

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M-2011-R-04  
AS AMENDED  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
FEBRUARY 22, 2011  
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,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.,	Council Member, District VII
Cynthia Liendo Espinoza,	Council Member, 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.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza arrived at 6:01 pm.

**IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of February 7, 2011

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

### Recognitions

a. Recognition by the Mayor and City Council Members of Employees that retired from the City of Laredo with twenty (20) or more years of service.

- Gustavo Davila-Bridge (20 years)
- Alfonso M. Holguin-Bridge (20 years)
- Alvaro Mendoza-Bridge (20 years)
- Ruben D. Villarreal, Jr.-Bridge (24 years)
- Alfonso F. Herrera-C.D. (22 years)
- Guillermo Arrendondo-Engineering (35 years)
- Edwin G. Atwell, Jr.-Fire (29 years)
- Tomas Garcia, Jr.-Fire (29 years)
- Mike J. Garza –Fire (29 years)
- Jose L. Lopez-Fire (26 years)
- Mario A. Rodriguez-Fire (29 years)
- Jose S. Sanchez, Jr.-Fire (29 years)
- Luis R. Seibert- Fire (25 years)
- Jorge L. Vasquez-Fire (22 years)
- Sylvia Canedo-Health (27 years)
- Severina H. Alvarado- P.W. (34 years)
- Herlinda N. Rodriguez-P.W. (35 years)
- Regino Rodriguez-P.W. (23 years)
- Antonio Saenz-P.W. (37 years)
- Maria E. Harrison-Parks & Leisure (28 years)
- Jacobo P. Barrientos-Police (31 years)
- Arturo Galvan-Police (31 years)
- Roel Gonzalez-Police (31 years)
- Gerardo Lerma-Police (25 years)
- Eduardo Madrigal-Police (25 years)
- Orlando Martinez-Police (27 years)
- Mario A. Soria-Police (29 years)
- Sylvia Soria-Police (24 years)
- Pedro J. Galvan, Jr.-Solid Waste (35 years)
- Esteban Mata-Solid Waste (24 years)
- Juan C. Urbina-Solid Waste(34 years)
- Maximino Urbina-Solid Waste (20 years)

Mayor and City Council recognized Alfonso M. Holguin, Ruben D. Villarreal, Jr., Edwin G. Atwell, Jr., Tomas Garcia, Jr., Mike J. Garza, Mario A. Rodriguez, Regino Rodriguez, Arturo Galvan, Eduardo Madrigal, Pedro J. Galvan, Jr., Esteban Mata, Juan C. Urbina, and Maximo Urbina.

### Citizen comments

None.

## VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

a. Appointment by Mayor Raul G. Salinas of Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez & Council Member Juan Narvaez to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Alejandro Perez and Juan Narvaez to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Council Member Mike Garza of Mr. Ray Camina to the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Ray Camina to the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Esteban Rangel of Mr. Ed Quiroga to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Ed Quiroga to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting funds in the amount of \$929,213.00 from the South Texas 9-1-1 Regional Administration Division to cost share personnel at the Laredo Police Department Public Safety Answering Point in accordance to Section 771.0751 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and Rule 251.3 Use of Revenue in Certain Counties from the Commission on State Emergency Communications; and amending the FY 2010-2011 General Fund Budget of the City of Laredo by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$929,213.00 for salary expenses for Laredo Police Department Communications Division. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) in the amount of \$45,000.00, with no matching funds, and amending the City of Laredo's FY 2010-2011 annual budget for the Environmental Services Department by appropriating said grant revenue to the appropriate expenditure accounts. Funds will be used to fund household hazardous waste collection events for colonias. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Chapter 9, Article VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo, Texas, by adding Section 19-224 prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile communication device to send, read, or write a text message or engage in any other use of the device besides dialing telephone numbers or talking to another person, while operating a moving motor vehicle; and providing for a fine of up to \$200.00 per violation.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to revisit item 3.

Moved: Cm. Valdez  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza  
Second: Cm. Valdez  
For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introduction of an amended ordinance amending Ordinance No. 90-O-101 providing for the office of Mayor Pro Tem; term of such office; role of such office; and who shall preside in the absence of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem by amending Section 1 which provides for the office of Mayor Pro Tem from the second meeting in May to the second meeting in November of each year; and providing for effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
For: 8                                      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 Rendon  
For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## **VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Uni-Trade Forwarding, L.C., for approximately 1.5029 acres (65,466.32 square feet) of land located at 4600 Maher Avenue and known as Lot No. 1-B-1, Block No. 1 at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on May 1, 2011, and ending on April 30, 2031, and may be extended for two (2) consecutive ten (10) year terms ending on April 30, 2051. Initial rental shall be \$1,800.00 per month and shall be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index and further adjusted by Fair Market Value appraisal on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. Lessor waives Lessee's rental obligation for the initial six (6)

months commencing May 1, 2011 and ending on October 31, 2011 of the term of this lease; providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

**IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances 2011-O-016, 2011-O-017, 2011-O-018, 2011-O-019, 2011-O-020, 2011-O-021, 2011-O-022, 2011-O-023, 2011-O-024 and 2011-O-025.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 2011-O-016 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the State of Texas Governor's Office and to amend the City of Laredo Special Police FY 2010-2011 Annual Budget in the amount of \$200,000.00. The grant is for overtime and fringe benefits for Laredo Police Officers working under the Laredo Gang Initiative Grant Program. The grant is to be 100% funded by the State of Texas Governor's Office for the period of November 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011 at no cost to the City.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-016.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2011-O-017 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Texas Governor's Division of Emergency Management (DEM), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in the amount of \$3,768,107.00 with City designating \$1,256,036.00 in matching funds for a total of \$5,024,143.00 and amending the FY 2010-2011 budget for the Environmental Services Department by appropriating said grant revenue to the appropriate expenditure accounts. Funding will be used for the Canal Street Drainage Improvement Project. Matching monies are available in the 2007 Drainage Bond and 2008 Bond.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-017.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2011-O-018 Authorizing the acceptance of the 10" and 15" sanitary sewer oversizing main for Old Milwaukee on SH359 that consist of 3,592

feet of 10” sanitary sewer line and 3,610 feet of 15” sanitary sewer line and authorizing the Utilities Department to charge \$51.00/gallon per minute (GPM) as calculated on the exhibit “A”. The existing and remaining capacity was calculated for the sewer outfall as shown on exhibit “F”. The fees will be implemented to the property owners shown on exhibit “F” for the service is shown on exhibit “G” for a total cost of \$150,246.00, for their share of the oversized sanitary sewer main. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) accepted the improvements. The TWDB paid for the cost equivalent to an 8” sanitary sewer main, some property owners as shown on exhibit “E” paid for the cost equivalent to a 10” and 12” sanitary sewer main and the City paid for the cost equivalent to a 15” sanitary sewer main. Funding for the City’s share of the construction for the 15” sanitary sewer line is available in the 2009 Sewer Revenue Bond which will be reimbursed by the revenues generated by the fees of \$51.00/GPM.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-018.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2011-O-019 Authorizing the City Manager to allow Utilities Department to sell LUEs (Living Unit Equivalency) to future landowners that did not participate on the oversizing of both the water and wastewater line extensions to serve the Colonias Project on Mines Road, SH 359 and on the Kansas City Southern Rail Road Right of Way; as a condition of, and requirement for platting any lot that will benefit from these oversized lines. The cost for an LUE approved by City Council was \$178.00 for sewer and \$137.00 for water, Utilities Department recommends increasing the cost per LUE adding the cost of living index from 2000 to the present at a rate of 2% per year. Any lot greater than one (1) acre shall have a requirement of 3.85 LUEs per acre. Fees collected will be transferred into the Colonias fund to cover additional expenses.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-019.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2011-O-020 Amending the City of Laredo fiscal year 2010/2011 Budget by appropriating revenues and expenses in the amount of \$122,209.00 in the City of Laredo Fleet Management Division. The insurance reimbursement of \$122,208.81 is from the Texas Municipal League

(TML) resulting from a claim for fire damage to an 826H Caterpillar compactor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-020.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

2011-O-021    Amending the City of Laredo Bridge System FY 2010-2011 Bridge annual budget by appropriating \$663,654.00 from the Bridge System Construction Fund opening balance to be used for Bridge related projects to include: resurface parking lot at Bridge I, repaving bridge approach at Bridge II, adding of Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) equipment to a lane at Bridge II, purchasing bucket/boom truck, and other related improvements.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-021.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

2011-O-022    Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5.5, Ambulances Article I. of the Laredo Code of Ordinances, by specifically amending Section 5.5-28(a), (c)(1) and (c)(2) to align current fees and to comply with Medicaid and Medicare funded reimbursement services.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-022.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

2011-O-023    Amending section 24-78, of the Laredo Land Development code, entitled off-street parking and loading requirements, by amending section 24-78.2(a)(6) from a 25% to a 50% maximum reduction in the number of total on-site parking spaces required if valet parking is provided, amending section 24-78.2(i)(3, 4 & 5) from 400 feet to 1000 feet distance for an off-premise parking facility, and amending 24-78.2(i)(6) to allow a lease agreement for purposes of meeting parking requirements with an off-premise parking facility; providing for publication and effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-023.



Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                              Against: 0                              Abstain: 0

2011-O-024      Approving the donation of an approximate 3.90-acre tract (surface estate only all improvements located thereon) of non-aeronautical use land located at the Laredo International Airport to the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System for the public purpose of establishing and operating a Veterans Clinic jointly with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in accordance with Section 272.001 (J) of the Local Government Code and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. The Fair Market Value of the subject property is \$1,230,332.00.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-024.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                              Against: 0                              Abstain: 0

2011-O-025      Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Lease Agreement with M & M Air Cargo and Delivery Service, Inc., as Lessee for approximately 6,017 square feet constituting Section 1 and 2,646 square feet constituting Section 2 of Building No. 170 located at 5103 Maher Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. The term is for three (3) years effective January 1, 2011 and ending on December 31, 2014. The initial monthly rent shall be two thousand three hundred thirty eight dollars (\$2,338.00), providing for annual CPI rent adjustments; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-025.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8                              Against: 0                              Abstain: 0

**X.      RESOLUTIONS**

7.      2011-R-12      A resolution establishing a Community Revitalization Plan of Public Housing of the Housing Authority of the City of Laredo including the Public Housing Developments known as Colonia Guadalupe, Russell Terrace, Carlos Richter, Senior Citizens Home, Ana M. Lozano, Meadow Acres I & II, Meadow Elderly and Aldo Tatangelo Farm Labor Housing.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-12.

Moved: Cm. Valdez  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

8. 2011-R-13 Amending Resolution no. 2011-R-04 by adding two (2) additional 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, STCADA, et al. The Police Department's participation is part of the community service provided to our citizens, with no cost to the City of Laredo. All terms of the agreement will remain unchanged.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-13.

Moved: Cm. Valdez  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

9. 2011-R-014 Amending Resolution #2009-R-075, authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Laredo Police Department and Texas DPS Aircraft in which a license to use the City of Laredo's 800 MHz Trunked Voice Radio System was granted, by authorizing the use of radios for the purpose of "Interoperability Radio Communication" on the LPD template from seven (7) to twenty-six (26). All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-14.

Moved: Cm. Valdez  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

10. 2011-R-15 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Federal Aviation Administration in the amount of \$4,000,000.00 for the Noise Abatement Program at the Laredo International Airport and authorizing the execution of all necessary documents resulting from the award. The purpose of the grant is to provide funding for acquisition, soundproofing of residential structures and for the acquisition of aviation easements. The City's local match in the amount of \$210,526.32 (5%) is available through the Airport's Construction Fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-15.

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

11. 2011-R-18 Recognizing the many benefits derived from the Community Development Block Grant in creating jobs, improving infrastructure, expanding housing opportunities, and maintaining and enhancing low income neighborhoods, and petitioning U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar, U.S Senator John Cornyn, and U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison to support full funding of the Community Development Block Grant for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012 at levels equal to and or exceeding that budgeted for Fiscal Year 2010.

Mayor Salinas reported that during the conference of mayors that he attended in January, he learned that Community Development Block Grant funding would be decreased by sixty-two percent and that U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar did not support this. However, U.S. Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison did support the decrease. He explained that this funding would have a serious effect on the city of Laredo because since 1975, the city had received over \$120 million in Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit low and moderate-income households. He went on to say that these funds financed infrastructure improvements such as pedestrian bridges, water, sewer, drainage improvements, acquisition, relocation and construction of approximately 981 city blocks. He said that Community Development Block Grant funding had also been used to promote the quality of life for community residents as exemplified by rehabilitation of 932 homes and construction and enhancement of 78 recreational parks and facilities, code enforcement activity, graffiti removal, demolition of substandard units and the provision of public service. He concluded that he wholeheartedly supported a resolution to address this issue.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal responded that what he was asking for was a paragraph to be added to specifically go to Senators Cornyn and Hutchison.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-18 as amended.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **XI. MOTIONS**

12. Consideration to award a contract to Santex Truck Center, San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$93,702.00 for the purchase of one (1) International truck; and Kinloch Equipment, Pasadena, Texas, in the amount of \$210,625.00 for the purchase of one (1) vacuum truck utilizing H-GAC Cooperative Contract pricing for the Environmental Department. Funding is available in the 2010 PPFCA bond budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Consideration for approval of change order no. 1 the amount of \$625,468.00 to Pepper-Lawson Construction L.P. in Katy, Texas, for the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant 65-mgd Process and Electrical Upgrade. This change order is required due to missing or incomplete details on the construction drawings, upgrade of existing facilities or change of materials. The total contract amount remains at \$35,170,000.00 as the allowance of \$1,500,000.00 in the contract is sufficient to cover this change order. This project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is subject to Texas Water Development Board approval. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Utilities Director Tomas Rodriguez explained that the remodeling of Jefferson was done by Corolla Engineers. The Council approved that they provide a project management team that worked for the utilities department. He went on to explain that there were some things that Corolla failed to see in their design, and of the \$625,468 change order, half was due to the fault of the engineer.

Motion to look at legal steps to recuperate the amount of money attributed to the error of Corolla Engineers.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve as amended.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Consideration for approval of change order no. 2 in the amount of \$254,992.54 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 as a result of the July 2010 Flood. Cables for the North Raw Water Intake pumps were damaged, along with the duct bank. The new total contract amount is \$35,424,992.54. Funding is available in the Waterworks 2008 Bond. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Authorizing the City Manager to approve change order no. 2 to Rhino Builders, Ltd., Laredo, Texas for the 24” Water Transmission Line from Mary Help Booster Station along Michigan Avenue to International Boulevard. This change order is a credit of \$99,000.00 and a debit of \$99,000.00 of the construction allowance for field changes. The total contract amount of \$554,945.00 will not change. Funding is available in the 2009 Utility Bond Fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Awarding a construction contract to the lowest bidder, DEH Construction Co., LLC, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$283,109.31 for the construction of Material Storage Concrete Bins with a construction time of seventy-five (75) 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 2009 Bond Water Bond and 2008 Sewer Bond. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the Engineering Contract with Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$900.00 for a new total amount of \$90,400.00; for additional geotechnical engineering services for El Pico Water Treatment Plant. Funding is available in the 2008 Utility Bond. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for annual contract FY10-036 awarded to Rafter P. Transport Inc., New Braunfels, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$85,000.00 to haul and load dry sludge from the Jefferson Water Treatment Plant to the City’s Solid Waste Facility. This contract is based on a bid of \$6.00 per cubic yard of material. The frequency and number of loads vary depending on the City’s need. The bid price is based on a per load rate. Funding is available in the Utilities Department—Wastewater Department budget. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Declaring a public necessity to address a public safety issue regarding traffic circulation for the motoring public requiring street improvements, storm sewer improvements, and sidewalks for the Del Mar Widening Project, and to negotiate a reimbursement agreement with D & J Alexander Management in the amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 (representing 50% of the cost) for the accomplishment of such improvements. Funding is available in the Del Mar Widening Project line item. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to approve amendment no. 3 to Espey Consultants, Inc., in association with Howland Engineering in the amount of \$422,200.00 to provide consulting services for the Project 2-4 of the Canal Street Drainage Improvements under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Funding for the City of Laredo, Texas. The project involves reconstructing the channel between McPherson Road and San Francisco Street as well as improvements to the Marcella and Springfield culverts. The total contract with this amendment will be \$756,305.00. Funding is available in the HMGP grant. (Contingent upon the adoption of Ordinance No. 2011-O-017) (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 2, an increase of \$19,300.00 to the professional services contract with Crane Engineering Corporation, Laredo, Texas, for the North Merida Drive Extension Project for the submittal of environmental work to USACE, approval of the excavation of the existing pond immediately east of Merida Drive and for bridge pier design modifications. Current engineering contract amount with this amendment is \$317,600.00. Funding is available in the 2007 Environmental Services C.O. Issue. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Ratifying the termination of the contract with Dynser, Inc., Del Rio, Texas, for the Canal Street Drainage and Wastewater Improvements pursuant to contract documents section C-9.08 Termination of Contract by the Owner and C-8.10 Abandonment of Work or Default of Contract and authorizing the City Manager to enter into and sign a contract with ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for the completion of the Canal Street Drainage and Wastewater Improvements in the amount of \$675,359.55 and contract time of one hundred fifty (150) working days. Funding is available in the 2008 C.O. Issue, 2008 Utilities Bond. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration to exercise a renewal option for annual contract FY09-033 awarded to City Ready Mix, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$438,000.00, for the purchase of ready mix cement (job site delivered) for various City Departments. This is the last extension for this contract. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department, construction projects budget. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration to authorize payment of the fees assessed by the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the Solid Waste operation. TCEQ assesses a \$1.25/ton fee for all refuse landfilled. Funding is available in the Solid Waste fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Motorola Inc., through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the amount of \$55,478.67 for the purchase of nineteen (19) portable radios for the cadets at the Police Department. Funding is available in the Police General Fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 26. Consideration to exercise a renewal option for annual contract FY09-030 to RM Personnel, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the total amount of \$202,850.00, for providing contract employees for the Laredo International Airport Department. Temporary contract employees have been requested for dispatchers and customer service agent positions. The term of this contract will be for one (1) year. Funding is available in the Airport Fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 27. Consideration for approval of the Laredo International Airport General Aviation Apron Rehabilitation Design Phase 6 (FAA Rehabilitate Apron Phase 5) as complete and approval of change order no. 2 a decrease of \$73,759.00 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, release of retainage, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$34,942.67 to REIM Construction, Inc., Alton, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$1,986,467.45. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund—Grant No. 61. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve with a correction in the amount of \$101,151.41 instead of \$34,942.67.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 28. Consideration to award contracts to Great American Insulation, Mission, Texas, and International Quality Manufacturing L.L.C., Laredo, Texas, as qualifying contractors to provide weatherization goods and services in support of the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funded by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The term of the contracts will be for approximately six (6) months and may be extended at the option of the City and the contractor based on the availability of state funding and project performance. The City seeks to increase its contractor pool to weatherize a minimum of one hundred thirty six (136) units based on the availability of funding. Each housing unit is eligible for approximately \$6,500.00 of weatherization. Funding is available in the Community Development A.R.R.A. Fund – Weatherization Grant. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.



Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of January 2011, represents a decrease of \$74,216.29. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

30. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Discussion with possible action on a public dedication in honor of the late Fernando A. Salinas in recognition of his unbounded philanthropy for the benefit of Laredo’s Community. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Mike Garza and Council Member Cindy Liendo Espinoza)

Mayor Salinas stated that they wanted to do what was appropriate and deserving of his generosity, something that would leave a legacy for Fernando Salinas.

Cm. Garza responded that they had looked at a couple of facilities that had been instrumental in the participation. He went on to say that at Independence Park, the Salinas trust had participated in the financing of the project and that they wished to name the pavilion in honor of Fernando A. Salinas. He explained that they expected to have the project completed by May. He went on to say that the pavilion was the centerpiece of the entire project and that the city of Laredo, with cooperation of the Council, had put about \$3.2 million into it and that the trust had provided additional funding.

Motion to have Mayor Salinas name the pavilion in honor of Fernando A. Salinas.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to create an initiative to recognize City of Laredo employees who go beyond their call of duty to improving the quality of life and the City’s livability.

Mayor Salinas stated that today they recognized city employees who had given many years of dedication to the community. He went on to say that there were employees who went beyond the call of duty. He mentioned Roy Garcia as a dedicated, dynamic individual and explained that he felt that city employees like him should receive a pat on the back. He felt that a recognition should be put in their personnel file. He concluded that this promoted both customer service and morale.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal responded that they would have a recommendation by the next Council meeting about how to show this recognition.

3. Status report on the operations of the Laredo Animal Shelter, with possible action.

Health Department Director Hector Gonzalez reported that they continue to work closely with the animal shelter, especially with the pound. He explained that they do on-site monitoring in order to make sure that the animals are being well-cared for. He concluded that many changes had been implemented, especially cleaning practices.

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. 2011-R-16 Discussion with possible action in support of the “Win for Texas” public campaign to encourage the Texas Legislature to pass legislation allowing slot machines at licensed race tracks and recognized Indian tribal lands so that we may participate in an infusion in the State of Texas of more than \$8.5 billion in economic activity and 70,000 new permanent jobs that would result thereby.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-16.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Naravez

2. Consideration on the purchase of property in South Laredo for a transportation hub for El Metro, with possible action.

Motion to go out for bids to purchase land in order to create an El Metro hub in South Laredo.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action on amending the ordinance for wrecker services.

Cm. Garza reported that when there was a wrecker requested through the police department, there was a rotating list. However, he explained that some companies registered three different businesses at the same address. He wished to amend the ordinance to reflect that the list include only one business at a time at one address.

Motion to instruct staff to amend the ordinance to reflect one business per address rather than multiple businesses at the same address.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Discussion with possible action on the City working with active duty soldiers that may be delinquent with City of Laredo taxes. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Raul G. Salinas)

Cm. Garza stated that they were very fortunate as a city because the soldiers were given their full salary and not a differential.

Human Resources Director Dan Migura reported that as far as active duty military goes, they would be paid their military wages plus a differential.

Cm. Garza said that he didn't know if it was legal, but he wished to waive penalties or interest so that active duty soldiers would not lose their homes.

Tax Collector/Assessor Elizabeth Martinez reported that they did not have any right to waive penalties or interest, but the state property tax code did provide for the deferral of the delinquent date for an active duty soldier to sixty days after they are discharged from active duty.

Motion to discuss a local option for a waiver or deferral of property taxes for active duty soldiers with state legislators.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### C. Request by Council Member Esteban Rangel

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the naming of Cielito Lindo Park with presentation by Mr. Chendo Carranco. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Raul G. Salinas)

Cm. Rangel stated that this park was located a few blocks away from LBJ High School.

Chendo Carranco reported that about seven years ago, they donated half a million dollars to the city of Laredo so that they could build Fire Station #14. He explained that he and his partners donated the land in honor of the Marist brothers who founded St. Joseph's Academy. He stated that now they would be donating more land in the form of a park. He said that they placed this park on Cielito Lindo Boulevard, a major arterial, because they thought it was very important. He concluded that it gave him great pleasure to name this park the Angel and Alicia Garza Park.

Motion to approve the naming of the park on Cielito Lindo Boulevard as Jose and Alicia Garza Park.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Garza

2. Status report regarding a proposed agreement between the City of Laredo and TXDOT regarding the Clark Boulevard overpass.

Cm. Rangel said that he was very interested in knowing what they would wind up doing with the overpass. He felt that if they did not move forward with the overpass, they would have a funnel there. He wanted to know where they stood on that and what they could do to move it forward.

Carlos Villarreal reported that he had met with Amadeo Saenz, the executive director of TxDOT in Austin about ten days before. Mr. Saenz indicated that he would be coming within the next two to three weeks to Laredo to a meeting with all stakeholders. He said that they were gathering all the information to find out if Webb County would participate or not. He went on to say that he knew that it was very important with Cuatro Vientos and the 359 overpass under construction, and that it was therefore a major priority for the city.

- D. Request by Council Member Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action to remove mailboxes located on Masterson Street.

Cm. Perez reported that these mailboxes were old and the area was advancing. He said that the mailboxes were located on the side of a Burger King next to a Jack in the Box.

Community Development Director Ronnie Acosta reported that she spoke to Postmaster Armando Villalon who agreed to change out those two community mailboxes at no cost between forty-five and sixty days and put them at Yanno

and Masterson. He had also said it was possible to put individual mailboxes, but the residents would have to bear the cost of the installation.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding the installation of radar speed limit signage/cameras on Gustavus and Lane Streets on Malinche Avenue.

Cm. Perez stated that these were the kind that flashed the speed limit and then you would be mailed a ticket.

Traffic Director Roberto Murillo reported that on the flashing beacons, they cost \$9,000 each. He also said that it was illegal in Texas to use them for citations, but rather to use red light cameras which had already been turned down by City Council.

Cm. Perez responded that he was still interested in the flashing beacons without the ticketing.

3. Discussion with possible action on the demolition of the home located next to Orlando and Gaby Canizales Boxing Gym.

Community Development Director Ronnie Acosta reported that they still needed an architect for the design. She went on to say that \$305,000 were budgeted for that, and they had spent \$111,000 on the acquisition and an asbestos survey. She explained that demolition was the next step.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that first they needed a design to find out what to do with the parking lot. He continued saying that they needed to know what would happen with the building. He recommended that they hire an architect for the design of the building.

E. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to amend the smoking ordinance (No. 2006-O-073) to more clearly define a “tobacco specialty retail shop”, so as to give the intent of the ordinance full effect. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Update from Utilities Department and Public Works concerning work at Shenandoah Valley Subdivision and Piedmont Drive regarding additional drainage, storm drainage, sewer line installation and the Waste Water Treatment Plant, with possible action.

Utilities Director Tomas Rodriguez reported that the storm water line was cleaned as well as some of the manholes. He continued saying that the North Laredo Waste Water Treatment Plant was scheduled to be completed by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Elma Lozano from Shenandoah subdivision thanked Council Member Charlie San Miguel and asked that they would please follow up and finish the project.

3. Presentation by Laredo Next Generation Rotary Club regarding the community playground build-out project for North Central Park and consideration to accept a \$10,000.00 donation to help the City with the purchase of playground equipment and further naming the area around the playground up to the paths the “Laredo Next Generation Rotary Club Pavilion”, with possible action.

Ricardo Villarreal, president of Laredo Next Generation Rotary Club, reported that they were the newest of five rotary clubs in Laredo, chartered in 2008. He explained that they meet at Hal’s Landing every Wednesday night. He introduced Mario Peña who gave a presentation before Mayor and Council.

This presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary’s Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Motion to accept.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- F. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Presentation and status report regarding Union Pacific railroad projects by Mr. Ivan Jaime, U.P. Director of Border Policy and Community Affairs, with possible action.

Mr. Iran Jaime gave the following report:

Union Pacific: The Ties that Bind a Nation

Operation Community Improvement

- These crossings were identified through the city of Laredo’s crossing survey/study as low use for vehicle traffic.
- Once identified the RG process was created, implemented, and enforced by UP.
- Operation Community Improvement is the proposal to officially close crossings highlighted below:

Alternate Crossing South/Distance	Proposed Crossing Closures	Alternate Crossing North/Distance
Calton is 540 ft south	Justo Penn	Scale crossing is 402 ft north
Chicago is 1200 ft south	Markley	Pepsi crossing is 800 ft north
Philadelphia is 600 ft south	Pace	Chicago crossing is 317 ft north
Philadelphia 296 ft south	Ugarte	Chicago crossing is 637 ft north
Baltimore is 210 ft south	Pierce	Boston crossing is 309 ft north
Jefferson is 645 ft south	Frankfurt	Blair crossing is 642 ft north
Park is 1200 ft south	Shea	Jefferson crossing is 967 ft north
Park is 600 ft south	Gonzalez	Jefferson is 1600 ft north
Park is 338 ft south	Bruni	Jefferson is 1800 ft north
Santa Isabel is 1200 ft south	Garza	Sanchez is 308 ft north

#### Phase II of Crossing Plan

Has the Process worked?

Two years into the current process we feel Union Pacific has successfully implemented and enforced RG Crossing process.

Phase II - Operation Community Improvement

Proposal of official closure of the 10 crossings we agreed to block for Northbound train processing off the RG Track

#### RG Crossing Process

These crossings were identified through the city of Laredo's crossing survey/study as low use for vehicle traffic

#### North End Train Slot

Mann	Clear
Leyendecker	Clear
Hustler crossing	Clear
Island	Clear
Scale Crossing	Clear
Justo Penn	BLOCK
Calton	Clear
Pepsi Crossing	Clear
Markley	BLOCK
Chicago	Clear
Pace	BLOCK
Ugarte	BLOCK
Philadelphia	Clear
Boston	Clear
Pierce	BLOCK

Baltimore	Clear
Lafayette	Clear
Madison	Clear
Blair	Clear

South End Train Slot

Frankfort	BLOCK
Jefferson	Clear
Shea	BLOCK
Gonzalez	BLOCK
Bruni	BLOCK
Park	Clear
Sanchez	Clear
Garza	BLOCK
Santa Isabel	Clear
Scott	Clear
Zaragoza	Clear

Rio Grande/RG Track Crossing Agreement

Purpose of agreement:

To eliminate blocked crossings in our communities while processing Northbound interchanges from Mexico.

Joint effort - Union Pacific and the City of Laredo

There are 30 Crossings from Zaragosa to Mann

It was agreed to not block 20 of the 30 crossings for the community/and emergency services.

Quiet Zone Definition & Minimum Requirements

A “Quiet Zone” is a Segment of Rail Line Where Locomotive Horns are not Routinely Sounded

A QZ Must be at Least ½-Mile in Length

Each Crossing Included in the QZ Must be Equipped With Flashing Lights & Gates at Minimum

Union Pacific Believes Quiet Zones May Compromise the Safety of Railroad Employees, Customers & the General Public

While the Railroad Does Not Endorse Quiet Zones, it Does Comply With Provisions Outlined in Federal Law

Locomotive Horn

Mandated by Federal Railroad Administration

Must be sounded at all crossings, except in quiet zones recognized by the FRA Standardized pattern, unless emergency

Dependent on train speed, horn blowing starts ¼ mile or 15-20 seconds before crossing

Laredo Operations



Largest Rail Port of Entry b/w Mexico & United States  
 Port Laredo is Home to Large Union Pacific Classification and Intermodal Rail Yards  
 Active Main Tracks: Laredo Subdivision  
 Train Traffic: Estimated 20-25 Per Day  
 Employees: 200+  
 Primary Markets: International Trade with Mexico  
 Commodities: Autos, Auto Parts, Grain, Industrial Products  
 Local Customers: Wild Cat Minerals, LMS & 80+ Other Small Businesses

Supporting Our Communities

5 Laredo High Schools:  
 Cigarroa High School  
 Nixon High School  
 Martin High School  
 Early College High School  
 Vidal M. Trevino School of Communication & Fine Arts

Community Based Grants

Texas A&M International University  
 United Way  
 Communities in Schools  
 Junior Achievement

Who Pays for Freight Transportation Capacity?

One mile of highway:  
 Cost: \$15 million  
 Charge to: taxpayers

One mile of rail:  
 Cost: \$3 million  
 Charge to: private industry

Freight Revenue	\$13.4 B
Route Miles	32,100 in 23 States
Employees	41,700
Annual Payroll	\$3.5 B
Customers	25,000
Locomotives	8,350

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office at 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Motion to meet with staff and all involved parties to determine the master plan.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**XIII. STAFF REPORTS**

31. Presentation by Kell Muñoz & Associates on the Downtown Master Plan Study, with possible action.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza  
Second: Cm. Valdez  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza  
Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 2  
Cm. Valdez  
Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Against: 6  
Cm. Garza  
Cm. Rangel  
Cm. Perez  
Cm. Narvaez  
Mayor Pro Tem Rendon  
Cm. San Miguel

Abstain: 0

Henry Muñoz, CEO of Kell Muñoz, said that he was making their final report before the submission of their technical report that was part of their downtown master plan. He made the following presentation:

Rediscover Laredo

Vision

The overarching vision for downtown Laredo is to claim and fulfill a Pan American destiny – a destination city for local, regional, and international culture, people and markets.

Themes

- Become a Destination City
- Build an Arts & Entertainment Industry
- Regenerate Home and History
- Make a Complete Street and Transportation System
- Cultivate a Sustainable Infrastructure

Pan American Plaza  
La Venta Marketplace  
Riverfront Development  
Laredo Convention Center  
Build an Arts & Entertainment Industry  
Restoring Home and History  
Regenerate Home & History  
Mixed-Use Residential  
North Convent Avenue Urban Mall  
Zacate Creek

Zacate Creek is a concrete lined drainage channel north of downtown, but follows a more natural course south of the railroad bridge. The Old Matamoros Bridge is an exemplary cast-in-place concrete engineering work that overlooks the creek and is used for parking.

Transportation and Mobility Plan  
Make a Complete Street & Transportation System  
Convent Avenue

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza stated that there had been concerns raised by her constituents and pointed out that although many Council Members had been asked for support regarding this item, no one from Kell Muñoz called her although it was so closely related to her district. She felt that this was disturbing and disrespectful since she felt that this was important for downtown and felt bothered by the process that was taken. She went on to say that it was important for the new Council Members to know that their firm, after being unsuccessful in reaching another contract with the City, had stopped communication with her. She found this very unprofessional. She asked that Council give her an opportunity for discussion with Mr. Muñoz and his staff before any action was taken.

Motion to arrange a meeting between staff, Cm. Liendo Espinoza and Kell Muñoz to address her concerns.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Presentation of the fiscal year 2009-2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) prepared by the City of Laredo's Financial Services Department and audited by the Independent Audit Firm of Canales, Garza and Baum, P.L.L.C. (Presented at Operations Committee)

Motion to approve the audit.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 33. Discussion with possible action regarding FY 2012 Third Party funding relating to priorities to be funded and direction regarding the funding of new organizations.

Community Development Director Ronnie Acosta reported that the committee wanted to touch base with Council to get some direction, especially regarding funding new activities.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal mentioned a checklist that they could distribute to Council to have a discussion at the next meeting. He concluded that he was anticipating some cuts.

Motion to not accept any new organizations to receive Third Party funding.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 34. Discussion with possible action on determining the functions, responsibilities and procedural requirements of the office of the Internal Auditor in accordance with §2.17 of the Laredo City Charter.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal presented a side-by-side comparison of various audit organization reporting structures to Mayor and Council.

Side-by-Side Comparison of Various Audit Organization Reporting Structures  
 Comparison Compiled and Prepared by City Internal Audit Office

	City of San Antonio	City of El Paso	City of McAllen	City of Corpus Christi	UISD	LISD
Appointed By	City Council	City Manager	Audit Committee	City Council	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Evaluated By	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Yet Determined	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Reporting Structure:						

Functionally	Audit Committee of the City Council	City Manager & Fiscal Affairs, Management Support & Internal Audit Legislative Review Committee (Legislatively)	Audit Committee, City Commission & McAllen Public Utility Board (MPUB)	City of Corpus Christi recently had a Charter amendment approved in the November 2010 election to appoint a City Auditor. Reporting structure has not yet been determined	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Administratively	Not Available	Deputy City Manager	City Manager		Superintendent	Superintendent
Report Submittal	Final Audit Reports are provided to the corresponding department, City Management Executive Leadership Team, Council & Mayor. No information provided on report presentation at City Council	City Council, City Manager, Deputy City Manager with oversight of audited area & department head. Reports sometimes presented to City Council in Executive Session, depending on the topic.	Presents audit reports & special assignments to the Audit Committee at monthly meetings. On occasion, Internal Auditor has presented to the Board in Executive Session.	In the process of drafting all pertinent ordinances.	Full report with management's response issued to Board of Trustees, Superintendent and Corresponding Administrators. Report monthly to the Board during Executive Session on accomplishments relative to the audit plan and special requests.	Final report forwarded to Board of Trustees, Superintendent and respective personnel. No information provided on report presentations at school Board meetings.

Veronica Baeza, Internal Auditor explained that the side-by-side comparison detailed who appointed and evaluated the internal auditor as well as other items. She said that it was a starting point for them to be able to draft any necessary ordinances.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they needed to be able to incorporate a structure that would be in an ordinance with a connection between the City Manager's Office and the Internal Auditor.

35. Presentation by Roger Creery, Executive Director of the Laredo Development Foundation, on LDF's quarterly report regarding job growth, business prospects, and unemployment, with possible action.

Javier Garza reported that Roger Creery would be making his quarterly presentation, but he wanted to preface the presentation by telling them that the

Laredo Development Foundation was undergoing changes to become more competitive and attract more business to Laredo. He went on to explain that they had singled out items to be improved upon such as communications. He said that they now communicated with municipal authorities more often than in the past and that they also had better communication internally. He stated that the newspaper had reported that a Kentucky plant was considering relocating to Texas and had thought of Houston, San Antonio, Austin, and the valley. Afterward he had asked Roger Creery to contact the company and ask them why they had chosen those cities as candidates and not Laredo. The company explained that they were located closer to these four cities. He went on to say that Laredo Development Foundation had since developed a rapport with this company which was planning on attending their symposium in September. He concluded that he was glad that there had been a concerned citizen who had let them know of a possible candidate.

Roger Creery, Laredo Development Foundation Director, made the following presentation:

#### Unemployment Statistics

	2009	2010	% Change
Unemployment (Laredo MSA):	8.8%	8.1%	-12.6%
Workforce (Laredo MSA)	94,800	96,200	1.5%
Total Jobs (Laredo MSA)	86,500	88,400	2.2%
Unemployment (Texas):	8.0%	8.0%	0.0%
Available Workforce (Texas)	12,027,700	12,201,400	1.4%
Total Jobs (Texas):	11,069,900	11,223,800	1.4%
Unemployment (U.S.):	9.7%	9.1%	-6.2%
Workforce (U.S.):	152,693,000	153,156,000	0.3%
Total Jobs (U.S.):	137,953,000	139,159,000	0.9%
Note: January 2011 numbers will be available March 10, 2011			

#### Strategy

Leverage our LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION supported by our vast and efficient infrastructure, complemented by our young, growing workforce to continue to:

- 1) Add to our core International Trade business
- 2) Increase our manufacturing presence
- 3) Advance efforts to enhance our retail economy
- 4) Continue to grow our call center/financial services sector
- 5) Support regional oil and gas industries
- 6) Facilitate expansion of business with Mexico

And in all efforts, COLLABORATE...

### International Trade

Continue to support Central/South America trade initiative

Continue to prospect for investors and developers interested in adding new building capacity

Actively participate with trade corridor organizations to promote our port

Annual Symposium

### Recent Projects

- 1) Bowles Fluidics (Automotive Tier 1&2 Supplier)
- 2) Flower Brokers – Miami, FL and Austin, TX
- 3) Canadian Tomato Distribution Company
- 4) Ilo, Peru trade mission
- 5) Peru, Ecuador and Mexico visits

### Retail

Work with developers to promote their projects

Continue to promote retail growth/expansion by gathering and presenting pertinent statistics and demographic information

Attend and promote at key trade shows

Work with federal agencies to find funding mechanisms for redevelopment projects

### Recent projects

- 1) Books-a-Million
- 2) Lane Bryant
- 3) Panda Express
- 4) Mercy Hospital Project

### Manufacturing

Attend and promote at key trade shows

Promote and continue to build relationships with Site Selectors

Cold call and leverage all referrals from existing maquilas

Business Without Borders

### Recent Projects

- 1) Farouk Shami Project
- 2) Worldwide Battery
- 3) Mexico Conglomerate Project
- 4) Mexico manufacturing operation
- 5) Antifreeze Recycling Project
- 6) Morales Project (Shiloh)
- 7) Food Manufacturing

### Projects that went elsewhere...

Project Triple Crown

Electrolux (Nuevo Laredo)

Automotive Seat Frame Manufacturing Company

Project Golden Dragon

Call Center

AmeriQuip

Economic Impact

Projects Landed	Jobs	Est. Cap. Inv.	Est. Payroll
Bowles Fluidics	5	\$100,000	\$150,000
Worldwide Battery	40	\$250,000	\$800,000
Lane Bryant	20	\$100,000	\$300,000
Books-a-Million	10	\$250,000	\$150,000
Panda Express	120	\$2,000,000	\$1,800,000
Morales Project	15	\$1,800,000	\$300,000
Projects Possibility	Jobs	Est. Cap. Inv.	Est. Payroll
80% Farouk Shami Project	200+	\$10,000,000	\$4,500,000
Mexico Conglomerate Project	300	\$105,000,000	\$8,700,000
Canadian Tomato Distribution	10	\$750,000	\$200,000
Food Manufacturing Co.	85	\$5,000,000	\$1,500,000
Mexico Manufacturing Project	150	\$30,000,000	\$2,700,000

The rest of this presentation can be viewed at the City Secretary’s Office, 1110 Houston St., Laredo, TX 78040.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 36. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of real property pertaining to a potential purchase of real property located at 4925 Tesoro Plaza, 1820 West Calton Road and 5100 Santa Maria that are part of right-of-way acquisition for the Calton Road Grade Separation Project.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of real property pertaining to a potential purchase of real property located at 4925 Tesoro Plaza, 1820 West Calton Road and 5100 Santa Maria that are part of right-of-way acquisition for the Calton Road Grade Separation Project.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



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

37. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of several parcels of real property as they pertain to a potential real estate transaction, namely, City Fleet/Traffic Department property situated at the corner of Saunders and Arkansas, and City Human Resources Department property located at 618 Del Mar Street.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the value of several parcels of real property as they pertain to a potential real estate transaction, namely, City Fleet/Traffic Department property situated at the corner of Saunders and Arkansas, and City Human Resources Department property located at 618 Del Mar Street.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Motion to instruct staff to proceed with the procurement process.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

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 33 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011.

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Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  
City Secretary