

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2011-R-19
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
OCTOBER 17, 2011
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor 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
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Jorge A. Vera,	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. Perez.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza and Cm. Liendo Espinoza were not present.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza joined the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Cm. Garza arrived at 6:44 pm.

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of October 6, 2011

Motion to approve the minutes of October 6, 2011.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognitions

- a. Recognizing KuGar TaeKwonDo Fight Team for their awards and participation in the South Texas Open TaeKwonDo Championship on September 24, 2011 in San Antonio, Texas.

Mayor Salinas and City Council recognized competitors Aracelli Vega, Fabian Torres, Alex Carmona, Shane Teeters, Ivan Casso, Brandon Peña, Ronaq Mia, Ivan Mota, Umberto Fasci, Salma Castellanos, and Manual Aguilar as well as coaches Master Jesse and Dr. Clarissa Kuhns and presented them with certificates of recognition.

Communiqués

- a. Video presentation of the National Night Out held on October 4, 2011.

The video related that the purpose of National Night Out is to prevent crime and get the community out to get to know their local law enforcement officials. It promotes awareness of crime and how to contact local agencies to see what services they provide.

Citizen comments

None.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the north 2/3 of Lot 4 and the northeast portion of Lot 3, Block 1020, Eastern Division, located at 3202 S. Buena Vista Avenue, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

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

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to take the item from the table.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Lorena Gonzalez of 3202 South Buena Vista stated that she was asking for a zone change from an R-3 to a B-3.

Eduardo Gonzalez stated that the City of Laredo had recommended a B-1 but they were asking for a B-3.

Motion to close the public hearing to designate a B-1 zone and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

VII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

2. Authorizing the City Manager to approve an amendment to lease agreement dated August 2, 2004 and approved by Ordinance no. 2004-O-184 and further amended on August 6, 2007 by Ordinance no. 2007-O-132 between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Ronnie Salomon d/b/a Avionics Services International as Lessee for the approximate 5,980 square feet constituting Hangar No. 1307 located at 4400 Maher Avenue within the Laredo International Airport. The amendment extends the lease ending date from July 31, 2012 to July 31, 2017 and allows for a rental adjustment based on the fair market value of the leased premises effective August

1, 2012. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Authorizing the City Manager to approve an amendment to a lease agreement dated December 1, 2008 and approved by Ordinance No. 2008-O-241 between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Laredo Aerocenter, Inc., as Lessee for a tract of land consisting of 7,882 square feet. The amendment increases the leased premises from 7,882 square feet to 9,882 square feet and increases the monthly rental amount from \$867.24 to \$1,087.02, effective October 1, 2011. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Air Trade Laredo, L.L.C., for approximately 1.973 acres (85,930.81 square feet) of land located at 4700 Maher Avenue and known as Lot No. 1-B-2, Block No. 1 at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on November 1, 2011, and ending on October 31, 2031, and may be extended for two (2) consecutive ten (10) year terms ending on October 31, 2051. Initial rent shall be \$2,610.00 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 10th, 20th, and 30th anniversaries. Lessor waives Lessee's rental obligation for the initial six (6) months commencing October 1, 2011 and ending on March 31, 2012 of the term of this lease; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2011-O-140, 2011-O-141, 2011-O-142, 2011-O-143, and 2011-O-144.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

5. 2011-O-140 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHS) and amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2011-2012 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$344,708.00 with an in-kind match of \$35,165.00. Also, amending the FTE Position listing by creating six (6) FTE positions for this project to implement a Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) in which the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) will provide evidence-base nurse home visitation for first-time mothers and their children for the period beginning September 1, 2011 through

August 31, 2012. Continuation of this program will be contingent on funding availability.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-140.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2011-O-141 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), Section 5317, New Freedom (NF) Project Grant Agreement no. 51022F7094 in the amount of \$350,000.00 with a local match of \$87,500.00, for a grand total of \$437,500.00; and to amend the FY 2011-2012 Transit Capital Grants budget by appropriating the same amount for the construction of ADA sidewalks and bus shelters.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-141.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2011-O-142 Authorizing the City Manager to approve an amendment to lease agreement dated May 16, 2005 and approved by Ordinance No. 2005-O-113 between the City of Laredo, as LESSOR, and L.A. Ventures Terminal, Ltd., as LESSEE for a tract of land consisting of 3.64 acres (158,558 square feet). The amendment extends the lease ending date from May 31, 2045 to May 31, 2051 constituting Tract 9 of Lot 1, Block 1. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-142.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2011-O-143 Amending the City of Laredo Leave Ordinance and the Code of Ordinances book as follows: Chapter 2, Article II, Division 3 Leave Policy, § 2-51 et seq., as follows:

1. Limiting annual leave and sick leave accruals during Serious Illness Leave and Workers Compensation leave and allowing sick leave to be transferred from one employee to another;
2. Renaming the Memorial Day holiday to Memorial Day/9-11 holiday in accordance with H.B. 2113;

3. Modifying eligibility for the personal holiday;
4. Re-defining the Serious Illness Leave program;
5. Adding an Administrative Leave provision;
6. Making grammatical improvements and otherwise editing the Leave Policy where appropriate; and, providing for an effective date of October 17, 2011. (AS AMENDED) (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-143.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 2011-O-144 Authorizing the City Manager to apply for a loan from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in the amount of \$48,750,000.00 to fund improvements to the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant. By securing this loan through TWDB, the City will save approximately \$281,791.00 per year or \$8,453,730.00 over 30 years.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-O-144.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

IX. RESOLUTIONS

6. 2011-R-099 Accepting the conveyance of the following utility easements and temporary construction easements, for the 24 inch Waterline Killam Elevated Tank to Doctors Hospital-Bob Bullock Loop Project, from:

San Isidro Northeast, Ltd. - six (6) utility easements with corresponding temporary construction easements as follows:

One over a 1.15 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 1; and

One over a 1.11 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 1; and

One over a 0.055 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 1; and

One over a 0.018 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 2; and

One over a 1.14 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 2; and

One over 0.08 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 3; and directing that the said six easements (and Temporary Construction Easements) be filed of record in official property records of Webb County, Texas.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-099.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 2011-R-105 Accepting the conveyance of the following utility easement and temporary construction easement, for the 36 Inch Water Main IH 35, Killam Ranch to International and Bob Bullock Loop Project, from:

HRM International, Ltd.—Utility Easement with corresponding Temporary Construction Easement as follows:

One over a 0.2041 Acre Tract, a copy of which conveyance is attached as Exhibit 1; and directing that the said Easement (and Temporary Construction Easement) be filed of record in official property records of Webb County, Texas.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-105.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

8. 2011-R-106 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program. The U.S. Department of Justice BVP program will fund \$3,981.00 and the City of Laredo will designate \$3,981.00 in matching funds for a total program budget of \$7,962.00. Funding will be used to replace bulletproof vests that exceed the recommended life expectancy. Funding is available in the City of Laredo Special Police Programs.

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-106.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. 2011-R-107 Ratifying the City Manager's submittal of a grant application in the amount of \$50,000.00 to the Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for 2012 Motor Carrier Safety

Assistance Program. This grant will require a 20% cash match. This grant will be used to pay for salaries, public awareness and educational activities. Funding for the match is available in Special Police Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-R-107.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

X. MOTIONS

10. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one (1) year service agreement with SunGard Public Sector, Lake Mary, Florida, in the amount of \$134,015.00. This service agreement is for software enhancements and maintenance on the financial applications residing on the City’s IBM iSeries computer system for the period of October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract to Kraftsman Playground and Park Equipment, Spring, Texas, utilizing the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program contract pricing, in the amount of \$61,919.78 for the purchase and installation of rubber surfacing for the Blas Castañeda Park. Funding is available in the 2010 Tax C.O. Issue. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. Consideration to award supply contract FY12-001 to the sole bidder Anderson Columbia, Lake City, Florida, in the estimated amount of \$225,000.00 for the purchase of SS-1 and AE-P emulsified asphalt oils used for street paving projects. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the construction project budgets. Funding is available in the Public Works and Utilities Department construction budgets. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Consideration to renew contract FY10-081 awarded to Rush Truck Center, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$130,000.00, and Rotex Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in the estimated amount of \$50,000.00 for the purchase of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) parts for the City's medium and heavy duty trucks. All parts will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Consideration to award contract FY12-002 to the low bidder, Consolidated Electric, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$65,354.77 for the purchase of electrical wire and materials for the Lyon Booster Station and Millennium Booster Station. Funding is available in the 2008 Water Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 3 to Camp, Dresser & McKee (CDM), Inc., for the amount of \$40,000.00 for the TWDB Environmental Information (EID) Preparation for the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant. The revised contract amount is \$4,605,350.00. Funding is available in the 2010 Sewer Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a construction contract with the lowest responsible bidder, Merryman Excavation, Inc., of Woodstock, Illinois, in the amount of \$4,158,189.00 for the construction of a 36' Water Main RE-BID from Loop 20 and International Boulevard to IH-35. The construction time is two hundred twenty (220) working days. Funding is available in the 2009 D Waterworks Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Authorizing the City Manager to approve change order no. 2 to QRO Mex Construction, Inc., for the 24" Transmission Water Main Improvements, existing contract. This change order will add fifteen (15) days to the existing contract for the contractor to make various horizontal and vertical alignment revisions that were required to adjust the proposed waterline around existing utilities uncovered during construction. This change order will not change the existing contract amount of \$4,063,060.00. Utilities

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration for approval of change order no. 4 to Pesado Construction, Schertz, Texas; for the Hendricks, Milmo and Lyon Water Booster Pump Station Improvements Project in the amount of \$57,924.06 and 79 additional days. The contractor for this change order will provide additional labor; equipment and materials to upgrade the booster stations on Milmo & Lyon Booster Stations (see background for the scope of services). The new contract amount is \$4,397,456.23. The project is subject to Texas Water Development Board approval. Funding of change order will be from the 2009 Utility Bond. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration for approval of change order no. 2 in the amount of a \$128,000.00 credit to the contract to Landmark Structures for the 3.0 MG Elevated Water Storage Tank at Bartlett and Price. This change order consists of adjustments required for removing the landscaping, site work and fencing for the project. This change order will also add one hundred two (102) working days to the existing contract due to extra work needed and hot weather delays. The total contract amount will change to \$3,510,600.00, with a total contract time of four hundred eighty three (483) working days. Funding is available in the 2009 Utility Bond Fund. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Directing staff to prepare a service plan for the unilateral annexation of four (4) tracts of land totaling 1,060.85 acres, more or less, as shown on attachment "A", in accordance with Section 43.052 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to award a contract to Inductive Applications, L.L.C., in the amount of \$51,007.00 for the monthly fee and monthly statements, including postage, to continue to provide web based subscription and support to EMS services, collections, medical coding and training for the term of December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget for EMS Billing Services. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to award a contract to Antares Development Corporation not to exceed \$210,000.00 utilizing the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program Contract 331-09 for the continuation of Phase IV of the data management system. This will allow completion of the Animal Control Service automation to improve field operations, inspections and permitting as well as the development of a functional electronic medical and dental record and archiving system for the medical and dental clinics. This will also improve patient care and customer service through improved records management and archiving for the term of November 1, 2011 through October 31, 2012. Funding is available in the Health Department Budget. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Authorizing the City Manager to acquire the "Surface Only" of a Drainage Easement located at 1318 Longhorn Drive Tract consisting of a 1,320 sq. ft. easement located on the east side of the property, legally described as Lot 2, Block 6, Shiloh II, which will provide for access to North Central Park. Said parcel is to be acquired in an amount not to exceed \$5,900.00 plus incidental expenses. This will be a voluntary transaction. Funding is available in Manadas Creek Drainage Improvement Project 2007.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the Laredo Development Foundation in the amount of \$273,394.00 for FY 2011-2012. Funding is available in the General Fund in the amount of \$206,754.00, and the Bridge Fund in the amount of \$66,640.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the Laredo Animal Protective Society otherwise known as the Laredo Animal Shelter, totaling \$300,000.00 for FY 2011-2012. Funding is available in the General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza
Second: Cm. Vera
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Dr. Gonzalez reported that there was an existing advisory committee which had meetings that they were welcome to attend at any time and provide oversight.

Motion to appoint Cm. Liendo Espinoza, Cm. Vera and Mayor Salinas to the Animal Shelter Board.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Authorizing the City Manager to execute individual contracts with the following Third Party Funding Recipients, totaling \$318,725.00.00 for FY 2011-2012. Funding is available in the General Fund:

Area Health Ed. Ctr.	\$ 9,000.00	BEST	\$ 5,000.00
Bethany House	\$21,000.00	BigBrother/Sister of So.TX	\$ 2,000.00
BANC	\$28,400.00	Boys' & Girl's Clubs	\$20,000.00

Boys Scouts of America	\$ 1,000.00	Casa de Misericordia	\$16,000.00
Children's Advocacy Ctr	\$27,825.00	Girl Scouts of So.TX	\$ 1,000.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$10,500.00	Imaginarium of So.TX	\$ 7,000.00
Kidney Foundation	\$20,000.00	Laredo Amateur Boxing	\$ 5,000.00
		Laredo Little Theatre	\$ 4,000.00
Laredo Reg. Food Bank	\$ 8,000.00	LISD CrimeStoppers	\$ 4,500.00
Literacy Volunteers	\$ 3,000.00	Sacred Heart Childrens Home	\$15,000.00
SCAN	\$13,500.00	So. TX Food Bank	\$ 35,000.00
Special Olympics	\$ 7,000.00	STCADA	\$ 5,000.00
TX Migrant SafeHaven	\$10,000.00	Veteran's Coalition	\$40,000.00
TOTAL			\$ 318,725.00

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Authorizing the City Manager to execute individual contracts with the following Hotel/Motel Tax Fund Recipients totaling \$419,960.00 for FY 2011-2012. Funding is available in the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund.

Border Olympics	\$ 80,000.00	Chamber of Commerce/Cola Blanca	\$ 25,000.00
Laredo Ctr. For the Arts	\$150,000.00	Laredo Area Youth Soccer Asso.	\$ 20,000.00
Laredo Phil. Orchestra	\$ 23,400.00		
LULAC 7	\$ 2,460.00	Mexican Cultural Institute	\$ 4,100.00
Society of Martha Wash.	\$ 10,000.00	Streets of Laredo	\$ 15,000.00
WBCA	\$ 60,000.00	Webb County Heritage Found.	\$ 30,000.00

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Laredo Main Street in the amount of \$50,000.00 in support of the Laredo Main Street Program. Funding is available from the Hotel-Motel Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to authorize the installation of speed cushions along Rancho Grande Dr., between Hwy. 359 and Loop 20, under the special provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy. Project costs are estimated at \$8,000.00 and funding will be made available from Capital Improvements Discretionary Funding City Council District II. Staff recommends against the installation of speed cushions on Rancho Grande Drive.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of September 2011, represent a decrease of \$4,145.72. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Refund of property tax in the amount of \$5,947.29 to the following taxpayers:

1. A refund in the amount of \$5,412.29 payable to Compass Bank due to an overpayment. Account no. 986-00009-030.
2. A refund in the amount of \$535.00 payable to Silvia Chavarria due to an erroneous payment. Account no. 812-08000-931.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

32. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Discussion with possible action to support UISD and LISD migrant farm worker children seeking higher educational opportunities. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Mike Garza & Council Member Jorge A. Vera)

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on creating a resolution requesting county making improvements to Wormser Road.

Cm. Garza stated that as Wormser Road was a county road, Webb County was responsible for maintaining that road; however, for years the enforcement of this maintenance had been lacking. He wished for the City Manager to draft a letter to the county or to work something out so that funding would be provided to the City of Laredo to perform the maintenance.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that he did not think that the City of Laredo could participate in the work since it was a county road. He went on to say that now that Cuatro Vientos was open, this road was being used more. He added that the City of Laredo had no plans to annex this road and that it was the responsibility of Webb County to maintain it. He concluded that they might discuss this matter at City-County meeting.

Motion to direct the City Manager to draft a letter to initiate a discussion regarding the maintenance and upkeep of Wormser Road.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mayor Pro Tem Rendon was chairing the meeting.

2. Discussion with possible action on the future use of South Canada Road between Norton and Ireland Streets.

City Engineer Rogelio Rivera showed a map that explained the future use of the road.

Cm. Garza asked what the future plans were, whether it was to make improvements or an extension.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they would take a look at this matter.

City Engineer Rogelio Rivera said that there had been a discussion regarding a sale in 2006 but it did not go through because of the lay of the land. He added that it did not lend itself to be built on. He stated that there may be a flooding liability for the neighborhood to the east.

Motion to look into, in the case of a sale, placing restrictions on putting structural improvements there for the abutting property owners.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Status report on Merida Street Extension Project.

Cm. Garza said that on the project timeline, there was an indication that there was a verbal commitment that the construction would happen at the end of the November. He went on to say that during a meeting at the City Manager's Office, the date given was October 15th.

City Engineer Rogelio Rivera replied that the November date was a commitment by the contractor because he could not pour the north portion of the street due to problems with the subcontractor. He added that the north section was poured on Friday evening.

Cm. Garza said that when there would be a change, the City Manager's Office should be made aware so that the Council Member could also be made aware.

C. Request by Council Member Esteban Rangel

1. Presentation by area Zumba instructors on an upcoming Zumba event to be held at the Blas Castaneda Recreation Center for the benefit of Breast Cancer Awareness. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Johnny Rendon)

Cm. Rangel stated that he wanted to echo what his fellow Council Members had said earlier about the importance of Breast Cancer Awareness.

Jose Rico, a certified fitness instructor, provided information about the Party in Pink Zumbathon scheduled for October 29th. He explained that the Susan G. Komen Foundation was a leader in breast cancer research and awareness and so the Foundation and Zumba had teamed up for this event. He asked for Council's support to allow the people of Laredo to know that they stood together in this fight.

Cm. Rangel pledged \$250 for the event.

Cm. San Miguel pledged \$300 for the event.

D. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Johnny Rendon

1. Recognizing Brother Philip Degagne, SMS, for devoting more than 50 years as a Marist Brother, and for his many years of service for the benefit of the Community of Laredo. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Charlie San Miguel)

Brother Philip Degagne was recognized and presented with a plaque for his more than sixty years of service in the community.

E. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Status report with possible action on the intersection of Winfield Parkway and Loop 20.

Traffic Director Roberto Murillo reported that what they were trying to do was to make some improvements and block the left turn on to Winfield. He added that TxDOT was in agreement with this plan.

Cm. San Miguel asked if they could consider opening Kirby by a few yards in order to get to Shiloh as a means to alleviate the congestion there.

Traffic Director Roberto Murillo said that the land there was private and undeveloped by Killam and Associates. He went on to say that a few years ago there had been some discussion on this, but no action ever materialized.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said there was a meeting scheduled with Killam and Associates on the 31st and so they could discuss this matter there.

Danny Magee, TxDOT Director of Traffic Operations, said that in about a month or so they should be able to have things finished off. He added that in the past, their district engineer had offered materials for the completion of Kirby to a previous Council and that the offer was still good.

F. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Presentation by "Speak for me Now" in reference to the Animal Shelter.

Karla Cavazos stated that they were taxpayers and had formed a group with concerns regarding the shelter. She explained that the Animal Shelter was not a great place. She added that former employees had brought a lot of improvement to the shelter; however, they were fired although they had done a lot for the shelter. She and the group felt that it was not good to rehire someone who had allegations of neglect of the animals.

Shannon Acevedo, former manager of the Laredo Animal Shelter, showed photos that she took when she was employed there.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they would like to look at the information privately during a meeting in his office.

2. Update with possible action on Plaza Theatre Feasibility Study and possible lease with Hbr, Inc. Victor Trevino and Danny Lopez, Jr.

Victor Treviño, Jr. gave the following presentation:

PLAZA THEATRE PRESENTATION
"EL MERCADO" DISTRICT DOWNTOWN LAREDO, TEXAS

What used to be the heart, and soon will be again, “El Mercado” is just opposite of our sister City of Nuevo Laredo. It is bounded by the Pan American highway (I-35) on the East, the Rio Grande on the South and West and Park Street in the North. This area was the original City of Laredo, founded in 1755 by Don Tomas Sanchez.

Located at 1018 Hidalgo Street, the Plaza Theatre was built in 1947, and the 1,586-seat theatre was designed as a movie house and featured first-run American and Mexican films.

Renegade Girl Debuted New Years day in 1947 starring Ann Savage and Alan Curtis

It was a place where people gathered, laughed together, and the community was whole.

The building is also the only remaining example of the Art Moderne style in Laredo and is of particular interest for the striking hand painted murals which adorn its interiors are were painted by Manuel Gutierrez.

The Plaza, with its large vertical marquee, visible up and down Hidalgo Street, was operated by United Artist before it closed.

With the hope of restoring this historic symbol of downtown and creating economic development opportunities for persons of low income, the City of Laredo acquired the theatre in 1999 with Community Development Block Grant funds.

On November 13, 2001, the City Council approved funds to undertake a feasibility study. The firm of Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates was selected to conduct the study.

The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating the Plaza as a venue for the live performing arts (including theatre, music and/or dance) and film. The study concluded that in order to fill the full spectrum of community needs and be operationally viable, the Plaza would need to be a very flexible, multi-purpose venue, able to rent, present, exhibit and host a variety of programming. In order to do so, it was recommended that the theatre should contain more than one venue for performing arts, film and meeting uses, and that consideration should be given to converting the balcony into a second, multi-purpose space.

The study concluded that the total project cost would be \$6.1 million. The cost breakdown is as follows:

General Construction	\$3,296,000
Furnishings	240,000
Special	773,000

Construction/Purchase	
Design/Engineering	646,350
Testing	86,180
Contingency	430,900
Acquisition of Adjacent Property	700,000
Total	\$6,172,430

Who We Are

Sons of Laredo

Danny Lopez, Jr. is a local businessman and the General Manager of the famed Danny's Conglomerate of Restaurant, Entertainment, and Consulting businesses, all of which are locally based in Downtown Laredo, Texas.

Victor Trevino, Jr. is a native Laredoan, with a diverse background. He is a tax attorney, real estate broker, commercial pilot, and a 10th generation direct descendant of Tomas Sanchez (founder of Laredo).

Project Guiding Principles

Truly provide a destination type venue. To learn from and avoid the paths of larger cities such as Chicago, New Orleans, and Los Angeles, where tens of millions were spent on rehabilitation.

Economic Development-To stimulate the type of commercial activity that is conducive for Laredoans to stay in Laredo for their entertainment and cultural needs

Preservation-To preserve the character of the Plaza Theatre is key to the success of not only this project but to the citizens of Laredo.

Plans In the Making

Creating investment opportunities through the use of EB-5 visa/investment vehicles in Downtown and Laredo at Large.

Providing the facility for Rehearsal space and plays.

Bringing Cine de Oro back to the Plaza.

Working in conjunction with the Web County Heritage Foundation, the Laredo Center For the Arts, and similar groups to cater to traveling Art and Musical exhibits.

What We are Requesting from the City

A 90-Day Due Diligence Period to Access the Current State of the Theatre.-
Completed
Option 1

A 5-year lease to be worked out with the City once the improvement costs are identified. That would translate to getting the Plaza to Rentable Status (Plumbing, Electrical, Air Cond.

Option 2

Nominal rent with rentable status just for lobby.

Option 3

Keeping communications open on the possibility of a Private-Public Partnership. A gross profit lease.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza stated that she wanted to direct the City Manager and Mr. Treviño and Mr. Lopez to meet and go over details and then bring it back to the Council for a possible contract.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to meet Mr. Treviño and Mr. Lopez to discuss the creation of a contract for the renovation of the Plaza Theatre.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

33. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney on contemplated litigation involving the use of eminent domain to condemn real property, namely: Lot 8, Block 1174, Eastern Division; and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney on contemplated litigation involving the use of eminent domain to condemn real property, namely: Lot 8, Block 1174, Eastern Division; and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Motion to instruct staff to proceed with the land acquisition and whatever that process will entail.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney on contemplated litigation involving the use of eminent domain to condemn real property, namely: Lots 3, 4,

5, and 6 of Block 2169, Eastern Division; and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney on contemplated litigation involving the use of eminent domain to condemn real property, namely: Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6 of Block 2169, Eastern Division; and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Motion to instruct staff to proceed with the land acquisition and whatever that process will entail.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 21 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on October 17th, 2011.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

PLAZA THEATRE PRESENTATION “EL MERCADO” DISTRICT DOWNTOWN LAREDO, TEXAS



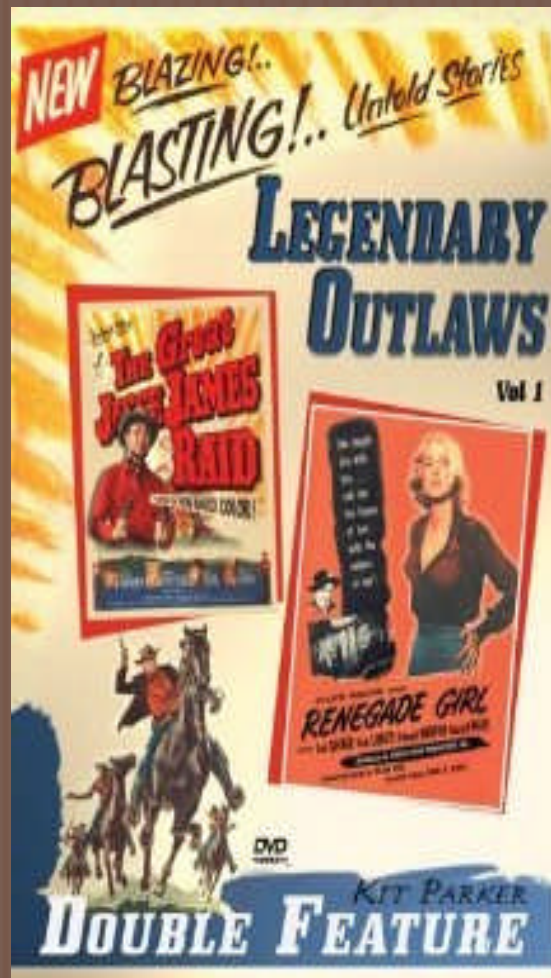
**1950s-era postcard view of
the Plaza Theater**

(Photo courtesy of the public domain)

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Community-1956



1956, Plaza Theatre, Laredo, Texas

Source: <http://www.somosprimos.com/sp2009/spjun09/spjun09.htm>

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Cultural Treasures



Source: Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates

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With the hope of restoring this historic symbol of downtown and creating economic development opportunities for persons of low income, the City of Laredo acquired the theatre in 1999 with Community Development Block Grant

Earlier Plans to Renovate

On November 13, 2001, the City Council approved funds to undertake a feasibility study. The firm of Killis Almond and Associates, Inc., in association with Architects Plus, Inc. and Janis A. Barlow & Associates was selected to conduct the study.

The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of rehabilitating the Plaza as a venue for the live performing arts (including theatre, music and/or dance) and film. The study concluded that in order to fill the full spectrum of community needs and be operationally viable, the Plaza would need to be a very flexible, multi-purpose venue, able to rent, present, exhibit and host a variety of programming. In order to do so, it was recommended that the theatre should contain more than one venue for performing arts, film and meeting uses, and that consideration should be given to converting the balcony into a second, multi-purpose space.

COST TO RENOVATE



The study concluded that the total project cost would be \$6.1 million. The cost breakdown is as follows:

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Plaza Theatre Over the Years



1950, 1984, RECENT

Plans in the Making. . . .



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/photograndma/3345099871/>

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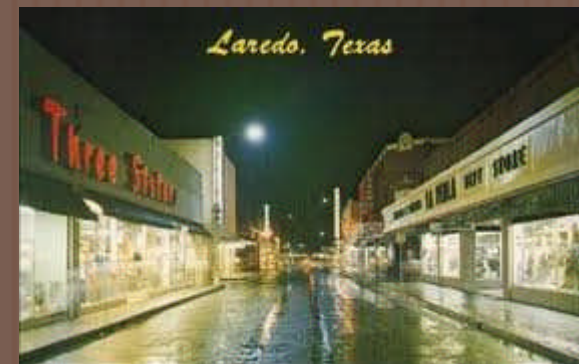
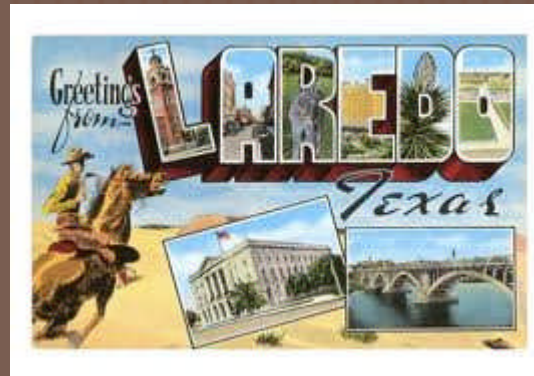
•Option 2

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Departing Notes....



Lopez + Trevino