

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2011-S-01
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
MARCH 21, 2011
5:30 P.M.**

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a roofing company on Lots 1 and 2, Block 1537, Eastern Division, located at 2601 E. Ash Street; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of the Conditional Use Permit. District IV

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Jesus Flores stated that they bought that property from the sellers for a warehouse and that what was happening was not their fault. He explained that their paperwork had all been for commercial use and that no one had informed them that the zoning was residential rather than commercial. He went on to say that they had obtained remodeling permits from the City of Laredo but then were denied other permits. He complained that he had been confused both by the seller and by the City of Laredo.

Cm. Narvaez suggested changing the business hours to 7am – 7pm.

Cm. Narvaez requested that this item be tabled for 30 minutes.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce as amended to eliminate item #13 of the Conditional Use Permit and extend the business hours from 7am-7pm and go against the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission and staff.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Narvaez

II. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE

2. An ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, establishing a settlement agreement regarding the statement of intent filed with the City of Laredo, Texas, by Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., on or about December 3, 2010; establishing the effective date; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith and providing for severability.

Nelda Juarez, South Texas District Director for Centerpoint Energy, reported that the City had chosen to postpone or suspend their rate increase in December. She went on to say that by April 7th, if the City took no further action, the rates would go into effect by action of law. She explained that there were two other options that the City could take, one of which was to approve a settlement ordinance. She said that it would postpone the rates from going into effect until July 7th or until the railroad commission issued a final order. She stated that currently the railroad commission was hearing the case and that there were forty-two cities that had either denied or suspended the rate increase and had joined a coalition. She went on to say that twenty-four cities had taken no action or agreed to a settlement ordinance. She said that the cities that had opted to deny the rate increase and join the coalition would be assessed litigation fees in the form of a surcharge. She appealed to the City of Laredo to take the course of approving the settlement ordinance.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that the City Attorney had examined the legislation and that the citizens of Laredo would not be assessed the surcharge. He went on to say that staff recommended that they go with the settlement agreement.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

III. RESOLUTIONS

3. 2011-R-25 A resolution by the City of Laredo, Texas, opposing House Bill No. 3717 amending Subtitle B, Title 9 Health and Safety Code, by adding Chapter 783 entitled Local Emergency Service Fees to be imposed by the County of Webb onto Citizens of Laredo, Texas, for Emergency First Responder Services; opposing any successor or amending bill filed in place of H.B. 3717 which would have the same detrimental effect on the Citizens of Laredo.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that they, as a staff, became aware of a House Bill No. 3717 which was to be able to tack on an additional charge for wireless, landline and even 2% for prepaid telephone service. He explained that they found out that the charge was for providing service on a first responder basis as designated by Webb County, so in essence the Webb County fire service was being subsidized by this. He went on to say that he spoke with Commissioner Jerry Garza and told him that they had a problem with this proposed legislation because if the charges were for residents within the corporate limits of the City of Laredo, they would not be deriving any benefit from it. He continued saying that they felt that monies derived from accounts inside the City of Laredo should be spent inside the City of Laredo and county monies in the county.

Motion to create a resolution to reflect that if items in HB3717 were changed so that the City of Laredo would have control over funds collected from its residents rather than Webb County using the funds, Council would support HB3717.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 03 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on March 21st, 2011.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary