Station as complete, approval of final payment and release of retainage in the amount of \$194,224.25 to Leyendecker Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, but keeping \$20,000.00 for pending punch list items to be released when completed. Final construction contract amount is \$3,884,885.01. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund - FAA Grant No. 73. AS AMENDED
16. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source provider, Sungard Public Sector, in the amount of \$285,058.55. This hardware and software is needed for the Police Department in order to provide upgrades to the existing Sungard OSSI computer system. These upgrades are required by the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund.
17. Consideration to authorize the purchase of twenty seven (27) police patrol vehicles from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas in the amount of \$910,602.94. The purchase of these vehicles will be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCA Contractual Obligations Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Motorola, Inc., through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program contract No. RA05-12, in the amount of \$144,856.35 for the purchase of twenty-seven (27) mobile radios for the new Police Department patrol vehicles. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCO Bond.
19. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Kustom Signals and RZ Communications through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the amount of \$73,404.36 for the purchase of twenty seven (27) radar systems for the new Police Department patrol vehicles. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCO and the Police Department General Fund Budget.
20. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source provider, Utility Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$207,084.00 for the purchase of twenty-seven (27) digital video camera systems for the new Police Department patrol vehicles. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCO Bond.
21. Consideration to authorize a two (2) year purchase contract with sole source vendor, Quarter Mile, Inc., in the estimated annual amount of \$120,000.00 for decals, signs and reflective graphics for the Police Department, subject to future appropriations. All services are requested on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Police Department Budget.
22. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with RZ Communications, the only authorized dealer for the acquisition of Mobileye Vehicle Detection System and Zebra Mobile Printers, and the purchase of Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT'S) through contract No. DIR-TSO-2520 for the new Police Department patrol vehicles in the amount of \$231,565.11. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCO Bond.
23. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Insight Public Sector, through DIR contract No. ISO-2542, in the amount of \$86,956.55 for the purchase of hardware equipment in order to upgrade the network core infrastructure for the Police Department. Funding is available in the 2014 PPFCO Bond.
24. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1) cab tractor and one (1) rotary cutter from John Deere Government & National Sales, Cary, North Carolina, for maintenance of all landscaped areas in the total amount \$78,292.37 for the Airport Department. The purchase of this equipment shall be made utilizing the State of Texas - TXMAS Cooperative Contract

Pricing Program. Funding is available in the 2015 Airport Operations Fund.

25. Consideration to renew annual service contract FY12-013 awarded to Star Operations, Corpus Christi, Texas, in an amount up to \$300,000.00 for the furnishing of materials, machinery, equipment, labor, and all other services necessary for the maintenance of street lights (not maintained by AEP -CPL) and traffic signal lights throughout the City. The contract includes electrical services for traffic signals and street lights and for installation, construction, and underground work, for new and/or upgraded traffic signals and for the installation and maintenance of street lights. This contract also contains provisions for city departmental electrical service projects and repairs. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. All services will be purchased on an as needed basis. There will be no price increase during this extension period. Funding is available in the Traffic Safety budget and Capital Improvements Fund.
26. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) Ford F350 regular cab trucks in the total amount of \$53,207.00 from Silsbee Ford, Silsbee, Texas through the BuyBoard's Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing. These trucks will be assigned to the Fleet Department for fleet operations. Funding is available in the Fleet Department Budget.
27. Consideration to renew contract FY14-017 for the general diesel engine repairs parts/service for the City's Fleet Division to the following vendors:
  1. Cervantes Truck Center, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$100,000.00, and
  2. Rotex Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$20,000.00

All parts and services will be secured on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. There will be no price increase during this extension period. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.
28. Consideration to award a contract to Santex Truck Center, San Antonio, Texas in the amount of \$101,647.00 for the purchase of one (1) 2015 International truck; and Kinloch Equipment, Pasadena, Texas, in the amount of \$215,968.00 for the purchase of one (1) vacuum tank body utilizing the H-GAC Cooperative Contract Pricing for the Utilities Department. Funding is available in the Sewer Fund.
29. Consideration to renew annual service contract FY14-042 to the following vendors:
  1. Laredo Mechanical, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$210,000.00;
  2. Gutierrez Machine Shop, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$100,000.00; and

3. Odessa Pumps, Midland, Texas in an amount up to \$100,000.00

for water treatment and wastewater treatment, booster stations, and lift stations pump repairs for the Utilities Department. This contract establishes hourly rates and a percentage discount on parts utilized during emergency pump repairs. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. All services will be purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Fund.

30. Awarding a construction contract to the lowest bidder, Qro-Mex Construction Co., Inc., from Granite Shoals, Texas in the amount of \$369,192.50 for the Zacate Creek Lift Station and Force Main - Gravity System Reroute with a construction time of one hundred and twenty (120) working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt of insurance and bond documents. Funding is available in the 2010 Sewer Revenue Bond.

31. Authorizing the City Manager to reject all bids for Sombrerito Wastewater Treatment Plant received on October 17, 2014 and to re-bid the project with an option to use ultra-violet (UV) light for disinfection instead of chlorine and several changes to bid schedule to allow the City to have the flexibility to delete/add bid items to meet the City's budget. The re-bid is scheduled for January 2015.

32. Authorizing the City Manager to award an Engineering Contract with Dannenbaum Engineering Company — McAllen, L.L.C., of Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$1,016,063.28 for the design of a 24 inch Water Line from El Pico/Mines Road connection to Hachar Loop northern boundary line. Funding is available in the 2011 and 2013 Water Revenue Bonds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

## **XI. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

33. A. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Introduction of Laredo's Homeless Assistance Committee and a presentation by the committee.

Cm. Garza reported that he brought up this issue by happenstance

because he did not realize the situation they had in their community until someone at his school brought it up.

#### Committee Members

Councilman Mike Garza, (Chair)  
Councilman Juan Narvaez, (Vice-Chair)  
Laura Llanes, Laredo Housing Authority  
Nora Murillo, UISD Homeless Program  
Rosanne Palacios, Mercy Ministries  
Leticia Reyes, LISD Homeless Program  
Javier Santos, Fernando Salinas Trust  
Miguel Treviño, Gateway Community Health Center  
Rogelio Treviño, South Texas Workforce Solutions  
Isela Dabdoub, SCAN  
Ronnie Acosta, City of Laredo Community Development  
Elizabeth Alonzo, City of Laredo Municipal Housing

#### Mission Statement

“ To serve as an advisory committee to City of Laredo City Council regarding initiative/efforts to address the housing needs of homeless families with a special concern for families with school aged children through the creation of transitional and affordable housing and the implementation and strengthening of homeless service provider networking systems.”

#### Homeless Population

Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence including those living in a shelter, exiting an institution, or living on the streets.

Individuals and families who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member.

#### Number of Homeless Families with School Aged Children in Laredo as of May 2014

Laredo Independent School District reports there are 67 families and 195 kids

United Independent School District reports there are 146 families and 309 kids

TOTALS = 213 families  
504 kids

#### Proposed Initiatives

Creation of Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth – Small scale  
Creation of Transition Housing for Homeless Families with School-aged Children – Large Scale

Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth  
Donation of a home located at 1517 Washington St. by Javier Santos,  
Committee Member and Local Philanthropist  
Partner with Serving Children and Adolescents in Need(SCAN) to  
operate facility 24/7 and provide case management  
Utilize \$200,000.00 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate donated home  
Provide housing for Youth(6 boys and 6 girls) ages 17 to 21 until they  
are self sufficient

Transitional Housing for Homeless Families with School-Aged  
Children  
Secured 15 Section VIII Housing Vouchers from Laredo Housing  
Authority  
Secure donation of a second facility to house homeless families with  
school-aged children  
Secure funding for second facility

Where do we go from here ?  
City Council's Authorization to Proceed

Quotes:

Support for shelters and transitional living and housing programs is  
necessary if we are going to change the landscape for homeless boys  
and girls in America.-- Jewel

HOMELESSNESS... is neither a disease nor crime... but a very  
serious problem ! --Timothy Pina

#### B. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Esteban Rangel

1. Discussion with possible action to enter into an inter-governmental  
agreement with the Laredo Independent School District (LISD) to share  
resources for their annual Christmas Parade. (Co-Sponsored by  
Council Member Cynthia Liendo)

Mayor Pro Tem Rangel reported that he had met with some LISD  
board members and the issue was being able to use their resources.

Cm. Liendo reported that she co-sponsored this item because the city  
used to sponsor this parade every year, but they had partnered with  
LISD back then and she felt that it was only fair that they do so now  
since LISD had bought the Civic Center. She added that she felt it  
was a cost they should incur.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel  
Second: Cm. Liendo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to instruct the City Attorney to draft a proposed modification to §2.04(C) of the City Charter (Filling of Vacancies) to allow for the filling of a vacancy occurring within the City Council, the office of the Mayor, or Municipal Court Judge, by appointment in the interim between the vacancy and the special election to fill the vacancy where there is no hold-over for whatever reason.

Mayor Pro Tem Rangel stated that his item was for what had been going on right now in District VII with the vacant seat. He added that what he wanted to do was to instruct the City Attorney to start the procedures on putting the committee together to form the issues that they were facing to be in their Charter and put it out for a referendum on the next city-wide election.

City Attorney Raul Casso stated that he would work with the City Secretary on this and each Council Member would have to appoint a committee member whose term would last as long as it takes to make the changes.

## **XII. STAFF REPORTS**

34. Presentation by the Technical Review Board Ad Hoc Committee regarding their purposes and objectives. Committee Members: Jesus Ruiz, Chairman, Eduardo J. Gutierrez, Vice-Chairman, Ruben "Benny" Salinas, Juan Salinas, Lance Price, and Daniel Wyers.

Building Director Ramon Chavez reported that there was some dialogue between Council and staff and members appointed to oversee ordinances before they come to City Council regarding enhancing specifications to improve warranty periods; he added that the private sector would be involved. He further stated that two meetings had been held so far.

Jesus Ruiz on behalf of the committee reported that the first meeting centered around understanding Council's directive and that they would make sure not to delay the process. He added that they focused in the second meeting in making a recommendation to Council on the purpose of the committee which is to review any and all ordinances currently on the books that affect the development, fire, building, long-range thoroughfare plan, drainage, green space, parks dedication, development specifications book, the land development code and any zoning additions or classifications. He concluded that they may include new zoning classifications to help increase density and lower development costs.

35. Authorizing the City Manager to apply with the Texas Department of Transportation for a State Infrastructure Bank Loan in an amount as needed for the Hachar Parkway.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that the county had pledged \$7 million and there was an approximate \$17 million figure for the city; they needed to be ready to submit a SIB Loan application which allowed cities to construct with state money so that they would not pay debt service until five years after the completion of the project itself.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez and Cm. Liendo were not present.

36. Naming the City owned Lot, 109 Sage Drive to Oscar Medina Community Garden.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rangel

For: 5

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 16 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on November 17, 2014.

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Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  
City Secretary



# Laredo's Homeless Assistance Committee

# Committee Members

- Councilman Mike Garza, (Chair)
- Councilman Juan Narvaez, (Vice-Chair)
- Laura Llanes, Laredo Housing Authority
- Nora Murillo, UISD Homeless Program
- Rosanne Palacios, Mercy Ministries
- Leticia Reyes, LISD Homeless Program
- Javier Santos, Fernando Salinas Trust
- Miguel Treviño, Gateway Community Health Center
- Rogelio Treviño, South Texas Workforce Solutions
- Isela Dabdoub, SCAN
- Ronnie Acosta, City of Laredo Community Development
- Elizabeth Alonzo, City of Laredo Municipal Housing

# Mission Statement

*“ To serve as an advisory committee to City of Laredo City Council regarding initiative/efforts to address the housing needs of homeless families with a special concern for families with school aged children through the creation of transitional and affordable housing and the implementation and strengthening of homeless service provider networking systems.”*

# Homeless Population

- Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence including those living in a shelter, exiting an institution, or living on the streets.
- Individuals and families who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member.

# Number of Homeless Families with School Aged Children in Laredo as of May 2014

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# Proposed Initiatives

- Creation of Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth  
– Small scale
- Creation of Transition Housing for Homeless Families with School-aged Children – Large Scale

# Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth

- Donation of a home located at 1517 Washington St. by Javier Santos, Committee Member and Local Philanthropist
- Partner with Serving Children and Adolescents in Need(SCAN) to operate facility 24/7 and provide case management
- Utilize \$200,000.00 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate donated home
- Provide housing for Youth(6 boys and 6 girls) ages 17 to 21 until they are self sufficient

# Transitional Housing for Homeless Families with School-Aged Children

- Secured 15 Section VIII Housing Vouchers from Laredo Housing Authority
- Secure donation of a second facility to house homeless families with school-aged children
- Secure funding for second facility



# Where do we go from here ?

- City Council's Authorization to Proceed

## Quotes:

- Support for shelters and transitional living and housing programs is necessary if we are going to change the landscape for homeless boys and girls in America.  
-- Jewel
- HOMELESSNESS... is neither a disease nor crime... but a very serious problem !  
-- Timothy Pina