

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2010-R-15
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
AUGUST 2, 2010
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
Hector Garcia,	Council Member, District II
Michael Landeck,	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Gene Belmares,	Council Member, District VI
Cynthia Liendo-Espinoza,	Council Member, District VIII
Carlos Villarreal,	City Manager
Amy Sanchez,	Deputy City Secretary IV
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of July 19, 2010 & July 26, 2010.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognitions

- a. Recognizing the Lady Texans from Trautman Elementary and Kazen Elementary for ranking 3rd in the nation at the recent Youth Basketball of America (YBOA) National Basketball Tournament in Florida.

Mayor Salinas and City Council recognized the following team members: Vennica Alvarez, Ketelynn DeLaCruz, Valerie Lopez, MaCayla Munoz, Catherine Rodriguez, Gabby Jimenez, Shannon Lewis, Karla Jimenez, and Coach Roland DeLaCruz.

- b. Recognizing Laredo Fastbreak 3rd Grade Division for their undefeated 2009-2010 Basketball Season.

Mayor Salinas and City Council recognized the following team members: Windor Vasquez, Alex Moreno, Leo Juarez, Art Guerrero, Matthew Duron, Andy Pompa, Sam Esponza, and Cris Trevino. They recognized coaches Lupe Moreno and Hector J. Noyola.

Citizen comments

James Newland, an El Metro employee, stated that he felt that rectitude was important. He said that his employer seemed to be living in a different reality, along with the media and others. He said that he hoped in the near future that state and federal governments would finally find out who did what, when they did it, and why they did it. He went on to say that he wanted to see the documents that were sent by his employer and that he would continue to comment on this until someone gave him the truth.

Maria San Miguel stated that she had a letter and she was asking, "Where is the money?" She was seeking some answers on the El Metro insurance issue.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2009-2010 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$1,330,425.00 respectively, in the Laredo Police Department Trust Fund. The revenues are from lease purchase proceeds related to the financing of fifty (50) marked police patrol units for the Laredo Police Department. (Approved by Finance 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: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo 2009-2010 Autotheft Task Force Annual Budget in the amount of \$45,829.00 to fund the Laredo Autotheft Task Force and accepting a grant award in the amount of \$433,514.00 from the State of Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority. The City of Laredo will be designating \$235,507.00 in matching funds, and Webb County will be designating \$43,000.00 in matching funds for a total grant amount of \$712,021.00. This grant is effective from September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance closing as a public easement, that section of Gonzalez Street between Camp Avenue to the end of the Rio Grande Vega, including all intersections, situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; provided that the City retains the right to maintain, operate, repair and replace by itself or by any licensee or a holder of a franchise from the City, any poles, wires, pipes, conduits, sewer mains or any other facilities or equipment for the maintenance of operation of any utility now located in the street portion; hereof, closed as a public easement and providing for an effective date. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

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. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY 2009-2010 General Fund annual budget to appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$275,000.00 for attorney fees to be paid to De Anda Law Firm due to increased collections in delinquent property taxes. The expenditures of attorney fees will only be incurred and disbursed if the revenue is collected. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

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. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract and amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2009-2010 budget in the amount of \$55,341.00 for the continuation of the Local Public Health System-Office of Public Health Practices (OPHP) Grant, to continue to provide prevention, disease control, early detection and patient care, and health promotion activities and adding three (3) FTE positions from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the term period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

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. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract and amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2009-2010 annual budget in the amount of \$29,000.00 for continuation of the Office of Border Health-Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS) Grant and adding one (1) FTE position to continue to provide prevention, disease control, and health promotion activities from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the term period of August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2012. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract and amending the FY 2009-2010 by Budget \$558.00 and adding one (1) FTE position from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department-Public Health Emergency Preparedness and response program for a total of \$318,285.00 and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract. These funds are for the term period from August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2012. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

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. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2009-2010 annual budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$48,714.00 in funds for a total of \$199,863.00 from

the Texas Department of State Health Services, and an estimated \$29,573.00 from Program Income for continuation of the Health Department-Tuberculosis Elimination Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract. Their funds are for the term period from September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY2009-2010 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute and appropriate additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the continuation of local cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention contract for the period beginning September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

10. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY 2010 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$1,827,178.00 for the Laredo Energy Arena (LEA) Fund in order to reflect the fund's budget based on its gross figures verses its net revenues and expenditures and \$200,000.00 in additional funding for LEA operations. The \$200,000.00 will

bring the total transfer in from the Sports and Community Venue General Sales & Use Taxes to \$970,622.00. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant TX-04-0055, Section 5309, in the amount of \$776,000.00 with a local match of \$194,000.00, for a total grant budget of \$970,000.00; and to amend the FY 2009-2010 Transit Capital Grants Budget in the amount of \$970,000.00 to be used for the Transit "Administrative/Operational/Maintenance Facility". (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2010-O-091, 2010-O-092, 2010-O-093, 2010-O-094, 2010-O-095, 2010-O-096, 2010-O-098, 2010-O-099, and 2010-O-100.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. 2010-O-091 Ratifying the City Manager’s acceptance of a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the United States Department of Commerce in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 with \$500,000.00 in matching funds, and amending the City of Laredo’s FY 2009-2010 Annual Budget for the Environmental Services Department by appropriating the said grant revenue to the appropriate expenditure accounts. These funds will be used towards the design and engineering of the first phase (promenade and parking structure) of the River Vega project, a riverfront commercial, retail, and green space development along the Rio Grande. Matching funds will come from the Capital Improvements Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-092 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for the storage of flammable and explosive products on Lots 31 and 32, Block 4, Milo Distribution Center Phase III, located at 309 Nafta Boulevard; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-093 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.70 acres, located south of the extension of Shiloh Avenue and approximately 131 feet north of Fishers Hill Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2010-O-094 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 2.71 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit “A”, located west of Riverbank Drive, near the intersection with Cuervo Drive, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
 Second: Cm. Narvaez
 For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2010-O-095 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8, Block 574, Western Division, located at 2719 San Bernardo Avenue, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
 Second: Cm. Narvaez
 For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2010-O-096 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 3.20 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 5221 S. Zapata Highway, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
 Second: Cm. Narvaez
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 1
 Cm. Narvaez

2010-O-098 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Texas Migrant Council for approximately 1.158 acres (50,442 square feet of land) located at 5102 North Bartlett Avenue on Tract 3 of Block 25 at the Laredo International Airport;

1. Lease term is for two (2) years commencing on August 1, 2010, and ending on July 31, 2012, and may be extended for three (3) terms of one (1) year each ending on July 31, 2013; July 31, 2014; and July 31, 2015;

2. Monthly rent shall be \$2,423.04 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index; providing for an effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
 Second: Cm. Narvaez
 For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2010-O-099 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Amendment between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Webb County Juvenile Board, as Lessee, for the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program

(JJAEP) at the Laredo International Airport. Extending the lease term twenty (24) months ending on June 30, 2012, and amending Section 1.03, to provide that Lessee shall vacate that portion of the leased premises which encumbers Lot No. 3 of Block No. 23 upon receipt of six (6) months written notice and providing Lessee with an equal sized portion of land from Lot No. 2 of Block No. 23 for the duration of the lease term. All other terms and conditions of the lease remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2010-O-100 Confirming a proclamation declaring a local state of disaster issued by Mayor Raul Salinas on July 7, 2010 pursuant to Chapter 48 of the Texas Government Code.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

13. 2010-R-067 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a thirty (30) year public easement from Haynes LTD for the construction of the ongoing Chacon Hike & Bike Trail Project. Said easement, a 0.29 acre parcel, is situated in Porcion 29, Abstract 3086, Juan Bautista Villarreal, original grantee and out of the approximately twenty (20) blocks of land described in a deed from Pedro I. Saenz and Maria Refugia Martinez de Saenz to James Haynes recorded in Volume 248, Pages 606-607, Webb County Deed Records more particularly described on attached, Exhibit "A".

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. MOTIONS

14. Authorizing the City Manager to award a three (3) year Professional Service Contract to First National Bank, N.A. for banking services for fiscal years 2011, 2012, and 2013. There will be no fees charged to the City. The contract has a two (2) year extension option. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. Authorizing the City Manager to increase funding for the Laredo Energy Arena Operations from the Sports and Community Venue General Sales & Use Taxes for FY 2010 in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00. The initial contribution of \$770,662.00 will increase to a total of \$970,662.00. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

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

16. Authorizing the City Manager to accept the dedication of the following utility easement for the Dorel Apartments:

Haynes, Ltd., A Texas limited partnership, by and through Haynes Real Estate Services, L.L.C. – A tract of land containing 0.42 acres (18,267 sq. ft), more or less, out of a 54.5 acre tract of land, recorded in Volume 234, Pages 576-578, Deed Records of Webb County, Texas, being more particularly described by metes and bounds in “Exhibit A” attached hereto, and as shown on survey attached hereto as “Exhibit B”.

Motion to approve.

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

17. Consideration for the City Manager’s approval to purchase from A&H Enterprises, the Fairbanks Morse authorized dealer, one (1) Fairbanks Morse 300 Horsepower (HP) submersible pump in the amount of \$158,499.00 with a 100 foot electrical wire to replace one (1) of the three (3) existing pumps of the Jefferson Raw Water Intake. This will prevent uninterrupted service in the event of future flooding. The Funds are available under the 2008 Water Bond. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

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

18. Consideration to ratify the emergency purchase order issued to Houston Service Industries Inc., Houston, Texas, in the total amount of \$83,063.35 for the installation and purchase of blower compressor, parts, and accessories for the Zacate Wastewater Treatment Plant Oxygen Production Station. Due to flooding of the aeration tanks, three (3) blowers were damaged: hence, creating an

environmental problem. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Operational Construction Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Graphitiks who will design, produce, sell advertising and print the 2011 Laredo Visitors Guide. Graphitiks will print, at no cost to the City of Laredo, 130,000 copies of the guide which is a 70-74 page full color magazine featuring content relative to a domestic out-of-town audience. The guide will be produced under the direction of the Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau relative to style, design, and editorial content.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with Kustom Signals and RZ Communications through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC) cooperative purchasing program, in the amount of \$103,457.50 for the purchase of fifty (50) radar systems for the Police Department. Funding is available in the Police Department's Trust Fund budget. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to award an annual supply contract number FY10-066 to the low bidder, Arguindegui Oil Co., Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$3,500,000.00 for the purchase of unleaded and diesel fuel for the City of Laredo's fleet. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to award contract number FY10-069 to the low bidder meeting specifications, Southern Tire Mart, LLC, Dallas, Texas, in the estimated annual amount of \$387,470.00, for the purchase of truck tires for all City vehicles. All tires

are purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration for approval of the Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund (EERLF) Program Protocols and Procedures for the Energy (total budget of \$416,720.00), to provide for low-to-no interest (0% interest loans on secured loans of \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00, and 5.99% on unsecured loans of \$3,500.00 to \$5,000.00) for energy improvements to homeowners. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and contingent upon final approval by the Department of Energy (DOE). The Program guidelines are as follows:

1. Loans from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 for energy efficiency improvements.
2. Unsecured Loans from \$3,500.00 to \$5,000.00.
3. Secured Loans from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00.
4. Applicants may apply at the Environmental Services Department.
5. Credit review for all applicants to determine approval or denial.

Eligible energy improvements may include (depending on DOE approval): Central air conditioning and heating units, water heaters, installation of solar panels, installation of wind power generators, attic and wall insulation, roof replacement, installation of energy efficient windows and doors, and sealing of air conditioning ducts. (Approved by Finance Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Ratifying the amendment of the City of Laredo's 2009 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan for the purpose of reprogramming Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds totaling \$300,000.00 (at minimum) for the creation of (1) an Emergency Flood Housing Repair Grant Program and (2) to create and immediately implement the Emergency Assistance Program, a public service activity, to provide for the replacement of basic essential household items including, by not limited to, major appliances and bedding. Immediate action was required to alleviate the conditions which posed a direct threat to the health and safety and emergency housing needs of the impacted citizens. Funds derived from 31st through 35th AY CDBG fund balances were re-allocated to the above mentioned programs. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 25. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation (LMHC) in an amount not to exceed \$239,000.00 to repair homes purchased through the Texas Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Once repaired, these homes will be made available for purchase by low-income households residing in the City with incomes that do not exceed 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Funding is available in the Texas Neighborhood Stabilization Program account. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 26. Approving the submission of the 2010-2014 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the 2010 One-Year Action Plan to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in request for funding through the 36th Action Year, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents as a result of the Plan's submission. The Action Plan identifies the projects proposed to be funded by HUD through entitlement program funds and anticipated program income, which are as follows:

36th AY Community Development Block Grant
(\$3,936,450.00+\$96,066.00 PI)

Community Development Administration	\$730,499.00
Housing Rehabilitation Administration	\$250,539.00
Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program (\$96,066.00 in PI)	\$493,116.00
Code Enforcement	\$498,465.00
Graffiti Removal Program	\$ 54,300.00
Hamilton Hotel - Section 108 Loan Repayment	\$144,570.00
ADA Sidewalk Improvements	\$150,000.00
Heritage Park Improvements	\$215,000.00
El Eden Park	\$215,000.00
Riverhills Acquisition	\$215,000.00
Sidewalks – District V	\$215,000.00
Sidewalks – District IV	\$215,000.00
Sidewalks – District VII	\$215,000.00
San Francisco Javier Neighborhood Park	\$215,000.00
Downtown Façade Restoration Program	\$106,027.00
Bethany House Center for Hope	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
Total	\$4,032,516.00

Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program (\$70,000.00)

Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Administration	\$40,930.00
Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loans	<u>\$29,070.00</u>
Total	\$70,000.00

HOME Investment Partnership Grant (\$1,381,796.00+\$20,000.00 PI)

HOME Program Administration	\$138,179.00
Downpayment Assistance (\$20,000.00 in PI)	\$516,347.00
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	\$340,000.00
Bethany House Transitional Housing Project	\$200,000.00
Habitat for Humanity (CHDO set aside)	<u>\$207,270.00</u>
Total	\$1,401,796.00

Emergency Shelter Grant (\$159,618.00)

ESG Program Administration	\$3,000.00
Bethany House Shelter Complex Homeless Prevention	\$33,000.00
Bethany House Shelter Complex Operations	\$58,832.00
Casa de Misericordia Operations	\$25,000.00
Bethany House Shelter Complex Essential Services	<u>\$39,786.00</u>
Total	\$159,618.00

(Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to award a bid to applied Biosystems, sole manufacturer and vendor of the ABI 7500 System in the amount of \$61,289.28. The equipment must be purchased before August 31, 2010. Funding is available in the Health Department-Office of Border Health-Public Health Emergency Response Grant. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

28. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Discussion with possible action to establish a working partnership with local school districts and the private sector to reduce alarming “dropout” rates in our schools. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Juan Narvaez & Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza)

Mayor Salinas requested to table this item.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to create a Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on People with Disabilities. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Hector "Tito" Garcia & Council Member Jose A. Valdez, Jr.)

Adriana Haro, Executive Director of the B.E.S.T. organization, stated that they supported this committee.

Mayor Salinas reported that they had spoken to the coordinator for the Texas governor's committee on people with disabilities and she had informed them that there was local interest in forming this committee as an extension to the governor's committee.

Cm. Garcia reported that he had traveled to different recreation centers that had facilities for people with disabilities. Therefore, right now they were constructing a wing for people with special needs in the newest recreation center. He went on to say that they would have access to a swimming pool and this would be a one-of-a-kind endeavor.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on cost saving strategies.

Cm. Garza stated that in times like these, one of the biggest items was payroll, and perhaps they could look at some early retirement packages to see if some individuals would be interested. Therefore, some of the higher salaries would be eliminated and replacement employees would be less expensive.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they would have the Human Resources department take a look at that. He went on to say that normally it would even out because the retiring employee would pick up all their annual and sick leave which was the payout from the budget itself.

2. Discussion with possible action on the connector roads for the Cuatro Vientos highway.

Cm. Garza stated that at the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting, it was discussed that they had five roads that they were considering to connect to the Loop 20 extension. He continued saying that with federal funding came restrictions and that what would happen is that the Cuatro Vientos road would open in 2011 but none of the connecting roads would be available. Therefore, an individual traveling on the highway could only terminate that trip where Mangana Hine road was and it would not service any community members there. He went on to say that they wished to use local funds to connect at least one of the roadways, probably somewhere in the center and whichever one would be least expensive in terms of construction.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that Pita Mangana seemed to be the one based on the length of the road and where it was located, and it also carried a lot of traffic.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to look into the question of connector roads for the Cuatro Vientos highway and come back with recommendations.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action on drafting a resolution for the cooperative efforts with the Diocese and Webb County to investigate the remains found at the San Agustin church. Presentation by Mr. Javier Santos.

Cm. Garza reported that it was brought to his attention that during the renovation of the San Agustin church, there was a discovery of some remains. He went on to say that potentially those remains could be as far back as from the formation of the city of Laredo; they could even be the remains of Tomas Sanchez. He wished to erect a historical marker there if this were the case.

Javier Santos stated that when he heard about this, he had discussed it with City Manager Carlos Villarreal, Mayor Salinas and others. He continued by saying that it behooved everyone to get this DNA examination done.

Motion to draft a resolution asking for support from the diocese to make the investigation at no cost to the city, the county or the diocese.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck

1. Discussion with possible action to permit and place two (2) banners announcing, the Laredo Rotary Club's upcoming "Rodeo for Rotary" scheduled for Saturday, September 4, 2010. The banners would be placed by McPherson and Del Mar Boulevard and the second banner will be located in South Laredo by the HEB South.

Cm. Landeck stated that after fourteen years, there would be a very unique occasion for the city of Laredo.

Mr. Ed Medina from Laredo Rotary stated that they came up with an idea that would bring entertainment for the whole family to Laredo. He added that he did not know that Laredo had not had a rodeo for fourteen years. He concluded that the rodeo would be held on Saturday, September 4, 2010 at LIFE Downs Arena. He requested to place two large banners at McPherson and DelMar and also in south Laredo near the HEB. He also requested the city to bring in recycling bins for the event.

Motion to approve three banner placements.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

G. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion with possible action on issuing RFP's for one hundred (100) trees for North Central Park, Phase Ic. Funding is available in the 2009 Park Fund.

Cm. Belmares said that there were still funds left in the bond for this project and asked if staff would go out for RFP's for 100 trees in the four to six-inch caliper range and eliminate from the last list of trees the grey oaks, willow oaks and river birch.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Staff report with possible action on the proposed Ethics Ordinance and Ethics Commission setting a date for public hearing.

Cm. Belmares stated that they needed to move forward with this because it was charter mandated and felt that it had been delayed for too long. He felt that there should simply be a public hearing on the item and staff could bring concerns forward as part of the public hearing.

Motion to bring the item forward as a public hearing at the second meeting in September.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Discussion with possible action on co-sponsoring the Laredo Community College's Small Business Administration Forum/Summit.

Blas Castañeda reported that LCC is hosting a United States Business Administration Summit on September 15th and 16th. He went on to say that it was a conference open to small business owners and entrepreneurs in the regional community. He added that they expected between 100-150 small businesses to take part. He asked for the City of Laredo to be a co-sponsor for this project.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza stated that this summit would be open to the public in general and if they were able to get the sponsorships would also be free to the

public. She asked that they would provide use of the civic center and other in-kind help to the forum.

Motion to co-sponsor with LCC with use of the Laredo Civic Center and other in-kind help for the summit.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on City sponsorship for representing Laredo in the Miss Texas and Miss Texas Teen pageants.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza reported that they had Miss Laredo, Jessica Thomas, there and also Miss Laredo Teen, Destiny Bailey.

Miss Laredo Jessica Thomas said that she was a kindergarten teacher who had competed in pageants for four years in order to get rid of her fear of public speaking. She added that she would be competing in Houston, Texas during Labor Day weekend and hoped that Mayor and City Council would find some funds in the budget in order to help her and Miss Teen Laredo to compete.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that they might be able to address this because of it being a new fiscal year. He added that they would look at different ways to perhaps come up with a few thousand dollars.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to look into possible funding sources to help sponsor the contestants.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. STAFF REPORTS

29. Presentation by Debra Guerrero, NRP Group L.L.C., regarding La Terraza at Lomas Del Sur, a proposed 128 unit multifamily housing tax credit development project to be located in South Laredo, with possible action.

Debra Guerrero reported that at the end of the year, the NRP Group had approached Mayor and City Council about participating in the project of La Terraza at Lomas Del Sur. She continued by saying that they had applied to the state of Texas and that there were 113 applications totaling \$143 million requesting low income housing tax credits to build a multifamily development. She added that last week they had been awarded those tax credits in the amount of about \$1.68 million. She explained that by August 20th, the state would request that the City of Laredo authorize acceptance of the credits and return a commitment notice to them. She concluded by saying that she had been working with Ronnie Acosta, Community Development Director, to get a commitment letter for \$1.2 million from home funds. She presented a handout to Mayor and City Council.

La Terraza at Lomas del Sur

- 128 Multifamily Units
- Awarded \$1,688,609 in Low Income Housing Tax Credits – July 29th
- 113 applications requesting a total of \$143M – 47 awards totaling approximately \$54M
- Next Steps by August 20th
- Authorize acceptance of credits and return commitment notice to state
- Provide a letter for \$1.2M local match
- Closing to occur in second quarter of 2011
- First building and community center within 8 months after closing with construction completed within 18 months

Motion to authorize a commitment letter for \$1.2 million from home funds to continue the project La Terraza at Lomas del Sur.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Discussion with possible action to consider Webb County's request for a six (6) month extension to the City of Laredo-Webb County Interlocal Agreement for fire suppression and emergency medical service.

Webb County Judge Danny Valdez stated that this contract was set to expire at the end of September and that they were working hard to eventually establish their own volunteer fire department. He went on to say that they had sent out RFP's for EMS services for Webb County and were also working with developing an interlocal agreement to cover at least the south area of Webb County. He added that there was a very good volunteer fire department in the quad cities. He continued by saying that their concern was that they needed an opportunity to sit down with the City Manager and staff to develop a volunteer fire department and provide training for them as well as purchasing the equipment. He concluded that they wished for an opportunity to work something out, for example an extension to give them more time. He asked for Council to revisit the issue again.

David Gonzalez, President of LFA, said that their concern was about the safety of their firefighters and they felt that extending the contract would leave the city uncovered. He went on to say that their main concern was that it would place the city under a liability and leave it unprotected.

Cm. Rendon said that he had always felt that public safety was #1 and that regardless whether they would have fire protection through the county or the city, that they should be able to provide some kind of support. He added that now due to the litigation it would be difficult to help without being hurt themselves. He asked what would happen if someone were hurt or shot in county property.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that the city would respond to an officer down regardless of which entity they were serving and that it should not be a problem.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

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

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

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to award an annual supply contract number FY010-067, to the low bidder, Arguindegui Oil Co., LTD., Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$1,700,000.00 for the purchase of unleaded and ultra low sulfur diesel fuel, for the Transit System's fleet. Funding is available in the Transit Fund. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

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

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Garza

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 21 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on August 2, 2010.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary