

CITY OF LAREDO SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A-2020-SC-04

LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1110 HOUSTON STREET

LAREDO, TEXAS 78040

June 23, 2020

5:00 P.M.



DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT



Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are requested to contact Jose A. Valdez Jr., City Secretary, at (956) 791-7308 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accessible entrance and accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall, 1100 Victoria Ave.

Out of consideration for all attendees of the City Council meetings, please turn off all cellular phones and pagers, or place on inaudible signal. Thank you for your consideration.

Pursuant to the Texas Penal Code (trespass by holder of license to carry a handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Concealed Handgun Law or Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter into the City Council Chamber while City Council is in session with a concealed or openly-carried handgun.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Citizen comments

Citizens are required to fill out an online witness card no later than 5:15 p.m. and can be found at <https://forms.gle/3GcWeTgGvvCeP3X36>. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Speakers may not pass their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to City business and delivered in a professional manner. No

derogatory remarks will be permitted.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

1. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr. of Olivia Varela to the Audit Advisory Board.
2. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr. of Jose Luis Castillo to the Charter Review Commission.

VI. FIRST AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE

1. **2020-O-071** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, pursuant to Section 2.11 of the City Charter, amending the Public Health COVID 19 Emergency Ordinance by extending the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster scheduled to expire on June 30, 2020, for an additional month, through July 31, 2020; and adopting the most recent orders in effect to help abate this public health emergency; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

All of the following items may be acted upon by one motion. No separate discussion or action on any of the items is necessary unless desired by a Council Member.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TECLO J. GARCIA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

2. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into multiple Memorandums of Understanding for the express distribution of CARES Act funds to local entities. The funds will be used for reimbursement of workforce training expenses and small business assistance under the CARES plan approved by the Laredo City Council. These entities would provide small business assistance and workforce training to those impacted by COVID-19 in accordance with federal and state guidelines.
 1. Laredo College for workforce training offering certification programs in high demand and technical occupations in Laredo. \$700,000.00
 2. Workforce Solutions for South Texas workforce training offering certification programs in high-demand and technical occupations in

- Laredo. \$200,000.00
3. LiftFund for developing and executing a small business revolving 0 percent loan program for local businesses. \$2,237,000.00

PARKS & RECREATION: STAFF SOURCE JUAN J. GOMEZ, JR., PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

3. **2020-R-099** Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute a facility recovery grant award in the amount of \$6,000.00 from the United States Tennis Association. The funds will be utilized to defray tennis-related expenses associated with the reopening to the public of the Haynes tennis courts, Market tennis courts, and the Cigarroa sports complex. No local match is required.

TAX: STAFF SOURCE DORA MALDONADO, TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

4. **2020-R-098** A Resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas adopting a Homestead Exemption for property owners who qualify for disability insurance benefits under Federal Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Act of Thirty Thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars of the assessed value of the property. Owners who qualify shall be exempt from City ad valorem taxes, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1-b, of the Texas Constitution and in accordance with Chapter 11, Section 11.13(d) of the Texas Property Tax Code, for Tax Year 2020 and future years, unless revised; and declaring an effective date.

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE MICHAEL F. RODGERS, INTERIM UTILITIES DIRECTOR

5. Authorizing the City Manager to award Professional Engineering Services contract in the amount of \$98,900.00 to LNV, Inc., Laredo, Texas for the Alternative Treatment Process Evaluation and Design for the Zacate Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Funding is available in the 2017 Sewer Revenue Bond.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

6. Staff report on all City employees (including first responders) eligible to retire and any potential options in order to reduce costs.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any posted agenda item when authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and/or 551.086 (Economic Development). Following closed session, the open meeting will reconvene at which time action, if any, may be taken.

X. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Discussion with possible action on the status of Port Laredo Master Plan and World Trade Bridge fast lane and other ongoing plans for bridge mobility efficiencies; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action on the status of the Detox Center, participation by various community partners, and to clarify its purpose to the community; and any other matters incident thereto.

B. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Discussion with possible action to relocate the Independence Day Fireworks Extravaganza for July 2020 to the Laredo International Fair and Exposition (Life Down) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Webb County; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action to clarify the hourly rate adjustment for CDL drivers approved by City Council; and any other matters incident thereto. **(Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr.)**

C. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps instead of speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District IV Priority Funds will be used for this project. Total Estimated Project Cost ~\$2,500.

- **2900 Nottingham Dr between Concord St. and cul-de-sac**

2. Discussion with possible action to review all City policies and ordinances to ensure full compliance with the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Bostock v. Calyton County*; and any other matters incident thereto. **(Co-Sponsored by Council Member Roberto Balli)**

3. Discussion with possible action to authorize the use of the Sames Auto Arena on Friday, July 24, 2020 for the annual Driscoll Health Plan Back to School community event; and any other matters incident thereto.

D. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action requesting the City Manager to direct the removal of the confederate flag insignia from all city buildings and logos henceforth; and any other matters incident thereto.

E. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the recent increase in new cases of COVID-19 and future preparations; and any other matters incident thereto.

F. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

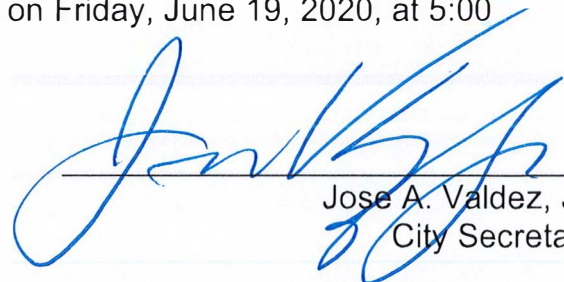
1. Discussion with possible action to amend/modify/rescind any and all city ordinances that compel entities and citizens to pay for wastewater and trash collection services that they are not using, especially those properties that are grandfathered in; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action to define what is considered a local company verses a non local company in relation to a contract being awarded; and any other matters incident thereto.

G. Request by Council Member Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the restoration of Bruni Plaza and the Bruni Library including but not limited to a creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee comprised of community representatives of childhood education; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action regarding the restoration of the Plaza Theatre including but not limited to a creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee comprised of community representatives of the diverse performing arts; and any other matters incident thereto.
3. Discussion with possible action to initiate an RFQ's for the architectural restoration designs of the Downtown Theatre and the Bruni Plaza & Library; and any other matters incident thereto.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

This notice was posted at the Municipal Government Offices, 1110 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted on Friday, June 19, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.



Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary

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