

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2012-R-21
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
NOVEMBER 19, 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

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
Roque Vela, Jr.,	Council Member, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Cynthia 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. Pérez and Cm. Vera.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez arrived at 5:36pm.

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of November 5, 2012 & November 14, 2012.

Motion to approve the minutes of November 5, 2012 & November 14, 2012.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Citizen Comments

Thirteen students from United South High School, chosen as delegates to represent Laredo in the National High School Model United Nations in New York in March 2013, discussed the Model UN program, its requirements and the benefits of participation. This is the first model UN to be established at United South High School, through the Academy of Global Business and Advanced Technology and the first high school to be selected to represent Laredo on a global level at the United Nations general assembly in 2013.

Jesse Gamboa, a junior at LBJ High School, stated that the LBJ High School Presidential Inauguration Club has received the honor of an invitation to attend the Presidential Inauguration in 2013. He thanked those council members that have donated funds to the club to help with travel expenses and stated that they still needed donations to meet the \$5,500 trip cost.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr. of Mr. Marte A. Martinez to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Mr. Marte A Martinez to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr. of Mr. Jesse Gonzalez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Mr. Jesse Gonzalez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr. of Mr. Jesus D. Romero to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Mr. Jesus D. Romero to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- d. Appointment by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr. of Mr. Fernando Alarcon, Jr. to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Mr. Fernando Alarcon, Jr. to the Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the FY 2012 9-1-1 Regional Administration budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$129,884.00 for operations for Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, and Zapata counties for the period beginning September 1, 2011 and ending August 31, 2012; and authorizing the City Manager to implement the FY 2013 South Texas 9-1-1 Regional Administration Strategic Plan budget in the amount of \$1,203,614.00 as approved by the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) for Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, and Zapata Counties for period beginning September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against:

Abstain:

Cm. Perez was not present.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Laredo City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the subdivision ordinance of City of Laredo by amending Chapter II Section 2-3.2, subdivision plat submittal requirements Section 2-3.2(A) 1, by providing for general plan approval and submission, adding 2-3.2 (A) 1 (VIII) through (XIII), generally being additional general plan criteria and details and creating Sections 2-3.2(A) 3 and 4 requiring general plans/master plans be submitted as approved in blue line format and in Computer Aided Design (CAD) file format; providing for publication and effective date. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vela

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Laredo City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2012-2013 Capital Improvements Fund, by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$65,000.00 for the interlocal agreement, between the City of Laredo and the United Independent School District, for the construction of an irrigation system and fencing at the proposed Little League Baseball Park adjacent to the El Eden Recreational Facility and Sigifredo Perez Elementary School. As per interlocal agreement with United Independent School District funding is being provided by the school district. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Laredo City Council

4. 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 Lot 1, Block 1, Transit El Metro Operations and Maintenance Facility Plat, located at 1801 Jacaman Road; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District V (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for mini-storage/warehousing on Replat Lot 3B, Block 2, H.R.C. Subdivision 2, located at 2110 Quail Creek Road; providing for publication and effective date.

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

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.3214 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 2101 South Ejido Avenue, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) with a Conditional Use Permit for a Day Care to B-1 (Limited Commercial District), and repealing Ordinance No. 2008-O-033

authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a Day Care; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application but supports the repeal of the Conditional Use Permit, and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change and the repeal of Ordinance 2008-O-033. District I

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a bar on Lot 6, Block 1, Vista Hermosa Subdivision, Unit III, located at 5509 McPherson Road; being Suite 1 only and being approximately 1,179 square feet and as further shown on the site plan; 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 V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Shawn Miller, Laredo resident, stated that he has been a patron of this establishment; that he feels it contributes to the community and that he has not found anything objectionable and would like to see it continue to remain in operation.

Rosie Gregory, Laredo resident, educator and TABC certified instructor, stated that the Council talks about Laredo being a safe community, but asked how the area around this bar location can be considered safe being so close to a school area where students are encountering used syringes, broken beer bottles, etc. She asked that the City reconsider how the area is zoned, but if it would not, then to ensure that the Police department strictly monitors this area because of the risk to minors by extending the area of zoning.

Sylvia Cosio spoke against, explained and exposed proofs found inside and outside Newman Elementary and on the streets around the area such as alcohol beverages bottles, drug, condoms, needles, underwear and marihuana. She also informed about the steps that a group of neighbors have taken to protest against the authorization of more business of this kind on McPherson Street in the Alta Vista area and the Planning and Zoning Board's response to this issue. She also mentioned about the shootings and the very dangerous situations that this neighborhood has had with the people that frequent these bars.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, explained that the staff is not in favor of the Conditional Use Permit because they feel that it is inappropriate given the prevailing zoning in the area. When a zone backs up on a residential area like this does, they like to see a little more buffering between the two areas. There are several other Conditional Use Permits issued to businesses in similar areas of Laredo, and they come up each time for discussion each time a Conditional Use Permit request comes up.

Victor Treviño, Jr. Planning & Zoning Commission, stated that one of the factors of bar patrons parking at the school and walking to the bar is due to the fact that there is a section of a residential block wall that people are able to cut through to get to the business location

Maribel Garcia, E Bar owner, expressed her concern in regards of all the complaints that recently came up among the residents of the area. She also stated that she has followed all the rules in order to keep her business working properly and according to the regulations imposed.

Mary Castillo spoke in favor of both bars in the area. She has never noticed anything out of ordinary and both bars ensure that there is adequate security for patrons and the area.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to re-open the item for public hearing and re-introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vera

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

Cm. Vela requested that two conditions be placed on the C.U.P.: 1) that the block fence be completed on the Southeast side of the property, the responsibility of which will be coordinated between the City and the property owner; and 2) that no parking signs be placed along the side of Cypress Drive during certain hours.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce as amended.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. Pérez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Vela

VII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

8. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Barker Automotive, Inc., for approximately 150 square feet of office space in the Federal Inspection Services (FIS) Building located at 4719 Maher Ave., Laredo, Texas known as Suite No. 130 situated on property described as Block No.1 of subdivision plat of Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for 4 years and 9 months commencing on October 01, 2012 and ending on July 31, 2017 and may be extended for one (1) term of five (5) years each ending on July 31, 2022. However, it is agreed by the parties that the lease may be terminated by either party on or not less than ninety (90) days' written notice from the party terminating to the other. Monthly rent shall be \$780.00 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index; providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: Laredo City Council

9. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Humberto Gonzalez Betancourt for approximately 2.49 acres of land located at the Laredo International Airport abutting Jacaman Road for the use of miniature soccer fields and related improvements. Lease term is for ten (10) years commencing on December 01, 2012 and ending on November 30, 2023, and may be extended for one (1) consecutive ten (10) year term ending on November 30, 2033. However, the lease may be terminated by either party upon giving a 180-day written notice from the party terminating to the other in the event the subject leased premises are needed for Airport Development. Annual rental sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and by appraisal at ten (10) year anniversary; providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: Laredo City Council

VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2012-O-190, 2012-O-191, 2012-O-192, and 2012-O-193.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. 2012-O-190 Amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2012 General Fund Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of

13. 2012-R-096 Accepting the conveyance of the following utility and access easement and temporary construction easement from:

Cinco-28, L.L.C., - a 20 foot utility easement with corresponding temporary construction easement as follows:

One 0.37 acre tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as exhibit 1;

The 20 foot easement is for an 18 inch sanitary sewer line, from FM 1472 to Sombretillo Wastewater Treatment Plant and will provide wastewater services for the service area of the plant. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2012-R-096.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. MOTIONS

14. Authorizing the City Manager to amend its HOME Investment Partnership Program and Community Development Block Grant contracts with Bethany House of Laredo, Inc., by increasing the contract time by an additional six (6) months, from 18 months to 24 months, to rehabilitate and to construct nine (9) transitional housing units at the Bethany House Center for Hope, a homeless shelter and transitional housing facility located at 817 Hidalgo. The extension is necessary due to a needed redesign of the facility. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Consideration to award contract FY12-084, The Centurion Group, San Antonio, Texas, in the annual amount of \$105,281.28 for providing armed security guard services at the Jefferson Water Treatment Plant. The Utilities Department reviewed and evaluated all the bids utilizing a best value evaluation grading system and the Centurion Group was deemed to provide the best value for the City. The contract will be for a period of twelve (12) months subject to continued funding in future fiscal years. Funding is available in the Utilities Department budget. (Operations & Finance Committees recommended item be sent to full Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Enterprise Zone Act, Chapter 2303, Texas Government Code (Act), providing tax incentives, designating the City Manager for communication with interested parties, and nominating Laredo Texas Hospital Company, L.P. to the Office of the Governor Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) through the Economic Development Bank (Bank) as a Concurrent Enterprise Zone Project (Project) and providing for an effective date.

20. 2012-R-100 A resolution for entering into a City Economic Development Grant Agreement with Con-Way Freight, Inc., for providing Tex. Gov't. Code Ch. 380 grants of public funds for the purposes of promoting local economic development and stimulating business and commercial activity within the City of Laredo. In exchange for an approximate 4.4 million investment in capital improvements and the creation of 50 new full time jobs, Con-Way will be granted a one-time, cash reimbursement of \$32,254.00 for building permit and "tap-in" fees they would otherwise pay.
21. 2012-R-102 A resolution for entering into a Regional Cooperation Agreement with Civitas Laredo Regional Center covering the Laredo Metropolitan Statistical Area pursuant to the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act so as to provide economic development in the geographical area of Laredo in sourcing and deploying equity capital invested by foreign investors who seek to participate in the EB-5 Visa Program.

Dan Heeley, Chief Executive of Civitas Capital Management, stated that EB-5 Visa Program is a Federal program geared toward job creation. The goal of the program is to work with City Manager Carlos Villareal and his staff to identify business investment opportunities, within the City of Laredo, that qualify under the rules of the program, and market them to overseas investors. Overseas investors will receive permanent residency in the U.S. in return for making an investment of \$500,000 (per investor) in a U.S. business, provided that their investment meets the job creation requirements of the EB-5 program over a two year period. Investors will receive a conditional residency visa for themselves and their families. After two years have passed and the number of jobs created, 10 minimum, has been proven, the conditions will be lifted and they will receive permanent residency. Services provided by Civitas incur no costs, other than the initial set up fees, similar to the set up fees charged for by an investment firm.

City Manager, Carlos Villareal, stated that he felt Civitas Capital Management will be able to assist the City of Laredo in accomplishing its goal of job creation.

Rafael Anchia, Texas State Representative, District 103, addressed the Council. Representative Anchia is a founder and partner of

Civitas Capital Management and stated that he is looking forward to working with the City Council to promote Laredo to overseas investors and create jobs.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI (b) MOTIONS

22. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to Frank Architects, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in association with Synergy Structural Engineering, Inc., Laredo, Texas, and HMG & Associates, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$57,000.00 for design and preparation of plans and specifications for the static truck scales at City of Laredo Colombia Solidarity Bridge and World Trade Bridge. Design work is to be done on a fast track basis approximately two and a half (2 ½) months. Funding is available in the 2008 Bridge Bond.
23. Consideration for approval of acceptance of substantial completion for the City of Laredo Minor League Ballpark and release of partial retainage in the amount of \$727,651.93 to the contractor Leyendecker Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas. An amount of \$100,000.00 is being retained for completion of pending items. Funding is available in the 2011 Sales Tax Revenue Bond and the Sports Venue Fund.
24. Consideration to exercise the renewal options for annual contract FY12-052 awarded to:
 - a. GCR Tire Center, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$134,983.50; and
 - b. A to Z Tire & Battery, Amarillo, Texas, in the amount of \$83,458.20for the purchase of police pursuit tires and regular passenger tires for all City fleet vehicles. All tires will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.
25. Consideration to award contract FY12-099 to the following vendors:
 1. Executive Office Supply, Laredo, Texas;
 2. Laredo Janitorial Solutions, Laredo, Texas;
 3. Texchem Corporation, Laredo, Texas;
 4. Patria Office Supply, Laredo, Texas;
 5. Gulf Coast Paper, Corpus Christi, Texas;

to provide general janitorial supplies to all city departments. This contract establishes discount percentage pricing for those janitorial supplies most commonly utilized by city departments. Approximately \$250,000.00 is spent annually on

janitorial supplies by all city departments. All items will be purchased on an as needed basis and funding will be secured from the user departments budgets.

26. Consideration to award contract FY12-101 to Eye View Investigations and Security, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated annual amount of \$548,964.00 to provide security guard services at various municipal operations. This vendor is being recommended for a contract award based on best value evaluation criteria. The contract term is for two (2) years and is subject to continued appropriations in future fiscal budgets. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.
27. Consideration to authorize the purchase of self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) equipment for the Fire Department from Dooley Tackaberry, Deer Park, Texas, through the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing in the total amount of \$136,810.50. The equipment includes SCBA wireframes, regulators, and air pac cylinders. Funding is available from the 2012 PFFCO bond proceeds.
28. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for FY10-004 awarded to Stanbio Laboratory, San Antonio, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$73,000.00 for the purchase of HemoPoint H2 microcuvettes for the City of Laredo Health Department. This is an annual supply contract that allows for the purchase of microcuvettes on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget.
29. Consideration to authorize payment for seven (7) wastewater permit fees in the amount of \$171,177.70 assessed yearly by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The City's Wastewater Treatment Department is assessed a water quality fee based on a level in proportion for use of state water and/or for the treatment of discharge of wastewater. Funding is available in the Utilities Department—Wastewater Treatment Division Budget.
30. Consideration to award annual contract FY12-093 for the purchase of cementitious concrete to second lowest bidder, Quadex, Inc., Little Rock, Arkansas, in the estimated annual amount of \$50,000.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year with an option to renew for three (3) additional twelve (12) month periods. Funding is Wastewater Division's operating budget.

End of Consent Agenda

XII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

31. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Status report regarding the Ambassador Program, with possible action.

Blasita Lopez, Laredo Convention & Visitors' Bureau Manager, reported that the work has already been done to establish a best practices model for the City of Laredo Ambassador Program by studying models from other cities: Beaumont, TX and Waco, TX. The program requires an application and a

questionnaire submitted by collegiate age applicants, or older, and will incorporate acceptance of rules and regulations, the code of ethics and liabilities, go through the vetting process, and complete ‘Destination Training’ – a six hour interactive program in the community, including a historical tour, customer service basics, and an overview of the collateral materials of the CVB. Ambassadors would have the opportunity to work at all City events deemed necessary.

2. Presentation on “I Am Laredo, I Vote” Campaign.

Mayor Salinas stated that he is extremely impressed with the work that the “I Am Laredo, I Vote” Campaign group has produced. He thanked the members of the media, who were an integral part of the success of this campaign.

Mr. Bill Green reported that all of the media groups came together in a spectacular way, along with the local ISDs, the university and the college, who held their own rallies to encourage students to vote. Out of 110,000 registered voters, 45% actually came out to vote; lower than the national average, but the highest number in Laredo since 2000.

3. Discussion on the status of the Laredo Housing Authority and airport property, with possible action. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Cynthia Liendo Espinoza, Council Member Mike Garza, & Council Member Jorge Vera)

Apolonio Flores, consultant to the Laredo Housing Authority, reported that there are currently two contracts for land at the Laredo Airport designated for low-income/affordable housing. He requested that the Council extend the contract for the land until spring 2013 when the Laredo Housing Authority should receive approval of their application for low income housing tax credit from the State of Texas, which is a major source of funding to provide low income housing.

Carlos Villareal, City Manager, recommended that the contract be extended through April 2013, with the understanding that the Laredo Housing Authority will notify the City Council if they receive any information concerning approval of the tax credit, sooner. He did stress the importance of letting the City Council know as soon as possible, what the situation is on this contract.

Motion to extend the contract to the end of April 2013.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on developing housing opportunities for homeless veterans with existing properties located in District I. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Jorge Vera)

Cm. Garza stated that the City Council had recently viewed a presentation concerning the problem the City of Laredo is currently experiencing with homeless veterans. It is estimated that there are 60-70 veterans who are considered homeless. Cm. Garza feels that the community has an obligation to ensure that our veterans are not homeless.

Ronnie Acosta, Community Development Manager, stated that she had an opportunity to speak with Deborah Giddel, associated with NRP, who will be looking for any programs available to assist with creating housing opportunities. There are, currently, some home funds that might possibly be incorporated along with assistance from the new Municipal Housing Corporation to create affordable housing.

Cm. Garza stated that he would like to direct City Manager Carlos Villareal to visit with City staff and prepare a plan; a presentation for the first January meeting.

City Manager, Carlos Villareal, stated that he would coordinate a meeting with staff and possibly the Housing Authority to create a plan for a joint venture to provide housing, possibly for the veterans, and especially on those pieces of property the City already owns. He also recommended that the funding available for housing projects be earmarked as such.

C. Request by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez

1. Presentation on the Grand Opening of the Santa Rita Express Library.

Cm. Perez thanked the staff of the Santa Rita Express Library, the City staff and everyone involved in setting up and opening this library location for all of their hard work. It is already a success to the Santa Rita subdivision.

Maria Solis, Director of the Laredo Public Library, provided a slide presentation on the opening of the library.

2. Presentation by Ms. Sandra Cavazos, Imaginarium Executive Director, regarding Family Fun Fiesta event to be held December 1, 2012.

Sandra Cavazos, Imaginarium Executive Director, spoke on the Family Fun Fiesta and the various events open to families. This event is being presented by the Imaginarium in an effort to raise funds for a new, permanent exhibit. The target of the fundraiser is \$100,000; the cost of the permanent exhibit.

Cm. Perez invited all of Laredo to attend this event and help support the Imaginarium.

3. Discussion with possible action on requiring City Employees who, in the course of driving a City pick-up truck, pick up used tires that might be thrown on streets or City right-of-ways as they notice them.

Motion to table this item as Cm. Perez was not present.

Motion: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action on SUP overlays on B1 and B3 zones regarding the opening of bar and grills.

Cm. Vela stated that, throughout the city, zoning issues concerning bars masquerading as restaurant bars have become prevalent. By adding an SUP overlay to B1 and B3 zones, bars may be opened in these zones, but owners must come to the City and ask permission first, allowing residents in the area to voice their opinions, and giving the City a tool to determine in advance whether it is appropriate to open a bar in certain zones.

Motion to require an SUP in B1 and B3 zones regarding the opening of bar and grills.

Motion: Cm. Vela

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on street cuts due to water line repairs and the schedule for patching those areas.

Cm. Vela stated it has been brought to his attention that the majority of water lines will be replaced in the Alta Vista subdivision due to excessive waterline breakage. He is concerned about the integrity of patching sections of streets as repairs are made. The viability of complete resurfacing versus patching sections of street cuts was discussed.

Tomas Rodriguez, Utilities Director, stated that there are multiple asphalt patches pending in the Alta Vista area due to the replacement of over 200,000 linear feet of waterline, and an additional 60,000 linear feet of waterline is scheduled to be replaced in multiple sections of the area.

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

32. Presentation on the City Special Events Policy and Procedures, with possible action.

Motion to table for December meeting.

Motion: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration on a proposed policy related to the expenditures of public funds from the Mayor and City Council Promotional Fund.

Motion to table for December meeting.

Motion: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Consideration to exercise the first renewal option for the purchase of engine oil and lubricants (contract FY12-039) for the Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (El Metro) to the following bidders:

1. Arguindegui Oil Co., Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$63,527.05.

2. Gonzalez Auto Parts, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$36,077.00.

This is a six (6) month contract extension. Funding is available in the Laredo Transit Management, El Metro Operations Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Award of a construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$27,097.10 for the El Metro ADA Sidewalks and Ramps Project No. 52 (5 Blocks-District V) with a construction contract time of thirty (30) working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for January 2013. Funding is available in the Transit New Freedom Grant #F7094. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XVI. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn as the Laredo Mass Transit Board, reconvene as the Laredo City Council and adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza


Second: Mayor Pro Temp Liendo Espinoza

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 20 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Special City Council meeting held on November 19, 2012.



Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary