

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2006-R-08
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
April 17, 2006
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

District I	Alfredo Agredano,	Council Member,
District II	Hector Garcia,	Council Member,
District III	John C. Galo,	Council Member,
District VI	Johnny Amaya, Johnny Rendon Gene Belmares,	Council Member, District IV Council Member, District V Council Member,
District VII	Juan Chavez,	Council Member,
District VIII	Juan Ramirez,	Mayor Pro Tem,
	Gustavo Guevara, Jr., Larry Dovalina, Cynthia Collazo, Horacio De Leon, Rafael Garcia, Jaime Flores,	City Secretary City Manager Deputy City Manager Assistant City Manager Assistant City Manager City Attorney

Motion to excuse Mayor Flores.

Moved: Cm. Amaya
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain:

Cm. Galo was not present.

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of January 23, 2006.

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

Cm. Galo was not present.

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Announcements

Cm. Galo joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Cm. Garcia thanked the employees from the Public Works Department for work they have accomplished in District II. He expressed his dissatisfaction with some statements that were being made by municipal candidates to the public that were not true. He said that he has served on the Council for four years and is a part of administration. He attested that the comments that are being made are faults. He noted that the doors to City Hall have always been open and the City Manager, Assistant City Managers, and Director's doors have always been open to the public. He said that City staff works very hard and they do a great job. He continued to praise staff for receiving the Five Star Award presented by the Laredo Chamber of Commerce. He reminded the community that the monies that is spent in Washington D. C. is donated by the private sector. He also reminded the community that the City of Laredo has an A+ rating in budget and financing. Finally, he asked the voters of Laredo to vote for the candidates that are being honest.

Cm. Agredano read the following statement: *"I am very happy to announce that Mr. Kike De Ayala has told Mayor Flores that the Laredo Entertainment Center will pay for the parking for both districts graduations. She said that Mr. De Ayala is from Houston but his heart is truly in Laredo. The parking fee has been a very sensitive issue for him because he is trying to work with the members of this City Council and the City Managers to correct the short fall problems for the long term. He and the Mayor campaigned for the LEC with a hope that graduations will be enjoyed and because the Mayor thinks that graduations are sacred. Mayor Flores asked Mr. De Ayala to forgive the parking fee this year and continue to work with us for the longer term. She reported to me that he had readily agreed and so I am proud to announce that the parking will be free on graduation for both districts. She said that if we can get the district to allow more attendance we will be in good shape. I understand a number of tickets will be handed out but the students can request more so that the large families like mine can all attend."*

He also wished his grandson, Ashton, and his daughter, Angelica a Happy Birthday.

Cm. Amaya thanked everyone that sent their condolences to him and his family because of the death of his sister. He especially thanked Cm. Galo and Cm. Ramirez for attending the Mass.

Mayor Pro Tempore expressed his condolences to Cm. Amaya noting that the City of Laredo is a large family and whenever a person experiences loss that everyone feels their pain.

Cm. Galo expressed his condolences to the Amaya and Reyna families.

Cm. Rendon advised that he had represented the City of Laredo at two ceremonies for Rio Grande and Gateway Softball Associations. He said that it was truly an honor especially for the Rio Grande Softball Association who is celebrating 30 years in the league. One of the saddest notes was that there were a lot of teams but they did not have coaches. On another note he expressed his concern for problems that occurred when they closed the bridge on Gale Street. He said that tractor trailers are taking the wrong route and are traveling through the neighborhood. He advised that he has talked to the Police Chief and to Mr. Flores and asked them to install more signs to direct the tractor trailers so they can exit on Hillside instead of Gale street to remedy the traffic problem.

Cm. Belmares congratulated the Del Mar Little League on their second open day ceremony where he and Cm. Galo threw the first pitch. He added that they had a great league because of the great parental involvement. He congratulated the Laredo Commission for Women for hold a phenomenal event at the Laredo Entertainment Center on Saturday as part of the Child Abuse Prevention Month. Finally, he concurred with Cm. Garcia about the faults statements from the candidates running for Mayor and City Council. He said that voters need to sift through the truth.

Invitations

No.

Recognitions

- a. Recognition of the City's Customer Service Program for receiving the Laredo Chamber of Commerce Five Star Service Award in the Community Services Division.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, said that the Chamber of Commerce recently held their Sixth Annual Customer Service Banquet. He explained that the Chamber has implemented a customer service awareness program throughout the County. He advised that the City of Laredo has become a partner with the Laredo Chamber of Commerce in pushing the public service awareness and recognition because they feel that it is important that the City of Laredo and its employees play a key role in providing good customer service to the community. He said that he was very proud to say that this is the second time within the last six years that the City has been recognized by the Chamber which is an independent outside source that provides a good barometer to gauge the effectiveness of the City's Customer

Service Program. He went on to say that it is a good indication of the success of the program.

Eddie Zavala, Customer Service Coordinator, said that winning the Five Star Service Award is indicative of the commitment that the City of Laredo has to customer service.

He recognized the following employees:

Catalina Montgomery,	Administrative Services
Frances Perez,	Airport Department
Berta Rivera,	Bridge Department
Sandra Ramirez,	Building Department
San Juanita de los Reyes,	City Attorney's Department
Eddie Zavala,	City Manager's Office
Susan Herrera,	City Secretary's Office
Sara Martinez,	Community Development
Monica San Miguel,	Convention & Visitor's Bureau
Teresa Esparza,	Engineering Department
Leticia Benavides,	Environmental Services
Department	
Janie Garcia,	Financial Services Department
Belinda Sanchez,	Fire Department
Clarissa Rangel-Paredes,	Health Department
Maria G. Soliz,	Library Department
MIS,	Jessica Ochoa
Municipal Court,	Rosalinda Ortiz,
Veronica Gaytan,	Parks & Recreation Department
Martha Bernal,	Planning and Zoning Department
Jose F. Baeza,	Police Department
Angie Ojeda,	Public Works Department
Christi Lara,	Solid Waste Department
Alejandra Santana,	Tax Department
Rosita Martinez,	Traffic Department
Danny Gonzalez,	Transit – El Metro
Diana Reyna,	Utilities Department

b. Recognition of Venancio “Benny” Mota, of the Parks and Recreation Department, on his selection as March 2006 Employee of the Month.

Miguel Pescador, Parks and Recreation Director, said that the department is very proud on the selection of Venancio “Benny” Mota, as employee of the month. Mr. Mota has been working for the City of Laredo since 1999. His dedication has shown his willingness and capability of taking such a task. He noted that his strong record with the Parks and Recreation Department demonstrated his dependability and self initiative whenever necessary. During the month of March alone, Mr. Mota successfully handled and coordinated construction issues in several projects that required his expertise. The hockey rink has been a major task for Mr. Mota in coordinating with his dedicated team in

placing the concrete slab and park approaches to the project which has been successfully complete. Of course, his work continues and with devotion Mr. Mota as he precedes to delegate with much tack to his team projects such as: placing the drainage, pavilion, picnic tables at Dryden Park, repairing all seven swimming pools for the commencement of the hot, sizzley summer, placing a retaining wall at Cigarroa Recreation Center to stop flooding, preparation for the installation of the top of the line surveillance camera at several designated parks, improvement of the pee-wee soccer courts goals at Father McNaboe Park, construction for shades, backstop, fences, scoreboards, concession lights for eight little league fields for the beginning of the season, replaced outfield fence at Veteran's Field, placing a 500 linear feet parking lot at Bridge II. He also has the coordination and structure to lend a helping hand to the Public Works Department in placing side rails on 14 dump trucks. As a supervisor his work is overwhelming, yet it speaks for itself where supervision is rarely required by higher management. There is no doubt that Mr. Mota is a leader with initiative and dependability, who leads by example and demonstrates to these crews that he know his field in the area of construction. Mr. Mota maintains a well-organized schedule and assures that all projects have and will come through successfully. His six years and nine months experience with the Parks and Recreation Department, demonstrate great pride in his work and has earned the respect and confidence from his workers, co-workers, and management.

- c. Recognition of the Del Mar 2005 Major Division All Stars Little League Team on their 2005 Laredo District 34 Championship Title and their Section 4 Championship victory at the Texas West State and Southwest Regional Major Division Little League State Tournament.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez and Council recognized the following team:

Roberto Javier Aguero	Mark Edward Arredondo
Alejandro Campero	Rene Rolando Compean, II
Fernando Alexander Garza	Roberto Adan Gonzalez
Mauricio Granados	Jason Lee Jasso
Edward Lopez	Mario Ignacio Maldonado
Mark Anthony Mitchell	Kenton Dale Trevino

Coaches: Fernando Garza
William Trevino

Manager: Dr. Rene Compean

- d. Recognition of the J.B. Alexander High School UIL Academic Competition Team on their 9th consecutive District Championship.

Motion to postpone.

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

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

a. Appointment by Council Member Gene Belmares of Jeff Puig to the Historic District /
Landmark Board.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the
City of Laredo by rezoning 4,715.02 square feet out of Lot 5, Block 1127, Western
Division, further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at
2016 Farias Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family
Reduced Area District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended
approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Chavez
Second: Cm. Belmares
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Chavez

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the

City of Laredo by rezoning 2,505.83 square feet out of Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 1127, Western Division, further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 2012 Farias Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Chavez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Chavez

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the

City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a contractor's office and warehouse on Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 1998, Eastern Division, located at 3203 Kearney Street. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the conditional use permit.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Alfredo Collazo, property owner, spoke in favor of the Conditional Use Permit.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garcia

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the

City of Laredo by rezoning of Lot 1, Block 1, Elizabeth Bonugli Subdivision, located at 7309 Wagner Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Belmares

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the

City of Laredo by rezoning 9.04 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located on North Bartlett Avenue south of Del Mar Boulevard, from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) and R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Rendon

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2004-O-089 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit to David Richter for a concrete batch plant on 5.00 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 4318 S. Zapata Highway, by extending the terms of the permit two (2) more years. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Galo

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning of Lots 1 and 2, Block 1625, Eastern Division, located at 1003 S. Louisiana Avenue, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garcia

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the

City of Laredo by rezoning 37.65 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located north of Enlace Street east of Arco Iris Street, from R-1A (Single-Family Reduced Area District) to R-1MH (Single-Family Manufactured Housing District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garcia

9. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 Annual Budget for the South Texas Regional 911 System Fund by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$336,454.00. The Commission on State Emergency Communication provided a subsequent allocation to the South Texas Region for the period of September 1, 2005 through August 31, 2006.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

10. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo 2005 – 2006

General Fund annual budget by adding one (1) full time equivalent position to address legislative matters for the City of Laredo. Funding in the estimated amount of \$28,200.00 for the latter three months of this fiscal year including salary and fringe benefits is available in General Fund – City Manager’s Department.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares
Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 5
0

Against: 2

Abstain:

Cm. Galo
Cm. Chavez

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year

2006 General Fund Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$144,254.00 respectively for the lease purchase financing of necessary cardio and strength equipment for the recreation centers and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget amendment. Funding for the lease will be contingent on funding availability in subsequent fiscal years.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

12. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the

Fiscal Year 2006 Recreation Fund to appropriate expenditures in the amount of \$130,000.00 for a professional services contract for research and development of a Request for Proposals and develop criteria for evaluating proposals to determine the suitability of the construction of a new Baseball Stadium for the City of Laredo. Funding is available in the Recreation Fund Balance.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting a grant awarded to the City of

Laredo Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 budget to reflect the actual grant amount of \$99,916.00 awarded by the Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), at no cost to the city, to fund the STX Multi-Agency Drug Related Corruption Task Force. Funds will be used to pay overtime, fringe benefits, and operational expenses from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

14. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting a grant awarded and amending the

City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 budget by decreasing revenues and expenses in the amount of \$7,260.00 to reflect the actual grant amount of \$630,685.00 awarded by the Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), at no cost to the city, to fund the Laredo Financial Task Force. Funds will be used to pay personnel salaries, travel, and operational expenses from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

15. Abandoning a utility easement described as being a 15 foot wide strip of land, containing 0.0344 acres, more or less, situated in Porcion 32, Abstract 296, Antonio Treviño, original grantee, Webb County, Texas. Said 0.0344 acre tract being out of Tract A-4, Tanquesitos II Subdivision, Webb County, Texas and being a utility easement was granted to the City of Laredo by Rafael Hernandez

by conveyance instrument dated January 15, 2003, recorded in Volume 1354, pp. 645-647, Official Public Records of Webb County, Texas, and described on the attached Exhibit A. Said release of easement, being in consideration of an alternative utility easement that was conveyed to the City of Laredo on January 19, 2006 and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances # 2006-O-080, # 2006-O-081, # 2006-O-081, # 2006-O-082, # 2006-O-083, and # 2006-O-084.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

16. 2006-O-080 Amending the Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 Annual Operating Budget in the

Fire Prevention and Arson Fund Budget by accepting a donation of \$750.00 from Wal-Mart Stores and appropriating said funds for the purpose of purchasing Fire Safety Educational Promotional Materials for the Fire Prevention Division.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-080.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2006-O-081 Authorizing the City Manager to amend the Fiscal Year 2006

Veterans

Field Fund Budget by providing for revenues and expenditures for Veterans Field in the amount of \$100,000.00. Funds will be generated through the Laredo Equities, LLC lease agreement of Veterans Field.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-081.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2006-O-082 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a renewed lease with International Bank of Commerce and Sanchez Oil & Gas Corporation,
A

Joint Venture, for approximately 0.1182-acre tract of land located on Block No. 1 within the southwest fuel farm at the Laredo International

Airport. Lease term is for five (5) years commencing on October 1, 2005 and ending in September 30, 2010, and may be extended for an additional five (5) years ending on September 30, 2015. Monthly rent shall be \$463.50 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-082.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2006-O-083 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract by and on behalf

of

the City of Laredo, Grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Operations Agreement with Rafael A. Morales, Inc., as Zone Site Operator, to activate approximately 15,000 square feet of warehouse space located at Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94, Site III, Killam Industrial Park, effective upon execution. Providing activation, administration and transaction fees be paid to the City and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-083.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2006-O-084 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract by and on behalf of

the City of Laredo, Grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Operations Agreement with Nippon Express USA, Inc., as Zone Site Operator, to activate approximately 7,000 square feet of warehouse space located at Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94, Site III, Killam Industrial Park, effective upon execution. Providing activation, administration and transaction fees be paid to the City and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-084.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

X. RESOLUTIONS

17. 2006-R-041 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$49,000.00 from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the City of Laredo Health Department OBH-Border Health to support activities of the Los Dos Laredos Council and the Healthy Border 2010 Projects, for the period beginning April 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2006-R-041.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. 2006-R-042 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 and \$3,974.00 of in-kind contributions for the Environmental Health Care Response and Management Along the US/Mexico Border Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning March 16, 2006 through February 28, 2007, and execute the grant agreement.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2006-R-042.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. 2006-R-043 Authorizing the City Manager to submit two (2) grant applications to the

Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 for Noise Mitigation under FAR Part 150 Noise Abatement Program and \$1,424,968.00 to improve runway safety area, conduct a benefit/cost analysis to include environmental assessment for a future runway extension project, construct cargo pads, airfield electrical improvements, A & E Services to rehabilitate general aviation apron phases 3 and 4, complete noise study and acquire an interactive employee training system at the Laredo International Airport. The five (5%) percent local match is available in the Airport Fund, Land Reimbursable Account (Rash Tract).

Motion to approve Resolution # 2006-R-043.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. MOTIONS

20. Motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Laredo

and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1390 through its president, effective April 1, 2006 through September 30, 2010; said agreement was negotiated by the representatives of the City and Local 1390 I.A.F.F. in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code Section 174.101; and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

21. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Downtown Redevelopment Committee to

reject a proposal by El Portal Center, LLC for the construction of a convention center, international trade center, hotel, and pedestrian bridge to link the Laredo Factory Outlet Stores to such proposed facilities.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

22. Consideration for approval to ratify the professional services contract with Drash Consulting Engineers, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for an amount of \$18,030.00 for the Laredo International Airport Reconstruction of Taxiway A & B and approval of amendment no. 1 an increase of \$3,780.00 for additional sampling for plant mix bituminous pavements. Funding is available in the Airport Construction Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

23. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder, J.

Solis Maintenance and Welding Services, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$324,420.00 for the Laredo Street Drainage Improvements Phase I. Funding is available in the 2003 CO Bond and in the 1999 Water CO Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

24. Consideration for approval of change order no. 1 a decrease of \$28,415.77 for the

reduction in the betterment allowance which was not used in the project, acceptance of the Fire Station No. 14 – Cielito Lindo Subdivision and approval of final payment in the amount of \$69,377.66 to Puma Builders, Inc., Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$1,387,553.23. Funding is available in the 2003 CO Issue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

25. Consideration to award a contract to Laredo Moving & Storage, Inc., Laredo, Texas in

an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 for moving and storage services related to the Los Obispos Housing Remediation Project. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund – Los Obispos Housing Project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

26. Authorizing to extend the existing agreement with the Laredo Chamber of Commerce

through September 30, 2006 and negotiate a long-term contract for the administration of funds to operate the Laredo Trade & Travel Center for Fiscal Year 2006 – 2007 with the option to self-renew for one (1) year. Total expense for the existing agreement shall not exceed \$50,000.00. Funding for the extension of the existing agreement is available in the Convention & Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2006 Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

27. Consideration to authorize Miss Texas USA Pageant accommodations contract FY06-

068 as follows: Section 1 to Holiday Inn Civic Center, Sections 2 & 3 to La Posada Hotel/Suites, Section 4 to Homewood Suites, and Section 5 to Days Inn as per the hosting agreement. Funding shall not exceed \$96,000.00. Funding is available in the Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

28. Consideration to amend contract number FY04-122, awarded to Envirosolve, L.L.C.,

Tulsa, OK, on September 19, 2005, by increasing the contract amount for the FY06 contract period by \$55,142.00. A Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event was held in December 2005 and another event is scheduled for May 2006. This contract is being amended to include the anticipated cost to conduct this second event. The amended contract amount for FY06 will be \$90,000.00. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund and Hazardous Materials Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

29. Consideration to award annual contract FY06-063 to the low bidders meeting specifications, Dooley Tackaberry, Inc, Deer Park, TX, Municipal Emergency Services (MES) Inc., Houston, TX, and Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Holden, LA, for the purchase of tools and equipment used by the Fire Department. This contract establishes a fixed contract price for an eighteen (18) month term and allows the Fire Department to purchase tools and equipment as needed throughout the contract period. The contract items include: axes, bolt cutters, chisels, claw tools, foam, hoses, nozzles, ladders, wrenches, and an assortment of other tools used by the department. Funding is available in the Fire Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

30. Consideration to award contract FY06-060 to the low bidder, South Texas Waste Systems, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$25,000.00, for providing portable restrooms for city parks, city sponsored events, and construction job-sites. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Contract pricing has been secured for daily, weekend, and monthly service. Funding for this contract is available in the Parks and Recreation Department and Capital Improvement Project / Contractual Obligation construction budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

31. Consideration to authorize the purchase and installation of a fully ADA accessible Custom Kids Choice play system, benches, safety surfacing, and shade structure at Canizales Park from Park Place Recreation Designs, Ltd. through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (Buy Board) contract pricing in the total amount of \$69,651.90. Funding is available in the 31st Action Year – 2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Canizales Park Improvements.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

32. Consideration to award contract number FY06-051 to the sole bidder, Dr. Ike's Home Centers, Laredo, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$25,000.00 for the purchase of Portland cement and concrete mix sacks. These materials will be purchased on an as needed basis by the Utilities, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation Departments for construction and repair projects. The term of this contract is for a six (6) month period. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Belmares
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

33. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for contract FY05-023 to the sole bidder,

Wilkinson Gary Iron and Metal, Laredo, Texas, for the sale of scrap metal recovered or collected at the Solid Waste facility and the recycling centers. The term of this contract was for a period of one (1) year with an option to renew for two (2) additional, one (1) year terms. The City is requesting authorization to extend this contract for one (1) additional year. Revenue generated from this contract is recognized in the Solid Waste Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

34. Consideration to award contract number FY06-067, to the low bidder, Pabco Industries,

Newark, NJ in the amount of \$100,380.00, for the purchase of 1.5 million plastic bags for use in the City's Recycling Program. The bid pricing is 7% higher than the previous purchase amount. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

35. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for contract FY05-057 to U.S. Filter Recovery Services, Luling, Texas, for the collection, transportation, and disposal services for used automotive motor oil and filters from City of Laredo's Do-it-Yourself Centers, Fleet Maintenance and El Metro facilities. The term of this contract will be for a one (1) year period with an option to extend this contract for two (2), one (1) year terms. The city will be paid \$0.33/gallon for used motor oil and there will be no charge for the other services. Authorization is requested to extend this contract for one (1) additional year. Funds will be deposited in the respective department's revenue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

36. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amount to be adjusted for the month of March 2006 represents a decrease of \$29,616.95. These adjustments are determined by Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

37. Authorizing the City Manager to award a contract to the lowest qualified bidder
Balch

Machine Company from Brownsville, Texas, in the amount of \$83,562.00 for refurbishing and repair of the Lyon Street Pump Improvements. Funding is available in the Water Fund – Water Construction Division.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

38. Authorizing the City Manager to award a contract to the lowest qualified bidder
Balch

Machine Company from Brownsville, Texas, in the amount of \$282,204.00 for refurbishing and repair of the Jefferson Street WTP Raw Water Pumphouse #2. Project and funding is available in the Water Fund – 2004 Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

39. Authorizing the City Manager to award a contract to the lowest bidder Rafter P. Transport of New Braunfels, Texas in the amount of \$61,250.00 for the hauling and disposal of water treatment plant sludge for the Jefferson Street Water Treatment Plant to the City Landfill. Funding is available in the Water Fund – Construction Division.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

40. Amend the contract to Hicks & Company, Austin, Texas for \$1,686.61 to include

additional costs for preparing the Supplemental Environmental Information Document deliverables for the Laredo Chacon Creek Wastewater Interceptor EID. Funding is available in the Sewer Fund-1998 A Bond Construction.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

41. Authorizing the City Manager to initiate the process of acquiring properties in the Southwest area of the City for a future convention center.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

XII. STAFF REPORTS

42. A. Report by Espey Consultants on the Zacate Creek sewer shed evaluation and recommendations for improvements.

Adrian Montemayor, Utilities Director, gave the following report:

Comprehensive Wastewater Collection System Evaluation For Zacate Creek Wastewater System

Focus of Evaluation: Reducing Potential for Sanitary Sewer Overflows

- Regulatory focus nationwide
- Changed definition to include SSOs whether they reach US waters or not
- Best defense is well operated/maintained system with adequate capacity

Laredo Self Reported Data Triggered TCEQ Investigation

No of SSO

2003 24

2004 64

2005 18

Laredo's Efforts have Served as Acceptable Response to TCEQ

- February 15, 2005 – TCEQ investigation of Zacate
- March 14, 2005 – TCEQ selects Laredo as potential candidate to participate in SSO Outreach

- April 12 – Notice of violation from TCEQ required 30 day submittal of corrective action by May 12, 2005
- May 12, 2005 – City of Laredo submitted plan of action
- May 26, 2005 – TCEQ comments, required additional information on O & M
- July 29, 2006 – City of Laredo received engineering proposals for Collection System Evaluation
- September 9, 2005 – City of Laredo retained services of ECI to perform evaluation of Zacate Creek WWTP collection system
- March 8, 2006 – City of Laredo recommended action plan to TCEQ
- March 20, 2006 – TCEQ approved recommended action plan

Specific TCEQ Requirements

- Submit Corrective plan to reduce SSOs within 7 – 10 year program
- Develop program to address operations and maintenance of system

Key – If Corrective plan is acceptable, City of Laredo will not be penalized for interim SSOs so long as the City delivers on commitments to improve collection system and its operation

Overview of Collection system Evaluation Study for Zacate Creek System

- Evaluation Process
- System Description
- Findings
- Alternative Analysis
- Recommendations

Classical Evaluation Process

System Data	Current Flows Build Hydraulic Model Capacity Assessment Evaluate Alternatives	Population Data
Input	Compliance Plan Long Term CIP Funding Requirements O & M Program	City Manager
Current Population Served	110,000	
Total Length of Pipe	260 mi	
Collector lines	200 mi	
Truck Lines	7 mi	
Interceptors	52 miles	
Number of Manholes	5287	
Lift stations	36	
Daily Waste flow in MGD	12.1	

Identification of Sewer Infrastructure

Utilized GIS Database
Utilized Actual Paper Plans
Tapped Experience in Utilities Department
Creates Baseline Asset Database

Key – Data Gathered and Organized in a Permanent Database on Which to Capture Capital, Operation, and Maintenance Improvements

Actual Wastewater flows Measurement

1. TCEQ limited window to Fall 2005
2. Established 45 day window (extended to 60 days) for 10 temporary flow meters, five rain gauges
3. When actual meter flows are matched to current population, future wastewater flows can be projected that match future population
4. Key- must obtain both wet and dry weather flow data

Actual October/November Rainfall Provided Limited Wet Weather Response in Collection System

Key-Sewer modeling usually required 2-3 Significant Storm Events

*Actual Chart can be seen at the City Secretary's Office

Observed Inflow During Flow Monitoring on Single Significant Event (October 14, 2005)

Key – While flow measurement was hampered by lack of rain, dramatic peak and recovery has preliminarily identified likely source of SSOs

Manhole GPS Survey Process

242 Manholes GPS surveyed Ground level and In-pipe
59 Manholes GPS surveyed Ground Level only due to flooding or corrosion Limited access
Obtained concurrent Manhole observation

Key – GPS provides elevations and slopes of pipe between manholes, logged for current and future use (never required to be done again)

2005 Logged Photos of Manhole Observations for Development of Action and Prioritization

Plum & San Francisco
Sanders & Reynolds
Gonzalez & Santa Ursula
W. Frost & Valencia
W. Ash & San Francisco

Lift Station Survey was performed given that large percentage have been cause of SSOs

There are 36 lift stations in the Zacate service area
Many stations have small pumps (3HP or less)
Calibrations were made at 13 lift stations with pumps 5HP or larger
Data on the mechanical, structural, electrical condition was also collected

Lift Station Findings

Recommendations		No of Lift Stations
Repair or replace pumps		7
Rehab valve vault		7
Clean valve vault		6
Recoat discharge piping		8
Repair or replace valves		5
Rehab wet well walls		2
Protective coating for wet well walls		7
Repair or replace wet well hatches		3
Clean wet well		2
Repair or replace fence	1	
Safety nets for hatches	12	
Repair or replace guide rails		3
Provide site water		12
Provide access road		9
Site maintenance necessary		3
Provide site lighting		0
Repair or replace control panel	1	
Repair or replace level floats		2

Profile View of Selected Segment in Zacate Model
*Model can be viewed at the City Secretary's Office

SSOs Dry weather modeling was performed to identify capacity restrictions or predicted

Utilized Dynamic Modeling for Laredo's Model of Entire Collection System
Can identify predicted flows in any pipe within model throughout city
Balances Diurnal flow patterns without stacking peak flows
Accurately identifies when flows surcharge and when SSOs are likely

Key – Dry weather surcharging indicates there is limited capacity for wet weather flows. No dry weather SSOs were evident in Laredo's Zacate Creek collection system

Wet Weather Modeling was Performed

Multiple SSOs predicted throughout system
Little change in future SSOs due to small increase in population

Criteria used accepted surcharging below 1 foot from surface

Key – Wet Weather SSOs predicted with small rainfall event suggests more impact with larger event

Alternatives to Reduce SSOs when Subjected to Observed Storm

Alternative A: Upsize lines to increase capacity

Alternative B: Reduce Excessive Inflow – Surface Water and/or Infiltration (Ground Water)

Alternative C: Construct Relief Line to Convey Upstream Flows

Descr	Timing	CIP Costs
Phase 1	2006-2009	\$17.29M
Phase 2	2010 – 2011	\$1.91 M
Phase 3	2020 – 2021	\$1.22 M
Phase 1	2006 – 2010	\$7.35 M
Phase 1	2006 – 2009	\$ 15.96M
Phase 2	2010 – 2011	\$5.47 M

Estimated Capital Costs for SSO Reduction

Cost of Alternative A	\$17.30 MM
Cost of Alternative B	\$ 7.35 MM
Cost of Alternative C	\$ 15.96 MM

Key – These alternatives are based on measured minor wet weather, still required to be redone to calibrate Model. Additional costs for implementing a O & M program for continuously improving system condition is common to all options.

Projected Design Storm Adequacy Applying 5 Year Design Storm to Current Calibrated Model

Alternative A: Upsized Lines to Handle Observed Storm

45.6 miles of lines running full or surcharged (78% of all trunk lines and interceptors)
204 Overflowing manholes
Total SSO volume of 5.36 MGD

Alternative B I/I Reduction

26.5 miles of lines running full or surcharged (47% of all trunk lines and interceptors)
9 Overflowing manholes
Total SSO volume of 0.04 MGD

Alternative C: Relief Line and Upsized Lines to handle observed Storm

44.6 miles of lines running full or surcharged (44.6 miles of lines running full or surcharged (76% of all trunk lines and interceptors)

159 Overflowing manholes

Total SSO Volume of 4.06 MGD

Expand Zacate Model Calibrations (additional flow and rain monitoring)

Initiate Manhole Inspection Program

Rehabilitate, Replace or Repair Manholes as needed

Initiate Smoke Testing Program

Perform Utilities Modifications as required

Complete Lift Station Rehabilitation Program

Build on an Asset Management Registry through GIS

Implement Inspection and Cleaning Programs for Pipes

Acknowledgements

ECl and its partners on this project thank the City of Laredo for this Opportunity

Partners include Carne Engineering and GSWW

ECl's Project Manager, Dr. Gerardo Ocanas

City of Laredo Staff was instrumental in the success of this project.

XIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

43. A. Request by Council Member Alfredo Agredano

1. Discussion with possible action to allocate \$50,000.00 from District I Capital Improvements Discretionary Fund for the construction of a jogging trail at the Century City Park.

Motion to allocate \$50,000 from District I Capital Improvements Discretionary Fund for the construction of a jogging trail at the Century City Park.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

B. Request by Council Member John C. Galo

1. Discussion with possible action regarding city policies and procedures for termination of City Employees.

Dan Migura, Administrative Services Director, said that it was important for the Council

to understand that all City employees are “employee at will” employees. An “employee at will” means that the City of Laredo does not have a contract with the any employee. The employee “at will” also means that an employee may leave employment with the City of Laredo with or without any notice. The City of Laredo may terminate an employee with or without any notice as long as the do not violate any federal or state laws. Currently the City’s goal and objective, because it is cost effective, is to assure that there is nothing that they can do to change the employee’s conduct or behavior or performance. He continued to say that even though the City of Laredo is an “at will” employee organization the city typically terminates for cause. The City of Laredo has a procedure set up with a grievance process which allows full termination for cause. The City of Laredo believes that each employee should be salvaged. In order to change the employee, the City of Laredo goes through a process of counseling sessions which is followed up with a verbal or a written reprimand. The next step discipline is time without pay. He advised Council that there are hundreds of cases where administration works with employees and went on to say that only a few cases will escalate to more stringent or termination. The Personal Action Committee reviews the findings that they are provided by personnel. The Personal Action Committee was established by the City Manager and consists of the City Attorney, Human Resources Director, and Department Director. The City Attorney reviews if the City of Laredo has grounds to terminate the individual that will not cause the City of Laredo any legal harm.

Cm. Galo expressed his concern in the entire process regarding city policies and procedures for termination. He was especially the undo duress that is placed on City employee that are terminated and are rehired after a complete investigation. He spoke against immediate termination to avoid situations where employees are fired and rehired.

Dan Migura said the City of Laredo may expose employees to risk and danger if some employees are not terminated because of special circumstances. He informed him that the procedure has been an effective policy noting that only 15% of terminations were involuntary.

Cm. Galo mentioned that there is a weakness in the system that should be reviewed involving the time issues from one process to the other. He noted that the process should be expedited in order to avoid a disruption in the city employee’s life.

Jaime Flores continued to discuss the issues

Larry Dowlina, City Manager, suggested shorting the time line on the process in the Ordinance where it gives ten (10) days and provide for a quicker responses all the way up the chain. He said that the City of Laredo has tried to be very conscientious of how they do the process and he thinks the discussion with the percentages of the number of people that have been terminated, at least involuntarily, addresses some of those concerns and give the Council comfort because we are very conscientious about that approach.

The City Attorney explained that the City Charter states that the City Manager hires and fires Department Directors and the Department Director's hire and fire everyone else. There is no restrictive in these actions or authority of upon there may not be delegated. The department director has the final authority on hiring and firing issues.

Cm. Galo requested all future delegations be made in writing.

Larry Dovalina assured the Council Member that all future delegations will be done in writing.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, mentioned that he would return to Council with recommendations that would lay out written guidelines regarding delegation by the department directors.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding the first month's water bill to reflect initial fess and deposit amounts associated with opening a water service account.

Adrian Montemayor, Utilities Director, asked Council for an opportunity to return at a future meeting after researching initial fees and deposit amounts associated with opening a water service account.

C. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion with possible action on creating a No Parking / Tow Away Zone at Spring Road and Shiloh Road.

Roberto Murillo, in order we need to create and ordinance for the next meeting.

Cm. Belmares said that installing signs is not effective and he preferred to create an ordinance that will allow the police department to tow away the vehicles so they will comply with the ordinance.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding prohibiting off premises solicitation for Nacionalización de Vehículos. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Juan Ramirez)

Jaime Flores, City Attorney advised that off premises solicitation is a violation in the Penal Code. The fact that individuals are weaving in and between traffic is a violation of obstructing traffic which is a class be misdemeanor.

Cm. Belmares asked the City Manager to instruct staff to enforce current laws that prohibit off premises solicitation for Nacionalizacion de Vehiculos.

3. Discussion with possible action on extending speed humps east of Livingston Drive to North Crest Drive on Northstar Drive.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, advised that the amount on extending speed humps east of Livingston Drive to North Crest Drive on Northstar Drive is \$4,500.

Motion to approve of using District VI Discretionary Funds extending speed humps east of Livingston Drive to North Crest Drive on Northstar Drive.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 6
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council hereby reserves the right to go into executive session at any time during this public meeting, if such is requested by the City Attorney or other legal counsel for the City, pursuant to his or her duty under Section 551.071(2) of the Government Code, to consult privately with his or her client on an item on the agenda, or on a matter arising out of such item.

44. Request for executive session pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.072

in regards to deliberation of the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, in the Manadas Creek area, East of Interstate Highway 35 for purposes of regional drainage and retainage basin, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect in the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person; and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 in regards to deliberation of the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, in the Manadas Creek area, East of Interstate Highway 35 for purposes of regional drainage and retainage basin, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect in the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person; and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

After Executive Session Mayor Pro Tempore announced that no formal action was taken.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to accept the owner's offer to sell to the City approximately 80 acres of land in the north Laredo at Manadas Creek for a consideration of not more than \$2,000,000 plus cost of survey and incidental closing costs.

Moved: Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

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

None.

45. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Council Member John C. Galo

1. Discussion with possible action regarding National Labor Relations Board communications concerning jurisdiction issues and related transportation matters.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, explained that he met with the First Transit Attorneys and he individuals from UTU. He added that two employees, one past and one current, filed some charges at the NLRB regarding several conditions. Mr. Cain, Assistant City Attorney, pointed out that NLRB did not have jurisdiction over UTU employees. UTU has brought this matter to the City of Laredo's attention.

Cm. Galo expressed his concerns for the Metro Buses that provide transportation to the citizens of Laredo. He said that he has noticed that many of the buses do not provide air-conditioning. He also noticed that many of the buses are in need of cosmetic work because they looked disgraceful. He suggested placing bus raps on several of the buses. He also asked the City Attorney to provide a copy of a report regarding the National Labor Relations Board.

Ronald Moore, Transit Manager, advised Council that the City of Laredo will be in receipt of several new buses in a couple of weeks. He gave a lengthy explanation with the current problems that the department faces in keeping the buses in working order.

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

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.
p.m.

Time: 9:15

Moved: Cm. Garcia
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 6
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

