

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2012-R-12
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JULY 2, 2012
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Raul G. Salinas called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Raul G. Salinas led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Raul G. Salinas,	Mayor
Mike Garza,	Council Member, District I
Esteban Rangel,	Council Member, District II
Alejandro Perez Jr.,	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Council Member, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Jorge A. Vera,	Council Member, District VII
Cindy Liendo Espinoza,	Mayor Pro Tempore, 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

Motion to excuse Cm. Garza, Cm. Rangel, Cm. Perez, and Cm. San Miguel.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Perez arrived at 5:39 pm.

Cm. Rangel joined the meeting at 5:42 pm.

Cm. Garza arrived at 6:02 pm.

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of June 18, 2012.

Motion to approve the June 18, 2012 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Citizen comments

Eva Delgado approached Council with concerns about the recent comments in the newspaper about Mr. Garza. She called him “Santa Claus.”

Dr. Hector Farias stated that we are a country of laws ruled by a constitution, obliged to observe it. He said that the constitution for the City was the City Charter. He asserted that some of them had not read the Charter. He added that they needed the Ethics Commission to “remove the fox from the chicken coop.” He explained that VIDA was present because they had all violated the City Charter, and they believed that the Ethics Commission had not been implemented because it was replete with the violations that had been committed. He concluded that by the next meeting they wanted to have that Commission working and that their attorneys would be sending them a demand letter and, if need be, they would go to court to enforce what was in the City Charter.

Richard Geissler reported that in 2006 the voters of Laredo voted for an Ethics Commission. He went on to say that in 2007, each Council Member appointed a member to the Ethics Ad Hoc Advisory Committee which met for over a year and a half and hashed out what would be the rules of the committee. He added that they had submitted their work four years ago; yet, there was still no Ethics Commission and so the citizens would have to sue them to follow the mandate of the voters. He asked that they have this Commission as an agenda item for the next meeting.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances Chapter 6 (Animals and Fowl) by adding additional definitions to Article I, Section 6-1 and amending Section 6-7 regarding management of small animals and fowl, section 6-18 regarding cruelty to animals, Section 6-119 regarding registration, vaccination and permit fees, and implementing an adoption fee of \$60.00 to become effective sixty (60) days from public hearing and introduction; and providing for effective date and publication. (As amended and approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Vera
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$22,974.89 from the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC), to appropriate the funds in fiscal year 2011-2012 under the Waterworks Fund, and to enter into a contract agreement (Exhibit A) with BECC to conduct the “Cease the Grease—South Texas FOG Abatement Workshop”, which will focus on the Border 2012 Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon-Tamaulipas Region and will address two (2) of the Regional 2011 Priorities: to reduce water contamination and to improve environmental health.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Vera
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing allowing interested persons to comment on the 2012 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan which identifies the projects proposed to be funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through \$3,347,669.00 in 38th Action Year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, and \$98,540.00 in CDBG Program Income; \$879,662.00 in 2012 HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds, and \$20,052.00 in HOME Program Income; \$284,955.00 in 2012 Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds; and \$60,000.00 through the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan fund. The projects proposed to be funded are as follows:

38th AY Community Development Block Grant

Community Development Administration	\$665,328
Graffiti Removal Program	\$42,977
Code Enforcement	\$506,059
Housing Rehabilitation Administration	\$267,520
Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program (\$98,540 in Program Income)	\$450,000
Hamilton Hotel - Section 108 Loan Repayment	\$99,737
Slaughter Park Improvements	\$606,252
St. Vincent de Paul Section 202 Housing Improvements	\$282,084
Median Beautification Dist. V	\$ 62,084
Farias Recreation Center Boxing Gym	\$404,168
Demolition of Substandard Structures	<u>\$60,000</u>
Total	\$3,446,209
Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program	\$17,150
Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Administration	<u>\$42,850</u>
Total	\$60,000

HOME Investment Partnership Grant

HOME Program Administration	\$66,634
Downpayment Assistance (\$20,052 in Program Income)	\$339,798
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$361,332
15% CHDO Set-Aside	<u>\$131,950</u>
Total	\$899,714

Emergency Solutions Grants Program

ESG Program Administration	\$21,371
Homeless Prevention	\$30,192
Rapid Re-Housing	\$62,419
Operations	\$85,593
Essential Services-Shelter	\$44,028
Essential Services – Outreach	\$33,486
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	<u>\$7,866</u>
Total	\$284,955

(Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VI. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

4. Authorizing the City Manager to grant a License by and between the City of Laredo, Texas, an AT&T Corp., a New York Corporation, hereinafter designated as "Licensee", dated July 2, 2012 for the use of one (1) innerduct in the Juarez Lincoln Bridge and 555.5 linear feet of right-of-way.
 1. Term of the License shall be for five (5) years commencing 12:00 a.m. on October 1, 2012 and terminating at 12:00 p.m. on September 30, 2017.
 2. Annual duct fee shall be \$21,696.78 and will increase by five percent (5%) every year the license is in place. In addition to the duct fee, Licensee shall pay a \$7.65 linear foot right-of-way fee, and will increase by five percent (5%) every year. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a License Agreement between the City of Laredo, Texas, and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC., a Delaware limited liability company, for space on the water tower located at 7803 Mines Road, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, for the installation and operation of antennae facilities. Term of the lease is five (5) years, with three (3) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual license fee shall be \$15,000.00, with a four percent (4%) increase on each anniversary of the commencement date: and providing for effective date. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinance 2012-O-088, 2012-O-089, 2012-O-090, 2012-O-091, 2012-O-092, 2012-O-093, 2012-O-094, 2012-O-095, and 2012-O-096.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 2012-O-088 Authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Subordinate Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds, Series 2012, in the principal amount of \$48,750,000, for the purpose of improving and

extending the City's combined Waterworks System and Sewer System, making provisions for the security thereof; authorizing amendment to the City's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; awarding sale of the bonds to the Texas Water Development Board, and ordaining other matters relating to the subject.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-088.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2012-O-089 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 47 and 48, El Rancho Subdivision, Unit I, located at 4219 State Highway 359, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) and B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-089.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2012-O-090 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 1, Westgate Commercial Subdivision, located at 1016 East Calton Road, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-090.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2012-O-091 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1, Villas San Agustin, Unit 1 Subdivision; Lot 1, Block 5, Villas San Agustin, Unit 2 Subdivision and Lots 1 thru 3, Block 2, Villas San Agustin, Unit 8 Subdivision, located at 7801 and 7811 W. Bob Bullock Loop, 11210 Atlanta Drive; and 702 and 710 Fasken Boulevard, from R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District) and B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-091.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Garza
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2012-O-092 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an indoor/outdoor amusement services (batting cages) on Lot 2, Block 4, Hilltop Subdivision Phase II, located at 102 Hilltop Road; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-092.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Garza
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2012-O-093 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 8, Block 1930, Eastern Division, located at 3102 Jaime Zapata Memorial Highway, from R-2 (Multi-family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-093.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Garza
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2012-O-094 Authorizing the City Manager to amend Ordinance no. 92-O-118 and grant the U. S. International Boundary & Water Commission (USIBWC) permission to install approximately 800 feet of conduit and wiring from the USIBWC gauge house to the center of the bridge to upgrade the current pressure based water level sensor to a modern radar water level sensor at the Colombia Solidarity Bridge. USIBWC will be responsible for all expenses related to design, installation and maintenance associated with this upgrade.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-094.

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Garza
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2012-O-095 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Full Service Auto Parts of San Antonio, Inc., for approximately 7,220 square feet of building space with associated land located at 1605 E. Hillside at the Laredo International Airport, Block 24, Lot No.1. The initial monthly rent shall be \$4,852.05 and will be adjusted annually

8. Authorizing the selection of a consultant and to enter into negotiations for the ADA Paratransit Plan Update for Laredo, Texas. The recommended consultant for selection is The Collaborative, Inc., the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has budgeted \$101,238.00 for this project using Federal Planning Grant (PL112) funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. Submitting the proposed 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as per Article VI, Section 6.05, of the City Charter, which states that “the City Manager shall prepare and submit a five (5) year capital program at least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year.” (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. Consideration to award a contract to a sole source provider, Pictometry International Corp., in the amount of \$151,449.00 to provide digital aerial imagery for Webb County. The aerial images will be used by 9-1-1 database and mapping personnel and 9-1-1 centers to update the existing level of service. Funding is available in the 9-1-1 Regional Fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

11. Consideration to authorize a contract with Kraftsman Commercial Playgrounds through the Buyboard Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Program’s contract pricing, in the total amount of \$57,269.91 for the purchase and installation of a play structure at La Ladrillera Park. Funding is available in the Community Development 2011 Block Grant. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Consideration for approval of the La Ladrillera Park Basketball Court Cover and Lights as complete, release of retainage and approval of final payment in the amount of \$20,667.00 to T.F. Harper and Associates, L.P., Austin, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$206,670.00. Funding is available in the 2010 C.O. District VIII Fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Consideration to authorize the purchase of three (3) trucks with grapple dump bodies for the Solid Waste Services Division from the following vendors:

1. Santex Truck Center, Ltd., San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$235,998.00 for three (3) cab and chassis trucks utilizing H-GAC Cooperative Contract Pricing; and
2. Heil of Texas, Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$220,389.00 for three (3) grapple dump bodies utilizing BuyBoard Cooperative Contract Pricing.

Funding is available in the Solid Waste Services budget. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Consideration to award contracts to the following vendors utilizing the H-GAC Cooperation Contract for the purchase of equipment for the Utilities Department:

1. Santex Truck Center, San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$123,959.00 for the purchase of one (1) international cab and chassis,
2. Utility Trailer Sales SE, Inc., Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$35,932.00 for the purchase of one (1) dump trailer.

Funding is available in the Utilities Department fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for annual contract FY11-089 awarded to System Controls & Instrumentation, Converse, Texas, in the amount of \$330,845.00 for providing maintenance services for all water and wastewater SCADA monitoring and electrical controls under preventative maintenance and emergency responsive objectives. Funding is available in the Water and Wastewater Operational Fund. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Consideration for acceptance, final payment and release of retainage in the amount of \$215,907.65 and approval of final change order, a credit in the amount of \$153,064.76 bringing the total contract amount to \$3,909,995.24 from \$4,063,060.00 to QroMex Construction, Inc., for the construction of a 24" Transmission Water Main Improvements for the Utilities Department. Funding is available in the 2009 Utility Bond-Line Rehabilitation Account. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Consideration for acceptance, final payment and release of retainage in the amount of \$211,884.00 and approval of final change order, a credit in the amount of \$62,875.49, reducing the contract amount to \$4,334,580.74 to Pesado Construction, Schertz, Texas, for the Hendricks, Milmo and Lyon Water Booster Pump Station Improvements. The project is subject to Texas Water Development Board approval. Funding is available in the 2009 Water Utility Bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration for acceptance, final payment and release of retainage in the amount of \$131,238.18 and approval of final change order no. 1, a credit in the amount of \$108,761.14 reducing the contract amount to \$1,585,105.26 to Pesado Construction, Schertz, Texas, for the 16" Water Main, Mines Road—FM 1472. Funding is available in the 2010 Water Utility Bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration for approval of change order no. 1 (final) in the amount of \$1,227.50 and authorizing forty (40) additional working days to QroMex Construction Co. Inc., for US 83-Lope De Vega. This change order consists the cost of 50 LF of 48" steel casing due to the fact that two (2) of the City furnished steel casing sections were found to be non-concentric and needs to be replaced. The total amount \$11,437.50 is partially paid by the contingency allowance (10,000.00) and deletion of silt fence (\$210.00) pay item. Funding is available in the 2010 Sewer Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 4 to Camp, Dresser & McKee (CDM), Inc., in the amount of \$205,000.00 for additional scope requirements established under the Texas Water Development Board and TCEQ that includes the design of a security wall and modifications to the plant's Storm Water Discharge Permit, and providing for the inclusion of a reclaimed water dispenser at the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant. The revised contract amount is \$4,810,350.00. Funding is available in the 2010 Sewer Bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration for approval of change order no. 7, in the amount of \$633,342.00 to Pepper-Lawson Construction, L.P., Katy, Texas, for the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant 65-mgd process and electrical upgrade. This change order is required to enhance and upgrade existing facilities. The revised contract amount is \$36,648,805.58. Funding is provided by a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subject to Texas Water Development Board and by Line Rehabilitation account, 2011 Water Revenue Bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration for approval of change order no. 2, in the amount of \$16,220.00 and authorizing thirty (30) additional working days to Zertuche Construction LLC., Laredo, Texas, for Santa Rita Park Drainage Improvements Project. This change order consists of labor only done on the imported backfill for this project which required to water, compact and grade the additional backfill material. The additional days recommended due to rain days and other work requested. Funding is available in the 2007 Sewer Bond. (Approved by the Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

23. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. 2012-R-052 Consideration to recognize Mario Luis Kreutzberger Blumenfeld, aka "Don Francisco," for his contributions to Latino cultural promotion through his show on "Sabado Gigante," the longest running television show in the world, as well as his work to help physically challenged children throughout Latin American countries, with the establishment of Teletóns in each country, that help build hospitals and provide treatment for these children.

Motion to approve Resolution 2012-R-052.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Establishing a three (3) member citizen committee to oversee the naming of city facilities/parks/improvements after war veterans and/or heroes in our community, who have died in the line of duty. (Co-sponsored by Mayor Pro Tempore Cindy Liendo Espinoza, Council Member Esteban Rangel & Council Member Jorge Vera)

Mayor Salinas stated that an ordinance would be in order to look at this and see what other cities' policies are and what type of ordinances they have. He wished to recognize heroes who had made a difference in their community.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that they could survey a group of cities in south Texas and then establish criteria, put it into an ordinance and bring it

back. He concluded that they would bring back criteria that other cities had established and await Council's direction to formalize it.

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on the possibility on requiring college degree on command positions within the Police Department. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez & Council Member Jorge Vera)

Cm. Garza reported that they had members come forward expressing the example that was being set for the community. He said that the City of Laredo does well in paying the benefits to its employees and showed that the salaries were above average. He wished for Council to look at having a college degree for at least the deputy and assistant chief of police but preferably for the rank of lieutenant on up.

Motion to require a college degree for the rank of lieutenant and superior positions in the Police Department.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: None.

Motion dies.

Motion to table.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Cm. Narvaez

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Vera

Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

Mayor Salinas

Against: 4

Cm. Garza

Cm. Rangel

Cm. Perez

Cm. Rendon

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 6

Cm. Garza

Cm. Rangel

Cm. Perez

Cm. Narvaez

Cm. Rendon

Cm. Vera

Against: 2

Cm. San Miguel

Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza

Abstain: 0

Motion to require higher education starting from Lieutenant Sergeant positions on up.

Moved: Cm. Vera

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 5

Cm. Garza

Cm. Rangel

Cm. Perez

Cm. Narvaez

Cm. Vera

Against: 2

Cm. Rendon

Cm. San Miguel

Abstain: 1

Mayor Pro Tem

Liendo Espinoza

Note: Cm. Vera clarified his motion that he wished to require college degrees on command positions within the police department and/or college hours as per position as per the City Manager's recommendation.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that there was no interference with collective bargaining because Council had a right to give parameters. He stated that what the collective bargaining would take to the table would be what the wishes of the Council were.

Cm. Vera explained that there should be criteria where they would have at least an Associate Degree and perhaps even just to be a police officer there should be forty credit hours of higher education.

Mayor Pro Tem Liendo Espinoza stated she thought that many of the Council members were flip-flopping from what they said at the last meeting. She also felt that the police officers should have been given notice that this was on the agenda; although it was posted, someone at the City Attorney's office told them that this was not going to be discussed tonight. She concluded that it was not something that should be discussed there but instead at a committee and then come to Council for approval.

Deputy City Manager Cindy Collazo said that she was informed that at recent collective bargaining sessions the discussion had included requirements for higher education such as sixty hours for a lieutenant within 48 months of promotion, 90 hours for captain within 48 months of promotion, and for deputy and assistant chiefs it would be a bachelor's degree. She added that language was already there for a grandfathering provision.

2. Discussion with possible action modifying the wrecker service ordinance and/or creating a new ordinance addressing wrecker services and how they interact with the City and the public.

Motion to table for the next meeting.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- C. Request by Council Member Esteban Rangel
1. Discussion possible action on building a park in the Concord Hills subdivision.

Cm. Rangel reported that Parks Director Osbaldo Guzman had been working with the president of the Concord Hills Subdivision Association. He directed staff to start negotiations with her to have either a donation of property or an agreement to start the building of a park in that subdivision.

Motion to start negotiations with the president of the Concord Hills Subdivision Association.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- D. Request by Council Member Johnny Rendon
1. Status report on the Uni-Trade Baseball Stadium, with possible action.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that Assistant City Manager Jesus Olivares had been following this very carefully and they wanted to make sure that they were given enough time to complete the stadium.

Assistant City Manager Jesus Olivares reported that most of the work had been shifted to the south side of the stadium. He added that some of the areas on the south side were almost ready to be completed. He showed photographs of the work in progress.

- E. Request by Council Member Jorge A. Vera
1. Discussion with possible action regarding the placement of utility easements to the front of the lot rather than at the rear of the lot.

Cm. Vera stated that they had a meeting with some of the builders and developers. He wanted to give Building Director Erasmo Villarreal and Assistant City Manager Horacio De Leon direction that they would set up another meeting to finalize this and get the ordinance changed. He concluded that it would alleviate easement problems in the back yard of homes and that it was great for the developers to offer this option to residents.

Planning and Zoning Director Nathan Bratton reported that they had been working on it steadily because there were issues with the depth and the alignment of the boxes. He added that they had met with AEP and Time Warner to make sure that all those things would line up to avoid conflicts with sewer and water lines. He concluded that they would be ready within thirty days to bring it back to Council.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to set up another meeting to finalize the placement of utility easements to the front of the lot rather than at the rear of the lot and amend the existing ordinance accordingly.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) (A) to consult with attorney on contemplated litigation with a return to open session for possible action regarding Hanover Insurance Company as surety; Modern Construction, Inc., as principal; and, the City of Laredo as obligee. Projects implicated are the South Laredo Library and Northwest Community Center; performance bond nos. 1977770 and 1977772.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Motion to approve the settlement discussed in Executive Session and authorize the City Manager to proceed with the best possible scenario for the city.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

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 18 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on July 2, 2012.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary