

**THIRD AMENDED  
CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2008-R-016  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
AUGUST 25, 2008  
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 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,           | Council Member, District V    |
| Gene Belmares,           | Council Member, District VI   |
| Jose Valdez, Jr.,        | Mayor Pro Tem, District VII   |
| Cynthia Liendo-Espinoza, | Council Member, District VIII |
| Carlos Villarreal,       | City Manager                  |
| Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,    | City Secretary                |
| Cynthia Collazo,         | Deputy City Manager           |
| Horacio De Leon,         | Assistant City Manager        |
| Jesus Olivares,          | Assistant City Manager        |
| Raul Casso,              | City Attorney                 |

**IV. MINUTES**

None.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**Recognitions**

- a. Recognition of the Gateway Girls Softball League on winning the 2008 State and Regional Little League Tournaments.

No action was taken on this item.

- b. Recognizing boxing champs of the 2008 Ringside World Championship in Kansas City, MO: Coach & Trainer: Arturo Davalos  
Winners: Samuel Villarreal (2yrs in a row), Jesse Sanchez III (2yrs in a row), Antonio Gamez, Luis Delgado, and Finalists: Daniel Martinez and Anthony Palacios

Mayor Salinas recognized Coach Davalos and the boxing champs.

### **Communiqués**

Cm. Garza and Cm. Belmares joined the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Mayor Salinas asked for a moment of prayer for the brother of Cm. Garcia, Gerardo “Jerry” Garcia; and Cm. Rendon asked for a moment of prayer for Memo Salinas. Mayor Salinas presented Ashley Richards a Certificate of Appreciation for doing a great job in covering the news for the City of Laredo.

Cm. Garza offered his condolences to Cm. Garcia for the loss of his brother. He noted that his prayers will be with him and his family. He congratulated the City of Laredo Police Department for doing an outstanding job by directing traffic at United High School. He noted that he was glad that the police department met with the faculty of United Independent School District to make sure that all students are safe. Finally, he too thanked Ashley Richards for her service to the community of Laredo.

Cm. Garcia wished Ashley Richards a safe farewell. He also thanked his friends, colleagues, and viewing public for taking time to express their condolences for the loss of his second brother. He said that his brother passed away from ALS. He invited the viewing public to attend the ALS Walk that will be held on November 8, 2008. He said that the Rosary for his brother would be held Wednesday.

Cm. Landeck expressed his condolences to Cm. Garcia regarding his brother.

Cm. Narvaez gave his deepest sympathy to the Garcia family on the loss of Jerry Garcia.

Cm. Rendon offered his condolences to Cm. Garcia on the loss of his brother.

Cm. Belmares said that he had the opportunity to express his condolences to the Garcia family and that his heart goes out to the family. He reiterated that drivers need to take extra precautionary measures in and around school zones. He said that there were a lot of parents that were dropping their children off in the streets and not in the crosswalk.

On behalf of his wife and family, Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez sent his condolences to the Garcia family. He reminded the viewing public that they need to be careful with all the current rain that Laredo is receiving. He asked drivers not to go around or move barricades.

Cm. Liendo-Espinoza offered her condolences to the Garcia family on behalf of her family. She encouraged everyone to get the “One City, One Book.”

## **Citizen comments**

Blas Casteneda thanked the Mayor and City Council on their participation in the Future of the Region Conference. He said that the conference is considered to be one of the most successful conferences along the border. He said that the conference hosted many county judges, commissioners, and border mayors. He went on to say that he was overwhelmed by the participation from the border communities. He added that he was very fortunate to have many volunteers. He especially thanked Veronica Cantu, Blasita Lopez and the Laredo Convention and Bureau staff for contributing their time and effort to the conference.

Jesus Flores spoke against any increase in fees for services and stated that we do not need a baseball stadium. He asked that Council should put a stop to white elephant spending.

Emilio Martinez spoke against the proposed additional spending and permanency of the quarter percent for the Laredo Entertainment Center. He said that the tax was levied to build the Laredo Entertainment Center and it was made with wondrous promises which did not come to fruition. He said that he sees a flawed resolution that calls for a baseball stadium or a water park. He suggested spending the additional funds on providing tax breaks to the citizens of Laredo.

## **VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

Appointment by Council Member Juan Narvaez of:

- \* Linda Lamantia to the Laredo Commission for Women
- \* Hector Vargas to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Espinoza  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Public hearing for the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.637000 per \$100 value for the Tax Year 2008. The tax rate will provide revenue for the General Fund and Debt Service. The rate includes \$0.512737 per \$100 value for Maintenance and Operation and \$0.124263 per \$100 value for Sinking Fund of the Debt Service and is estimated to generate a tax levy of \$65,665,067.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Espinoza  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Fernando Cuellar spoke against the tax rate and asked about the appraisals down from the Appraisal District. He asked that Council take a step back and vote to give the citizens a little relief.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Narvaez  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Subordinate Waterworks and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2008, in the principal amount of \$915,000.00 for the purpose of:
  - 1.) Improving and extending the City's combined Waterworks System and Water System;
  - 2.) Making provisions for the security thereof;
  - 3.) Authorizing amendment to the City's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein;
  - 4.) Ordaining other matters relating to the subject.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Espinoza  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept the Universal Service Program grant (E-rate) from the Schools & Libraries Division/Universal Services Administrative Company/FCC (Round 10) in the amount of \$141,449.00, which includes \$17,406.00 in matching funds from the Friends of the Library Fund for communication and technology infrastructure enhancement discounts and to amend Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Friends of the Library Fund Budget by appropriating said funds.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Espinoza  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 8

Against:

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to transfer \$24,518.00 from the City of Laredo - Public Library Fiscal Year 2007-2008 budget to the Friends of the Library account and amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Friends of the Library budget by appropriating said funds. The \$24,518.00 includes \$17,419.93 (the required City of Laredo's match of 11% - 13% of the \$134,000.00 Universal Service Grant applied for with the Schools Libraries Division/Universal Services Company/ Federal Communications Commission) plus \$7,098.00 (for ineligible or non-funded needed items). This 11th Round (year) of this multi-year grant is currently in the initial review stage and official funding confirmation is still pending.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2007-2008 annual budget by appropriating revenues from the Social and Health Research Center- University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (SAHRC-UTHSCSA) and expenditures in the amount of \$250,000.00 for Proyecto Bienestar-Laredo to conduct the 3rd year of this three (3) year early school Health Based Diabetes Reduction Project (226-6400).

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
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: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2007-2008 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$134,342.00 in funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services, and an estimated \$20,803.00 from Program Income for the continuation of the Health Department-La Familia Health Care Program for term period from September 1, 2008, through August 31, 2009; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. 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. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Annual Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$129,993.00 funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services-Office of Border Health for continuation of the Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance, for early detection and rapid response for term period from August 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009 and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. 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. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2007-2008 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$129,595.00 in funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services, and an estimated \$17,176.00 from Program Income for continuation of the Health Department-Tuberculosis Elimination Program for the term period from September 1, 2008, through August 31, 2009; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

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 Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Section 1 of Ordinance 2008-O-038 of the City of Laredo and authorization to implement an increase in the bridge toll rate schedule for southbound pedestrian traffic from .50 cents to .75 cents as further described in Exhibit "A" and hereby repealing all conflicting sections in all ordinances currently in effect

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Charles Martens reported that the Transportation Advisory Committee defeated the proposed pedestrian toll rate increase of \$.25.

Cm. Garcia confirmed that the Transportation Advisory Committee denied the amended Ordinance which will implement an increase in the bridge toll rate. He spoke against the bridge increase.

Cm. Garza said that the bridge system subsidizes the City's public safety aspect. The fact that the City uses revenues from crossing is not a novel idea. The original intent of the increase was to avoid raising taxes because of the solid waste charges. He suggested compromising by raising the fee up fifteen cents instead of twenty five.

Mario Maldonado, Bridge Director, said that increasing the bridge toll will not affect the bridge operations.

Motion to raise the bridge toll fee up by fifteen cents and additional funds needed for the police will be found by other means.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Motion was removed by Cm. Garza.

Cm. Rendon concurred with Cm. Garza and agreed that the increase is fair.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 6

Against: 1  
Cm. Garcia

Abstain: 1  
Cm. Landeck

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

10. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances chapter 18, Sections 18-2.1 and 18-2.2, Games and Amusement Devices, by expanding the definition of amusement redemption machine; authorizing the Building Developmental Services Department to issue the permits; and increasing annual permit fee from \$25.00 to \$150.00 per machine per year; increasing the sealing fee from \$20.00 to \$150.00; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability, publication and an effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1  
Cm. Narvaez

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1  
Cm. Narvaez

Ordinance Introduction: City Council



## VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the Final Readings of Ordinances # 2008-O-162, # 2008-O-163, # 2008-O-164, # 2008-O-165, # 2008-O-166, # 2008-O-167, # 2008-O-168, # 2008-O-169, # 2008-O-170, # 2008-O-171, and # 2008-O-172.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

11. 2008-O-162 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2007-2008 full-time equivalent positions by creating one (1) full-time Clerk III position and one (1) Building Maintenance Mechanic. Funds are available through the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) contract between Health Department and the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio Dental School. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-162.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-163 Authorizing the City Manager to instruct the City of Laredo Health Department to provide Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) services with testing, education, treatment, follow-up and prevention and establishing a fee schedule (see attached schedule). An STD clinic will be conducted on a weekly basis assisted by staff and contract medical providers. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-163.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-164 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2007-2008 annual budget by authorizing the City Manager to accept, execute and appropriate revenues and expenditures for the continuation of the Local Public Health System-Office of Public Health Practices (OPHP) continuation grant in the amount of \$306,835.00 to continue to provide prevention, disease control, and health promotion activities from the Texas Department of State Health Services and \$171,526.00 in program income; and amending the 2007-2008 full-time equivalent positions by adding one (1) FTE Registered Nurse II. The term period for the grant is from September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-164.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-165 Amending the City of Laredo Health Department FY 2007-2008 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$223,188.00, funds the Texas Department of State Health Services, for continuation of the Immunization Action Plan (IAP) Program of the Health Department, including a projected amount of Program Income of \$62,891.00, for the period from September 1, 2008, through August 31, 2009.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-165.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-166 Amending Ordinance No. 2005-O-236 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for an outdoor amusement—sports establishment on Lot 2B, Block 1A, McPherson Acres Subdivision, Unit 1, located at 603 Amistad Court, by amending the site plan; providing for an effective date and publication.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-166.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-167 Amending Chapter 19 Motor Vehicles and traffic, Article XI, Truck Traffic, size and weight limits and associated permits and fees, section 19-439, permits fees and maintenance fees of the code of ordinances of the City of Laredo to increase the street maintenance fee on overweight permits by \$50.00 on all different categories of vehicle weight by pounds; providing severability, an effective date and publication.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-167.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2008-O-168 Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 South Texas 9-1-1 Regional Administration Division budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$309,001.00 for administrative, equipment and program budgets for Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb and Zapata counties for the period beginning September 1, 2008 and ending August 31, 2009.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-168.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-169 Accepting a contribution in the amount of \$5,000.00 from International Bank of Commerce and \$10,000.00 from Webb County for funding the Avery Johnson Basketball Camp that was conducted by the Parks and Leisure Services Department on July 23, 2008 and amending the City of Laredo 2007-2008 General Fund budget in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-169.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-170 Accepting the grant from the Flood Protection Planning Program of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), FY07-08 in the amount of \$160,000.00 with City designating \$240,000.00 in cash and in-kind matching funds for the Zacate Creek Flood Protection Plan and amending the Annual Budget FY 07-08 for the Environmental Services Fund by appropriating the said grant revenue to the appropriate expenditure accounts. The grant would enable a comprehensive evaluation of the entire Zacate Creek with all the recent improvements (Upper Zacate Creek Detention Pond, Alexander detention pond, proposed channel improvements around the Canal Street) and focus on more frequent storm analysis rather than 100 year storm for FEMA.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-170.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-171 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant, Section 5307, TX-90-X800-00, in the amount of \$3,952,369.00 for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and amending the Transit System's Operating budget by increasing the Fiscal Year 07-08 FTA Operating Grant contribution from \$3,658,679.00 to \$3,952,369.00 and decreasing the Transit Sales Tax match for operating expenses from \$4,877,549.00 to \$4,583,859.00 and providing for grant funds to be deposited in the City of Laredo Transit Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-171.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-172 Amending Chapter 19, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic”, Article VIII; Stopping, Standing or Parking, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo: specifically Section 19-364, restricted parking areas, establishing a “No Parking Anytime/Tow Away Zone” along Sonterra Drive between McPherson Road and Serene Drive, within city limits of Laredo; providing severability and for an effective date and publication.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-O-172.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## IX. RESOLUTIONS

12. 2008-R-090 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Laredo/Webb County 3-1-1 Call Center and United Way of Laredo, Inc. 2-1-1 Information and Referral System to facilitate interagency referrals of individuals and information.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-090.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. 2008-R-098 Accepting the donation of one (1) parcel of land as a Drainage easement from the Hearst Newspapers Partnership II, LLC, this being a 0.0617 acre parcel of land, more or less, and being out of Lot 1, Block 1, of the Laredo Morning Times Property, and being for the construction of a 10-foot wide drainage easement out of the Laredo Morning Times property, Lot 1, Block 1, recorded in Volume 15, Page 49, out of the Map Records of Webb County, Texas and said 0.0617 acre tract of land is more particularly described by metes and bounds and survey attached as Exhibits A and B.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-098.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. 2008-R-099 Dedicating 0.7266 acres, more or less, tract of City owned property as public right-of-way for the extension of Thomas Avenue from its South right-of-way line to the Maher Avenue Northwest right-of-way line at the Laredo International Airport. Said tract of land being described by metes and bounds and survey attached as Exhibits A and B.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-099.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 2008-R-100 Dedication a 0.0864 acres more or less, tract of City owned property as a corner clip at the intersection of Bustamante Street and Maher Avenue at the Laredo International Airport to provide for an improved turning radius for vehicles and to complement the extension of Thomas Avenue from its South right-of-way line to the Maher Avenue Northwest right-of-way line. Said proposed corner clip being described by metes and bounds and survey attached as Exhibits A and B.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-100.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

16. 2008-R-101 Accepting the donation of 30 acres of land, more or less, surface only, from Las Tiendas Investments, Ltd., a Texas Limited Partnership, for the construction of a waste water treatment plant to serve the Rancho Peñitas and Los Minerales areas. Said parcel is situated in Porcion 7, Blas M. Diaz, Abstract 39, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, being out of that 1000.00 acre tract of land owned by Las Tiendas Investments, Ltd., as recorded in Volume 2412, Pages 248-255, July 5, 2007, Webb County Deed Records; and being further described by metes and bounds in Exhibit A attached to this resolution; and further authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement (see Exhibit B) for the payment of Living Unit Equivalents (LUEs) by Las Tiendas Investments, Ltd., in two (2) payments.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-101.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

17. 2008-R-102 Accepting the donation of one utility easement from Homero Salinas and wife, Maria del Rosario Salinas for Rancho Peñitas West Subdivision Easement Acquisition Project, being 0.23 acres of land, more or less out of 3.00 acres, as recorded in Volume 1031, Page 724, Real Property Records of Webb County, Texas, situated in Porcion 8, Blas M. Diaz, Abstract 40, Webb County, Texas, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds and survey; hereby attached as Exhibits A and B, respectively.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-102.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

18. 2008-R-103 Authorizing the City Manager to sign the Letter of Agreement with Stor-More, Ltd., in the form and content attached as Exhibit 1, setting forth the consideration to be made by the city for the granting of a drainage easement to the City by Stor-More, Ltd.; and accepting the drainage easement over the 8,187 sq. ft. parcel in the form and content attached as Exhibit 2 [which parcel is more particularly described in Exhibits A & B of said Exhibit 2].

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-103.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

19. 2008-R-104 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding, attached as Exhibit "A" to this resolution, with the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission for a joint feasibility study for the development of a weir along the Rio Grande River, said weir being constructed primarily for water storage, conservation, generating hydroelectric power and providing recreational opportunities for citizens of both the U.S. and Mexico; the USIBWC proposes to fund this study in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-104.

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

20. 2008-R-108 Calling for a special election for improving and maintaining venue project originally voted on August 12, 2000; providing for the conduct and the giving notice of the election; and enacting other matters relating thereto. (the intended purpose of this resolution is to allow the public, by election, to approve/disapprove the building of a baseball stadium adjacent to the Laredo Entertainment Center (L.E.C.), and to finance maintenance and operations at the L.E.C. This resolution will not impose any new taxes. Instead, access to tax revenues generated by the August 12, 2000 tax referendum is being sought).

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-108.

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

21. 2008-R-109 Calling for a special election for improving and maintaining venue project originally voted on August 12, 2000; providing for the conduct and the giving notice of the election; and enacting other matters relating thereto.

(the intended purpose of this resolution is to allow the public, by election, to approve/disapprove the building of a baseball stadium and/or water park adjacent to the Laredo Entertainment Center (L.E.C.), and to finance maintenance and operations at the L.E.C. This resolution will not impose any new taxes. Instead, access to tax revenues generated by the August 12, 2000 tax referendum is being sought).

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## X. MOTIONS

22. Authorizing the City Manager, in support of the City of Laredo International Airport Noise Compatibility Program, to execute two (2) year appraisal services contracts with the following State Certified, Independent, Real Estate Fee Appraisers: R. Salinas & Associates, Inc., and F. Leal Realtors, Inc. Appraisers will be alternated and conduct property appraisal services for a fee not to exceed \$450.00 per appraisal for residential homes and not to exceed \$750.00 per appraisal for apartment complexes; also a fee not to exceed \$350.00 as appraisal reviewers of residential properties, and a fee not to exceed \$700.00 as appraisal reviewers for apartment complexes. Funding is available under FAA AIP Grant 50.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration for approval of change order #1 to CG Construction, Inc. d/b/a CC Construction Laredo, Texas in the estimated amount of \$165,776.46 for the relocation of the McPherson lift station (re-bid). This change order consists in the re-alignment of the 24" sanitary sewer line and the 12" force main due to conflicts with the storm drainage and the construction of a building on one (1) of the lots for the proposed Alexander Commercial Subdivision Phase II. The construction time is extended for an additional 90 calendar days. The revised contract amount is \$1,559,313.46. Funding is available in the 2006 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration to amend contract number FY08-037 awarded on March 10, 2008 to Leyendecker Materials, Laredo, Texas in the estimated amount of \$2,331,000.00, for the purchase of asphalt (F.O.B plant and site delivered), black base (F.O.B plant and job site delivered), MS-1 or MS-2, (F.O.B. plant and job site delivered), MC-30,

(F.O.B. plant and job site delivered); by increasing the contract amount by \$587,750.00. This contract amendment is requested to purchase additional asphalt materials for the City's paving program. The term of this contract is for a one (1) year period and is subject to the availability of funds. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department, Utilities Department, and Construction Projects Budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to award supply contract number FY08-091 to Brothers Materials, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$5,000,000.00, for the purchase of asphalt type "D" hot mix and asphalt type "D" hot mix with 1% lime (picked up the vendor's yard and job site delivered). The term of this contract for a one year period and is subject to availability of funds. All materials are purchased on an as needed basis utilizing the Public Works Department, construction projects budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Consideration to authorize that all bids received for bid request FY08-061 mobile technology lab vehicle be rejected; and authorize the purchase of one mobile technology lab vehicle in the amount of \$225,088.00 from Metro Fire Apparatus, Houston, Texas an authorized dealer for Farber Specialty vehicles, through the TASB Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program. This vehicle will be equipped with computers and technology equipment with will be assigned to the Public Library. Funding is available in from the 2006 Certificate of Obligation Bond Proceeds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to authorize the purchase and installation of sports field lighting systems at Slaughter Park from Musco Sports Lighting, Inc., Muscatine, IA, through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program in the total amount of \$672,160.00. Funding is available from the 2006-2007 Certificate of Obligation Bond Proceeds (Slaughter Park) Improvements.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez



For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

28. Consideration to award contract FY08-104 to CABCO Auctioneering Services, Laredo, Texas, for auctioneering services for the sale of surplus vehicles and equipment and the Police Department unclaimed property. The intent of this contract is to conduct turn key public auctions for disposal of these items. All revenues from these public sales will be realized in the respective departmental budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to award contract number FY08-105 to CABCO Auctioneering Services, Laredo, TX for conducting a one (1) time auction for the sale of five (5), heavy earth moving equipment for the Solid Waste Department. All funds generated will be realized in the Solid Waste's revenue line item.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for one (1) additional year for contract FY07-162 awarded to McNeilus Truck, Hutchins, Texas, in the estimated annual amount of \$90,000.00 for OEM McNeilus repair parts/service. All parts and services will be purchased on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to authorize a contract with Insituform Technologies, Inc., Houston, Texas, through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing, in the total amount of \$562,877.50 for the rehabilitation of the Matamoros Street sewer line. The project consists of repairing the existing Matamoros sewer line by sealing and lining the pipe cracks caused by deterioration. Funding is available from the 2007 Utilities Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one (1), aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle (ARFF) and related accessories, from General Safety Equipment, LLC a division of Rosenbauer America, through their Texas dealer, Emergency Vehicles of Texas, in the total amount of \$855,477.00. Funding for this equipment is available from 2007 Contractual Obligation Bond proceeds. The vehicle is being funded with bond proceeds however; the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) may reimburse the City of Laredo \$715,000.00 of the purchase cost.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration to approve amendment No. 1 to Espey Consultants, Inc., in the amount of \$124,330.00 to provide consulting services for the Phase 2 of the Canal Street Drainage Improvement Project for the City of Laredo, Texas. The project involves reconstructing the channel junction near the intersection of Canal Street and San Francisco Street as well as improvements to Zacate Creek Channel between Canal Street and the Ryan Street Pedestrian Bridge. The total contract with this amendment will be \$324,105.00. Funding is available in the 2007 Contractual Obligation Bond Proceeds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Award a professional services contract with Espey Consultants, Inc., in the amount of \$360,000.00 for the Zacate Creek Flood Protection Plan under the Flood Protection Planning Program Grant of the Texas Water Development Board (TDWB) FY07-08. The grant would enable a comprehensive evaluation of the entire Zacate Creek with all the recent improvements (Upper Zacate Creek Detention Pond, Alexander Detention Pond, proposed channel improvements around Canal Street) and focuses on more frequent storm analysis rather than 100 year storm for FEMA. Funding is available in the TWDB Grant and Storm Water Improvement Fund. (Contingent upon approval of Final Reading of Ordinance 2008-O-170).

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Accepting a Technical Assistance Grant by the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Sustainability Pilot Program in the amount of \$25,000.00 and authorizing the City Manager to enter into agreement. The funding will assist with the design of energy and resource conservation building features, an innovative storm water management system to reduce impervious surface areas and improve site

conditions, and use of native vegetation to conserve water resources for the James and Maria Luisa Haynes Recreation Center (Eastside Recreation Center).

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Consideration to authorize payment to nine (9) vendors (Embarq, Intrado, DIR, AT&T, Sprint/Nextel, Verizon Southwest, Jim Hogg County, Starr County and Zapata County for providing existing 9-1-1 telephone network, database, wireless, and equipment maintenance services for the four (4) county regional 9-1-1 system in the projected amount of \$503,216.00. Payments are for the period of September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009. Funding is available in the 9-1-1 Regional Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

37. Consideration to authorize the purchase of public safety answering (PSAP) equipment from Embarq, Inc., through the Houston Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC) contract in the total amount of \$54,107.05. The equipment will be installed at the Jim Hogg County Sheriff's Office, Webb County Sheriff's Office, and Zapata County Sheriff's Office. Funding is available in the 9-1-1 Regional Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

38. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a renewal contract with Motorola, Inc., in the amount of \$135,806.64 for the maintenance agreement of the City of Laredo's 800 MHz. Trunked Radio Communications System, as described in Exhibit "A" attached. The contract provides annual maintenance for the infrastructure equipment, subscriber equipment, support, and software upgrades. The contract increased by \$1,456.68 over the previous year due to an increase in the number of radios. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund (595).

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. Consideration for approval to award an architectural/engineering contract to Sepulveda Associates Architects, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$714,325.00 for the New Laredo Fire Department Administration Center and Site Improvements. Design work is to be done on a fast track basis. Funding is available in the Fire Department Headquarters - 2006 CO.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

40. Consideration for approval of change order no. 3 an increase of \$8,000.00 required to meet building and state codes to complete the building and to add forty-eight (48) working days to the construction contract time, release of retainage, acceptance of the Cigarroa Recreation Center Boxing Gym and approval of final payment in the amount of \$56,125.00 to ALC Construction, LLC., Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$543,000.00. Funding is available in the CDBG 30th Action Year and CDBG 31st Action Year.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

41. Consideration for approval of change order no. 3 a decrease of \$85,724.00 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place and to add eighty-four (84) calendar days to the construction contract time for rain days, release of retainage, acceptance of the rehabilitation Phase 2 of the General Aviation Apron, construct Phase 2 of the North East Cargo Apron, and construct Cargo Pads at the Southwest Apron at the Laredo International Airport and approval of final payment in the amount of \$351,707.78 to Ramos Industries, Inc., Pasadena, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$7,260,331.50. Funding is available in Airport Construction Fund - FAA Grant No. 49.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Consideration for approval of change order no. 7 a decrease of \$65,824.74 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, release of retainage, acceptance of the City of Laredo Bridge of the Americas Modification Project (El Portal) and approval of final payment in the amount of \$141,018.12 to Leyendecker Construction, Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$20,661,803.22. Funding is available in the Improvements Other Than Buildings – Bridge System.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Consideration to amend the existing contract awarded to Howland Engineering and Surveying Company for the design and construction of a 18” water transmission line from Mary Help of Christians Booster Station to McPherson Road by upgrading the line to a 24” water transmission line and changing the alignment from Mary Help of Christian Booster Station to International Boulevard along Michigan Avenue by an additional amount of \$61,900.00. Funding is available in the 2007 Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a management services contract for operation of the Laredo Entertainment Center with SMG, Philadelphia, PA.

Motion to approve and look at Civic Center as possibility to be managed by SMG.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

45. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of July 2008, represents a decrease of \$34,640.85. These adjustments are determined by Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve and look at the possibility of having the Civic Center managed by SMG.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Espinza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

46. Refund of property tax in the amount of \$1,127.84 to the following taxpayers:

1. A refund of property tax in the amount of \$503.06 payable to F.I.S. Tax Servicing due to an overpayment. Account#107-00348-040.
2. A refund of property tax in the amount of \$624.78 payable to Martin Alvarez due to an overpayment. Account#983-51016-050.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Espinza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

### **47. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas**

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the status of the downtown lighting improvements. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza)

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that the department has the contract which was awarded to GDS in 2008. He noted that phase I is complete and staff will complete phase II in September 2008 and as part of that phase, they have met with the stake holders of downtown. He mentioned that in the last two or three years they have been upgrading street lights in the area of Santa Maria and San Dario.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza said that she agreed with the Mayor regarding downtown lighting issues. She advised that she has been communicating with GDS regarding their lighting system for downtown. She said that they are proposing to install ornament fixtures. She noted that she would be willing to provide funds for this project with her discretionary funds.

2. Discussion with possible action on instructing the City Manager to assign a liaison to coordinate the 2010 Census.

Mayor Salinas advised that he has been meeting with the regional director from the Census Bureau. He emphasized how important it is for each individual to be counted in Webb County. He said that they are going to be hiring many individuals from the Laredo area. He instructed the City Manager to assign a liaison to coordinate the 2010 census.

Keith Selman, Planning Director, noted that they work with the census to provide as much information as they can. He mentioned that the census is more interested in partnering with elected officials.

3. Discussion with possible action on creating a Water Conservation Blue Ribbon Committee.

Tomas Rodriguez, Water Utilities Director, said that the Blue Ribbon Committee consists of Dr. Antonini, Dr Godines, Tom Young, Rolando Ortiz, and Jerry Pinzon. The goal of the committee is to prepare an amendment to the water conservation ordinance.

Motion to create a Water Conservation Blue Ribbon Committee.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Juan Narvaez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding the Buenos Aires Recreation Center.

Cm. Narvaez requested to postpone.

C. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion with possible action on using discretionary funds on a xeriscaping project on International Boulevard.

Motion to approve the use of \$10,000 from District VI discretionary funds on a xeriscaping project on International Boulevard.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Presentation by Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES), Texas A &M University and Terrabon LLC on the Secondary Water Technology Project.

Mark T. Holtzapple gave the following presentation:

Common desalination technologies

Reverse osmosis

Vapor compression

Comparison

|                    | <b>Reverse Osmosis</b> | <b>Vapor Compression</b> |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Energy efficiency  | Excellent              | Excellent                |
| Separator Life     | 1 to 7 years           | >30 years                |
| Robust             | No                     | Yes                      |
| Water pretreatment | Extensive              | Minimal                  |
| Salt in product    | ~300ppm                | ~2 ppm                   |

Key Features of Advanced Vapor – Compression Desalination

Advanced Vapor – Compression Features:

**Sheet-shell heat exchangers**

High pressure operation

Low pressure drop

Low manufacturing cost

Internal agitation to promote good heat transfer and cleaning

Drop-wise condensation (high heat transfer coefficients)

**Gerotor compressor**

High efficiency

Handles two-phase flow

Low-cost

**Advanced process configurations**

Countercurrent arrangement recovers water at low salt concentration

High temperature requires less compression energy for same T

Operates at high pressures to reduce compressor size.

Plate arrangement

**Key Features:**

Contained in high-pressure vessel

Staggered baffles

- Constant velocity

- Push noncondensibles to end

Low pressure drop

Thin sheets

- Lower material cost

- Less resistance from the metal

- Easier to form

Leakage

Steam to salt - okay

Advanced Vapor – Compression Features:

Sheet-shell heat exchangers

**Sheet-shell heat exchangers**

High pressure operation

Low pressure drop

Low manufacturing cost

Internal agitation to promote good heat transfer and cleaning

Drop-wise condensation (high heat transfer coefficients)

**Gerotor compressor**

High efficiency

Handles two-phase flow

Low cost

**Advanced process configurations**

Countercurrent arrangement recovers water at low salt concentration

High temperature requires less compressions energy for same T

Operates at high pressures to reduce compressor size

**StarRotor compressor**

Advantages

High efficiency

Handles two-phase flow

Low cost



## **Advanced Vapor-Compression Features:**

### **Sheet-shell heat exchangers**

High pressure operation

Low pressure drop

Low manufacturing cost

Internal agitation to promote good heat transfer and cleaning

Drop-wise condensation (high heat transfer coefficients)

### **Gerotor compressor**

High efficiency

Handles two-phase flow

Low cost

### **Advanced process configurations**

Countercurrent arrangement recovers water at low salt concentration

High-temperature requires less compression energy for same – T

Operates at high pressures to reduce compressor size

## **Economics of Advanced Vapor – Compression Desalination**

### **Current Economic Estimates**

Low capital cost

- \$1.78 to \$2.907/daily gallon \*\* (0 ppm)

Low water cost

- \$1.45 to \$1.81/thous gallon \* (ppm)

10 mill gal/day scale \*includes brine disposal

Blending

### **Current Economic Estimates**

#### **Low capital cost**

\$1.78 to \$2.97/daily gallon \*\* (0 ppm)

Low water cost

\$1.45 to \$1.81/thous gallon \* (0 ppm)

\$0.97 to \$1.21/thous gallon \* (500 ppm)

\$0.73 to \$0.91/thous gallon \* (750 ppm)

\$0.48 to \$0.60/thous gallon \* (1000 ppm)

10 mill gal/day scale \*includes brine disposal

### **Conclusion**

Low capital cost

Low water cost

Low maintenance

Robust

Salt free (can blend with brackish water)

Capital Cost  
10,000,000 gal/day

Film-wise condensation

|                           |   |              |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| Latent heat exchanger     | 4000 Btu/h ft <sup>2</sup> F, 383,000 ft <sup>2</sup> | \$3,830,000  |
| Compressor                | 23,400 ft./min, 3730 k W, compress ratio = 2.46       | \$700,000    |
| Electric motor            | 3885 k W (electricity)                                | \$150,000    |
| Sensible heat exchanger 1 | 963 Btu/(h ft F) 373,000 ft                           | \$ 2,780,000 |
| Sensible heat exchanger 2 | 963 Btu (h ft F) 47,000 ft <sup>2</sup>               | \$470,000    |
| Pump w/motor              | 8000 gal/min, 140 psi                                 | \$35,000     |
| Degassing unit            | Stripper column w/vacuum pump                         | \$94,000     |
|                           | Total Equipment                                       | 8,060,000    |
|                           | Lang Factor   | X 3.68       |
|                           | Fixed Capital Investment (FCI)                        | 29,700,000   |

**Drop-wise Condensation**

|                           |   |              |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| Latent heat exchanger     | 25,000 Btu/h ft <sup>2</sup> F 61,280           | 612,800      |
| Compressor                | 23,400 ft./min, 3730 k W, compress ratio = 2.46 | \$700,000    |
| Electric motor            | 3885 k W (electricity)                          | \$150,000    |
| Sensible heat exchanger 1 | 963 Btu/(h ft F) 373,000 ft                     | \$ 2,780,000 |
| Sensible heat exchanger 2 | 963 Btu (h ft F) 47,000 ft <sup>2</sup>         | \$470,000    |
| Pump w/motor              | 8000 gal/min, 140 psi                           | \$35,000     |
| Degassing unit            | Stripper column w/vacuum pump                   | \$94,000     |
|                           | Total Equipment                                 | \$4,841,800  |
|                           | Lang Factor                                     | X 3.68       |
|                           | Fixed Capital Investment (FCI)                  | \$17,800,000 |

Assumptions

Inlet concentration = 1.5 g/kg = 1,500 ppm  
 Outlet concentration = 35 g/kg = 35,000 ppm  
 Recovery = 95.9%

Capital Cost

10,000,000 gal/day  
 \$2.97/ daily gallon = 29,700,000

\$1.78/daily gallon = 17,800,000

This presentation is not complete and can be viewed in its entirety at the City Secretary's Office.

## **XII. STAFF REPORTS**

48. A. Discussion with possible action on the proposed Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget to include but not limited to all departments, divisions and all funds; Mayor & City Council Members, Transportation, Fire, Engineering, Parks and Leisure, Utilities, Building Development Services, Community Development, Information Services and Telecommunications, City Attorney, Municipal Court, City Secretary, Planning and Zoning, Environmental Services, Economic Development, Third Party Funding, Police, Transit, Human Resources, City Manager, Financial Services, Health, Tax and any other fund that is part of the budget.

Cm. Garza acknowledged that the City Manager has recommended a pay raise for City of Laredo staff.

City Manager, Carlos Villarreal, said that he has proposed a two percent cost of living increase and then a two percent merit raise for all employees in the upcoming budget. The merit raise would be broken down into halves. He went on to say that he is recommending a two percent cost of living and then a two percent merit on their anniversary date of hire.

Cm. Garza suggested adding an additional percentage for the lower tier employees.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, said that staff has considered adding percentage for lower tiered employees; however, the general fund would be impacted by \$181,000 and needs approval from Council to move forward.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to implement and amend ordinance as required to adjust the proposed pay plan of a COLA of 4% for the grade 30 and under and 3% for rest of the grades starting on October 5, 2008.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **Third Party Funding**

#### **Department of Community Development Nonprofit Management and Volunteer Center**

#### **Third Party Funding Budget Recommendations 2008-2009**

#### **Third Party Funding Advisory Committee**

To evaluate all applications for Third Party Funding received by the City of Laredo and make recommendations to the City Council as to which organizations to fund and at what level.

2008- 2009 Third Party Funding Advisory Committee

Mary Raul Salinas  
Cm. Garza

Lucy Flores Quintanilla  
Sylvia Bruni

Cm. Garcia  
 Cm. Landeck  
 Cm. Narvaez  
 Cm. Rendon  
 Cm. Belmares  
 Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez  
 Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Rene Gonzalez  
 Peter D. Arredondo  
 Vacant  
 Rey Ayala  
 Tony Vedia  
 Jose Gamez  
 Anselmo Castro, Jr.

**Third Party Funding Policies & Procedures**

Adopted January 7, 2008

**Eligibility Criteria**

501 © 3

Applications must be submitted complete and on time to the City Secretary’s office. Applicants must qualify to receive funds from either General Funds or Hotel-Motel funds.

Under General Funds, applicant must promote education, economic development and/or health and welfare.

Under hotel-motel funds, applicant must promote tourism and the convention of hotel industry.

**Application Process**

RFP published, February 28, 2008  
 Application training, March 7, 2008  
 Application deadline, April 1, 2008  
 50 Applications received  
 Review process began, April 11, 2008.

**Agencies Assisted Through General Fund**

Education  
 Economic Development  
 Health and Welfare

**General Fund Recommendations 2008 – 2009**

| Organization Agency        | Current Amount | Recommendation |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Area Health                |                | 5,000.00       |
| Best                       | 10,000.00      | 10,000.00      |
| Bethany House              | 18,500.00      | 18,500.00      |
| Big Brothers/Big Sister    | 5,000.00       | 5,000.00       |
| Border Area Nutrition      | 5,000.00       | 5,000.00       |
| Boy’s & Girls Clubs        | 41,000.00      | 41,000.00      |
| Boys Scouts of America     |                | 5,000.00       |
| Casa De Misericordia       | 11,000.00      | 11,000.00      |
| Catholic Social Services   | 5,000.00       | 5,000.00       |
| Children’s Advocacy Center | 22,500.00      | 22,500.00      |

|                                  |                   |                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Club Olympia of Laredo           | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00            |
| Girls Scouts of Greater So. T    | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00            |
| Habitat for Humanity             | 10,500.00         | 10,500.00           |
| Holding Institute Community      | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00            |
| Kidney Foundation of Laredo      | 15,000.00         | 15,000.00           |
| Laredo Amateur Boxing Club       | 10,000.00         | 10,000.00           |
| Laredo Crime Stoppers            | 1,000.00          | 1,000.00            |
| Laredo ISD Crime                 | 1,000.00          | 1,000.00            |
| Laredo Little Theatre            | 31,740.00         | 31,740.00           |
| Laredo Regional Food Bank        | 9,375.00          | 9,375.00            |
| Laredo Veterans Coalition        | 86,000.00         | 51,000.00           |
| Webb County Food Bank            | 24,875.00         | 24,875.00           |
| Laredo Webb – NHS                | 3,000.00          | 3,000.00            |
| Literacy Volunteers of America   | 2,625.00          | 2,625.00            |
| Rio Grande International         |                   | 5,000.00            |
| Sacred Hearts Home               | 15,000.00         | 11,000.00           |
| Serving Children and Adolescents | 13,500.00         | 13,500.00           |
| South Texas Council on Alcohol   | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00            |
| Special Olympics Texas           | 5,000.00          | 5,000.00            |
| Texas Migrant Council Safe       | *0.0              | 5,000.00            |
| Laredo Philharmonic Chorale      | 0.0               | 3,200.00            |
| Imaginarium of South Texas       | 0.00              | 55,000.00           |
| <b>Total:</b>                    | <b>433,240.00</b> | <b>\$428,940.00</b> |

Amount over Budget of \$401,615.00

Motion to instruct City Manager to implement the proposed benefit medical plan modifications. 1. Increase the City's Employee's and retiree's medical contribution rate by 5%. 2. Increase the deductible from \$250 to \$500.

### **Hotel-Motel Funding Criteria**

Expenditures of organizations assisted with hotel-motel funds MUST meet two criteria:

1. They must promote tourism and bring heads to beds.
2. Every expenditure of hotel/motel tax must fall under one of the following categories:
  - a. The establishment, improvement, or maintenance of a convention center or visitor information center.
  - b. Pay the administrative costs for facilitation convention registration.
  - c. Pay for advertising, solicitations, and promotions that attract tourist and convention delegates to the city or its vicinity. (administrative and facility costs are not eligible)
  - d. Promote the arts.
  - e. Fund Historical restoration or preservation programs that promote tourism.
  - f. Hold sporting events that substantially increase hotel activity
  - g. Fund the enhancement or upgrading of exiting sports facilities or sport fields.
  - h. Fund transportation systems for tourists.

## Hotel-Motel Funding Recommendations

|                                      | Current    | 2009 Recom. |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Border Olympics, Inc                 | 70,000.00  | 60,000.00   |
| Laredo Center of Arts                | 150,000.00 | 150,000.00  |
| Laredo Chamber of Commerce           | 18,000.00  | 42,283.00   |
| Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra        | 41,800.00  | 46,800.00   |
| Lulac # 7                            | 5,000.00   | 7,283.00    |
| Lulac # 12                           | 10,000.00  | 10,000.00   |
| Mexican Cultural Institute of Laredo | 7,500.00   | 9,783.00    |
| Society of Martha Washington         | 10,000.00  | 12,283.00   |
| Streets of Laredo                    | 7,500.00   | 15,000.00   |
| Washington's Birthday Celebration    | 60,000.00  | 82,282.00   |
| Webb County Heritage                 | 55,000.00  | 55,000.00   |
| Laredo Heat                          |            | 17,283.00   |
| Total                                |            | 507,998.00  |

## Agencies Not Recommended for Funding

Communities in Schools  
Laredo Community College Music / Dance  
TAMIU Dance Productions  
Latin American Intl. Sports Hall of Fame

CAA did not submit application for funding of its Elderly Nutrition & Meals on Wheels Programs.

Cm Garza suggested removing \$3,000.00 from the NHS and transferring it to the Safe Haven; however, staff should make up the difference through the CDBG allocation. He noted that he has a couple of projects under his requests which could be reduced by \$3,000.00.

Ronnie Acosta explained that she would need to review the qualifications because CDBG is to be used for new construction and cannot be used for Safe Haven.

Cm. Garcia suggested removing \$5,000 from the Children's Museum and leave it at \$50,000 and transfer the \$5,000 to Safe Haven for a total of \$10,000.00

Motion to instruct staff to transfer \$5,000 from the Children's Museum and add it to the Safe Haven for a total of 10,000. The Children's Museum will be reduced to \$50,000

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Rendon expressed his concerns for lowering the Veteran's Coalition.

Motion to provide \$86,000.00 to the Veterans Coalition instead of the suggested \$51,000.00.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to removed \$5,000.00 from the Rio Grande International Studies and allocate \$4,000 to the Sacred Heart Children’s Home and the other thousand to the Laredo National Food Bank.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to allocate \$70,000 for the Border Olympics; to allocate \$25,000 for the Cola Blanca; to allocate \$10,000 for the Martha Washington; and allocate \$65,000 for the George Washington Celebration from the \$82,000 to \$60,000 which will give a “piggy bank” savings of \$33,640 for additional organizations.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garcia said that he would like to have a meeting with the Center of Arts staff. He emphasized the importance of leasing the second floor of the Center of Arts to the Webb County Heritage Foundation. He said that the four buildings that surround the museum should be given back to the City of Laredo so they can be used for businesses that will attract downtown people.

Cm. Belmares said that the City of Laredo needs to reconstruct the Laredo Center of the Arts contract.

Motion to reconstruct the Laredo Center of the Arts contract.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza stressed the point that City Council should have Third Party Funding discussions prior to the budget process. He noted that it does not make sense that the Third Party Funding has their task of distributing funds and then City Council changes their proportions. He went on to say that that staff needs to have a formula for the Hotel/Motel funds which will distribute the funds according to funds brought into the City. He said that it would motivate the organizations to make sure they are doing what the monies are intended for.

Ronnie Acosta explained that the Third Party Funding Committee has received training on how to disperse the hotel/motel funds. She continued to note that staff will create a formula for the head to bed applicants.

Cm. Rendon thanked Rey Ayala for doing a great job with the Third Party Funding Committee.

Motion to accept the changes and approve the recommendations made by the committee and accept the modifications made by Cm. Garcia.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct the City Manager to implement the proposed benefit medical plan modifications. 1. Increase the City's Employee's, and retiree's medical contribution rate by 5%. 2. Increase the deductible from \$250.00 to \$500.00

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct City Manager to decrease grant funding for the Home 2008 Program, and a down payment assistance from \$739,399 to \$657,445. Total of Home Grant should be \$1,308,291 instead of \$1,390,245.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct City Manager to approve decrease grant funding for Emergency Shelter Grant from \$84,422 to \$81,316.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo-Espinoza

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

Motion to instruct City Manager to approve increased grant funding for the Emergency Shelter Grant from \$38,000 to \$41,106.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 8    Against: 0    Abstain; 0

B. Discussion with possible action regarding the draft State Legislative Agenda.

Cm. Belmares said that it appears that the waterpark is not a priority for City Council; however, the One Stop Shop is. He noted that the City is a million dollars short from being able to begin working on a one stop shop building. He proposed to move monies from the waterpark to the One Stop Shop.



Carlos Villarreal said that he would take a look at it and come back to Council for recommendations.

Motion to move the monies from the waterpark Project to the One Stop Shop Project located at the City of Laredo Airport. Funding should be from the 2009 bond sale.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Jessica Hein gave the following presentation:

### **State Legislative Agenda Items**

#### **81<sup>st</sup> Legislative Session**

Dedicate Aviation Sales Tax for Airport Development  
Proposed International Fifth Bridge (added position paper) deleted  
Fund Tire Remediation Program  
Designate a Texas-Mexico Border Public Health Region  
Funding for Indigent Health Care  
Funding for Public Health Preparedness  
Funding for Obesity Reduction and Diabetes (Bienestar) Program  
Support Core Public Health Services  
Change Threat vs. Population Based on Funding Formulas  
Funding for Emerging Technology Training for First Responders  
Funding for Radio Communications and Interoperability  
Funding for Regional Emergency Operations Center  
Homeland Security Funding (added new item)  
River Jurisdiction Status  
Changing General Election Date  
Coin Operated Machine Businesses  
Support for Delayed School Start Date  
Provide Recreational Facilities and Workforce Opportunities for People with  
Special Needs  
Local option Residence Homestead Exemption (added position paper)  
Periodic Reappraisal of Real and Personal Property (added new item)  
Bus and Facility Capital Funding  
Change Transit Funding Formula – deleted  
Eliminate State Sales Tax Cap for Transit  
Increase State Funding Levels for Transit – deleted  
Cuatro Vientos Roadway Project  
Railroad Noise Abatement Program (added new item)  
Support for Transportation Corridor Projects  
Amend Utilities Code Regarding Telecommunication Providers  
Communications Between Municipalities Regarding Water Resources

Motion to remove Bridge V from the State Legislative Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez



Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Espinoza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**XV. 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 and reconvene as the Laredo City Council and adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0