

AMENDED AGENDA

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2002-R-01
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JANUARY 14, 2002
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Elizabeth G. Flores,
Alfredo Agredano,
Louis H. Bruni,
John C. Galo,

Mayor
Council Member, District I
Council Member, District II
Council Member, District

III

Johnny Amaya,
Eliseo Valdez, Jr.,
Joe A. Guerra,
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.,
Juan Ramirez,

Council Member, District IV
Mayor Pro Tempore, District V
Council Member, District VI
Council Member, District VII
Council Member, District

VIII

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,
Larry Dovalina,
Cynthia Collazo,
Jaime Flores,

City Secretary
City Manager
Assistant City Manager
City Attorney

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of November 19, 2001 and November 26, 2001.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez, Jr.

Second: Cm. Ramirez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Announcements

Mayor Flores announced a local contest that will determine the name for the Laredo hockey team. The winner will receive two lifetime tickets to the hockey games, \$500 in cash, and bragging rights.

Invitations

Recognitions

- a. Recognizing Laredo Police Chief Agustin Dovalina, III for being named Administrator of the Year by CLEAT (Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas) at the recent CLEAT Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mayor Flores and City Council recognized Police Chief Agustin Dovalina III, for being named Administrator of the Year by the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas in Corpus Christi at a recent seminar.

Toby Rodriguez, President of the Laredo Police Officer Association, introduced Ron De Lord, President of CLEAT.

Mr. Ron De Lord, President of CLEAT, applauded the Chief of Police for his commitment to excellence. He noted that the Laredo Police Department is ranked at the top of the state because they have reached their goals in improving the department. He said that the Chief is well deserved in receiving the award for his honesty, integrity and fair dealings over issues that are important to the Laredo Police Department.

Agustin Dovalina III, Chief of Police, noted that he was humbled and honored by the recognition that he received from CLEAT and the Council. He accepted the award on behalf of the men and women that he works for and with.

- b. Recognition of Irene Garcia, Oscar "O.J." Chavez, and Armando Gonzalez for representing Laredo at the National Black Belt World Games in Los Angeles, California on December 26, 2001 thru January 1, 2002.

Mayor Flores presented Irene Garcia, Oscar Chavez, and Armando Gonzalez a glass monument for representing Laredo at the National Black Belt World Games in Los Angeles, California.

Communiqués

Cm. Agredano wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Cm. Bruni wished all the citizens of Laredo a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Cm. Galo wished the citizens of Laredo happy holidays.

Cm. Amaya noted that he is ready to work diligently with the Mayor and City Council for the community in the coming year.

Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez wished his constituents a Happy New Year and asked everybody to keep a sense of patriotism alive and to pray for our nation.

Cm. Guerra wished everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. He promised his constituents that he would do his best to complete the projects that are still pending before his term ends this year.

Cm. J. Valdez wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Cm. J. Ramirez wished everyone a Happy New Year. He reminded individuals that are 18 years of age to register so they can vote in the upcoming elections.

Mayor Flores asked Laredoans to keep a light on during the year to honor the lives that were lost and the lives that were saved on September 11, 2001. She read the following statement:

"We asked God to grant us patience and God said "no" - patience is a bi-product of tribulations... it is not granted... it is earned. We asked God to give us happiness and God said "no"... I give you blessings.... and happiness is up to you. We asked God to spare us pain and God said "no"... suffering draws you apart from the worldly cares and brings you closer to me. We asked God to make our spirit grow and God said "no"..... you must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful. We asked for all things that we might enjoy life and God said "no". I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things. We asked God to help us love others as much as God loves us and God said finally.... you got the idea. This year let us stop telling God how big our storm is...instead let us tell our storm how big our God is. Let's work together so that we can stay together and be a better city."

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

a. Appointment by Council Member John C. Galo of Francisco Canseco to the City Charter Revision Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

b. Appointment by Council Member Johnny Amaya of Javier Martinez to the City Charter

Revision Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

c. Appointment by Mayor Pro-Tempore Eliseo Valdez of Susan Foster to the City Charter

Revision Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

d. Appointment by Council Member Jose A. Valdez of Maria de la Luz Flores to the City

Charter Revision Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Joe A. Guerra left at 6:30 p.m.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting a grant awarded by the University

of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for the South Texas/Border Region Health Professional Education Initiative for Public Library health related materials and amending the City of Laredo FY 2001-2002 Annual Budget in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

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. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2001-2002

Annual Budget to appropriate \$80,000.00 in the Friends of the Library Fund.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

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. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting a direct aid grant from the Texas

State Library--Lone Star Libraries Program and amending the City of Laredo FY 2001-2002 Annual Budget in the amount of \$22,131.00.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. J. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. J. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

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

City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 9 and 11, Block 654, Eastern Division, located at 1119 Travis St., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Vidal Palacios, neighbor to applicant, mentioned that he is not against the zone change but he is opposed to selling flower off the street.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Amaya

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo 2001-2002 annual budget by appropriating \$612,860.00 from the Bridge System Construction fund balance into the Toll Plaza Improvement Account. Funding will be used for Bridge I rehabilitation of the bridge deck and removal of submerged concrete components in the river near Bridge I.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance establishing a payment plan for cemetery

burial plots and services. Payment plan sets penalty and finance charges assessed on Cemetery Accounts Receivables of 2% for those accounts not liquidated after 90 days and a finance interest rate of 8% per year; providing for effective date and publication.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. J. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY 2001-2002

annual budget for the Hazmat Fund to appropriate \$150,000.00 from the fund balance to pay a portion of the remodeling cost for the new Environmental Services Department office at 619 Reynolds Street.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. J. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

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

appropriate the FY 2001-2002 annual budget in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Texas Department of Health Local Projects Grant. The grant award of \$30,000.00

will be assigned toward the purchase of an ambulance for the Laredo Fire Department.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

9. A. Request by Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores

1. Inform members of the City Council and community about information presented in letter from Mayor Ross C. Anderson of Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Mayor read the following letter:

“Dear Mayor Flores:

I write to inform you of an unfortunate situation that has arisen at Salt Lake City International Airport and to provide you with information that may assist you in preventing similar problems at your own airport facilities.

Paul Warner, the US attorney for Utah, informed me recently that an investigation had disclosed that certain individuals who had access to restricted areas of Salt Lake City International Airport had misrepresented their backgrounds. I agreed with him that the situation needed to be corrected. We must have confidence that we know the background of every worker in these secure areas, and we cannot permit people to work in a compromising position that might be exploited by terrorists.

The approach that federal and state law enforcement agencies took to solve the problem at our airport was to embark upon a clandestine (secret even to me), seven-week investigation, which started in mid-October. The inquiry disclosed that 67 individuals with access to secure areas had provided false

background information to their employers. Sixty-one of these employees were migrant workers who had falsified social security numbers.

At the end of the investigation, state and federal officers arrested and imprisoned dozens of workers. These arrests left many families in turmoil, with children waiting at home for their parents to return from work. After the families figured out what was happening, an even greater reality hit home: those arrested faced criminal prosecution and deportation. All this left many families wondering why they were being treated like terrorists and what they would do to make ends meet. There is no evidence that any of those arrested planned any terrorist activity, and most were just trying to support their families by working maintenance and food-service jobs at the airport.

The events of September 11th have taught us to expect a new level of vigilance from our government regarding security issues. Nowhere is this watchfulness more needed than at our nation's airports, where we should expect swift action when security breaches are uncovered. I wholeheartedly concur with the need to tighten all aspects of security at our nation's airports, including the need to screen carefully all workers who have access to restricted areas. Those migrant workers who falsified social security numbers, however, likely had no idea they were doing anything that would subject them to prosecution or deportation. They were simply doing what thousands of other economic migrants are doing throughout the state, and what millions are doing throughout the nation. Most of them were working at low-paying food service and janitorial jobs. Unfortunately, their employers placed them in secured areas of the airport.

Fundamentally, our nation's hypocritical policies toward migrant workers are at fault for this situation. The federal government, including U. S. Attorneys and the INS, give a wink and a nod to million of undocumented foreign workers, who often work in low-paying food service and labor jobs. As with immigrant workers throughout our nation's history, these workers contribute significantly (more than \$30 billion) to the US economy each year, despite low wages and minimal benefits. Many segments of our economy, including the hospitality industry (hotels and fast-food chains in particular) and agriculture, would be crippled without the labor provided by immigrant workers.

The gap between the law (undocumented workers are "illegal" and subject to deportation) and common practice (allowing economic migrants to work where we need them, even after using false social security numbers) is obvious to any informed observer. Facing this reality, even President Bush has considered granting a general amnesty to Mexican workers in the U. S.

Given these circumstances, a more reasonable, compassionate approach should have been pursued with Salt Lake City's airport workers. In October, before incurring the cost and delay of a massive investigation, we could have informed workers with questionable immigration statuses that they should immediately leave restricted areas and quit their jobs or face

prosecution. This would have remedied the security issue seven weeks faster than "Operation Safe Travel," while avoiding the devastating human costs of the arrests and prosecutions. Then, we could have followed up with an investigation to confirm the backgrounds of remaining workers in secure areas, ensuring 100% compliance.

I understand that US Attorney's across the nation may be pursuing similar actions. I implore you and other mayors to address this issue at your airport facilities immediately and to handle the situation in a humane, compassionate manner. If you intervene now by asking any airport workers who might have falsified their applications to immediately leave secured areas and voluntarily relinquish their jobs, you will be able to increase security at your airport quickly and inexpensively, without waiting for the well-publicized arrests that will embarrass your airport and city officials, and the federal prosecutions and deportations that will cause sever disruptions in the lives of migrant workers and their families.

We can work together to solve the problems facing our country and our communities, and make this a nation that treasures diversity, freedom, and compassion for all. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter. I would be glad to assist you in preventing what happened in Salt Lake City from taking place at your airport.

Sincerely,

*Ross C. Anderson
Mayor"*

2. Discussion with possible action regarding letter to Texas Department of Transportation from the City of Laredo concerning proposed Minute Order 108544 Limiting Frontage Roads.

Keith Selman, City Planner, informed City Council that the Minute Order would provide a mechanism where not only frontage roads will be constructed with new freeway systems but access would be controlled as well. He said it is a double hit on access on all the freeway systems and along the limited access systems. He said it provides a mechanism for something that is called a backage road. He noted that a backage road is a road that would be offset from the main lanes, maybe several hundred feet yet parallel to the freeway system, serving basically as an access road but recessed much further back. He said there are mechanisms under the provisions where there are exceptions to improve safety, efficiency, resolve land locks, and improve circulation on local streets. He also said the Commission may improve frontage road and construction when they determine that such construction is in the best interest of the state. He stressed that there are arguments on both sides of the table. Finally, he

noted that there are economic inequalities. He spoke in opposition to the Minute Order 108544 Limiting Frontage Roads.

Motion to draft a resolution to TxDOT on the proposed minute order 108544 Limiting Frontage Roads.

Moved: Cm. J. Valdez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

B. Request by Council Member Alfredo Agredano

1. Discussion with possible action on creation of Fourth Fire District. (co-sponsored by Council Member Louis H. Bruni)

Rudy Ochoa, President of the Laredo Firefighters Association, he read the following statement:

"On October 11, 2001 the General President Harold A. Schaitberger of the International Association of Firefighters issued a report on the staffing needs of local Fire Departments. In his report he states: "While we all tend to look toward the military in time of war, the reality is that in this war on terrorism, it is firefighters who will be our first line of defense." Adequate staffing is important for public safety as well as for the safety of firefighters performing that mission. The IAFF has long recognized that fire ground safety is inextricably linked to adequate staffing.

Late last year, Captain Jay Jahnke of the Houston Fire Department lost his life while helping rescue a resident in a fire. The resident was also killed in the fire. During Jahnke's funeral service, the wife of the fallen firefighter, Dawn Jahnke, expressed how her husband felt about the staffing issue that is so critical to firefighters and citizen's safety. "I stand before you in my darkest moment and my husband's finest hour," said Jahnke. "We sat last week and I asked Jay how they could continue to allow the department to ride short. His response was simple. Heck, I don't know. I guess someone's going to have to die before they get it."

Our City is the fastest growing city in Texas and the second fastest in the nation. It is important to realize that a supervisor plays a very important part in safety at the fire scene for both firefighters and citizens alike. Waiting for a Fire Station in Celito Lindo to be built does nothing to help in the response time for a District Chief to South Laredo for our safety and that of our citizens in that area.

We sent a letter asking that you support the implementation of the Fourth Fire District by January 1 of 2002. That date has come and gone without the safety issue being resolved. I was asked recently why it was important that this issue be solved as soon as possible. The answer is

simple, to prevent accidents like the one this past year in Houston. We cannot wait for something to happen in order to act on it. We respectfully request that the Fourth Fire District be implemented by February 1, 2002 before any harm comes to one of our citizens or one of our Fire Fighters.

*Sincerely
Jose "Rudy" Ochoa
President Local 1390"*

Homero Mojica, Firefighter and member of the Association, read the following statement:

"We, the Association, come before you to ask for your assistance in implementing the Fourth Fire District. Back in December 3, 2001, this Council heard a presentation given by Chief Sosa in regards to a Fourth Fire District. It seemed that the Council agreed that a Fourth Fire District was needed and that the Fourth Fire District would be implemented in the fiscal year of 2002 and 2003. We respectfully ask that the Council implement the 4th Fire District on February 2, 2002. The reason for this request simply is safety. Safety for the citizens of Laredo and the Firefighters. We know that the average response time for South Laredo is nine minutes. The Laredo Fire Department and City of Laredo have strived to have a response time of approximately five minutes. During the Council meeting on December 3, Councilman Agredano asked what the response time was with the District Chief covering for the District Chief from central (whose responsibility is South Laredo). The answer given was about 12 to 15 minutes. This is way over the response time goal that the Fire Department has. In order to carry out our mission, we must consider fire ground safety to that end. The Laredo Fire Department uses two incident management models which are the Incident Command System and the FICA Man System. The NFPA whose standards govern the fire service require that the Fire Department follow the Incident Command System. The Fire Ground Model is a system that tries to standardize approaches to fire ground tactics. Both systems require that only one person be in charge at all fires. This is for safety reasons. In both of these the District Chief is the Incident Commander. Both systems have flexibility. They allow for the first arriving until the District Chief arrives. We ask you if the response time acceptable to you? We have always counted on you when it comes to issues receiving concerning Fire Fighters safety and we are asking for your support again by implementing the 4th Fire District on February 4, 2002."

Cm. Agredano expressed his concern about the safety for the Fire Fighters and the public in his district.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, noted that staff sent a letter to the Fire Association committing to funding the 4th Fire District within the 2002-2003

Budget. He also expressed that he would expedite the commitment if there were a safety issue.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, read excerpts from the Collective Bargaining Agreement, which states that the Association recognized that the City has sole and exclusive rights to exercise all rights and functions of management. He said the President and his representatives have agreed with the contract. He also pointed out that the agreements determine the methods, means, and personnel in which operations are to be carried out. Finally, he mentioned the City Charter, which stated that the responsibility of management lies on the City Manager and City Council, not the department head.

Fire Chief Sosa gave the following report:

Three (3) District Chief's per Shift

Thirteen (13) Fire Stations supervised by Sixteen (16) Suppression Captains:

- Four (4) Man Fire Unites (includes airport ARFF rescue vehicle)
- Two (2) EMS Supervisors/Safety Officers
- Seven (7) EMS (Ambulance) Unites: Two (2) Man Ambulance Units
- Two (2) Additional Ambulance Unites & One (1) Aerial Truck Unit on line by May 2003

Proposed Five Year Plan

Four District Chief's per Shift

Sixteen Fire Stations Supervised by twenty-one suppression Captains:

- four man
- fire unites
- Four EMS Supervisors/Safety Officer
- Eleven EMS Units: Two Man Ambulance Units

Fire Station Locations

Station # 1 Guadalupe	Station # 2 Zacatecas	Station # 3 San Bernardo	Station # 4 Houston
Station # 5 Bartlett	Station # 6 Maher	Station # 7 Calton	Station # 8 Del Mar
Station # 9 Mines Road	Station # 10 McPherson	Station # 11 Hwy. 359	Station # 12 TAMIU
Station # 13 TRN Field	Station # 14 Cielito Lindo	Station # 15 Hwy. 59	Station #16 IH-35

* New Proposed Fire Stations

Span of Control

National Standards recommend a span of Control from five (5) to seven (7) units per commanding officer

Currently we comply with the recommended and accepted number of supervisory personnel

My recommendation is to implement the fourth fire district upon reaching the completion of fire station sixteen with a third and fourth EMS supervisor/safety officer online

Command and Control

Life Safety Issue vs. Life & Safety of F. F.

First arriving unit initiates command.

1. Three modes available to first arriving unit command officer:
 - a. Nothing showing mode-generally requiring investigation by the first arriving engine. (a. Mobile Command)
 - b. Fast Attack - initial size up is followed with attack plan. Requires immediate action to stabilize.
 - c. Command Mode - because of the size of the fire, the company officer will initially assume a stationary exterior command position and remain there until relieved of command.
3. Staffing of four men on a particular unit (pumper) at all times.
4. Repositioning of EMS supervisor to Station No. 2

EMS supervisor serves two roles.

- A. Supervises EMS personnel on medical calls
- B. Assigned as the designated safety officer at all major incidents; Belt Alarms, Hazmat Calls, etc. which are the same types of incidents a District Chief responds and assumes command of.

Needs and Priorities

- I. The development of three new programs within a year:
 1. Two Ambulance Programs - Unit 9109 to be stationed at Station # 9 and Unit 9112 to be stationed at Station # 12.
 2. An Aerial Truck Program - Unit 4003 at Station # 12.

II. Inspection fee program will be initiated in May

- 1.) Manpower
- 2.) Equipment
- 3.) Vehicles

III. Training facility will reach completion in June

- 1.) Manpower
- 2.) Equipment
- 3.) Vehicles
- 4.) Operational Expenses

Fire Station # 14 South Laredo Area Ceilito Lindo

- IV. 1.) Acquisition of Property
2.) Construction of Fire Station
3.) Purchase of Emergency Equipment: Pumper, Aerial Truck and Ambulance
4.) Manpower
5.) Operational Expenses

Actual Cost of Reclassification

* Policy dictates that we move up personnel to fill a vacancy or position with the next lowest rank due to promotions, extended sick leave, injury leave or annual leave.

* Due to our current manpower the overtime budget would be impacted

Manpower

Reclassification of personnel would create a manpower shortage and further deplete our suppression line to include EMS personnel.

Our authorized strength is 278, while in essence our manpower only shows 271 uniformed personnel.

The impact of hiring personnel on an overtime basis would further negatively affect the department's overtime budget. We are currently in our second quarter of operation and we are up to 47% of our overtime budget.

The fire department is in the process of hiring personnel. There are three new programs coming online with the addition of an aerial truck and two ambulances. There are only 26 firefighters in our budget. We are short 7 positions due to retirements and promotions.

Cm. Agredano asked Chief Sosa to get meet with the Union to assure them the City has proper coverage for Station # 2.

Mayor Flores asked the City Attorney to meet with the Union representative to discuss any discrepancies.

2. Status report on Century City median.

Motion to cancel this item.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Moved: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council Member Louis H. Bruni

1. Status report on the lack of water and wastewater infrastructure at Casa Verde Acres.

Beto Ramirez, Utilities Interim Director, said the project is not included in the Capital Improvement Plan; however, staff is working diligently to locate funding for the project. He noted that he will meet with the City Manager to discuss several options and will report back to Council.

Cm. Bruni stated he was under the impression that the funds were earmarked for the project. He stressed the desire for the project to be complete.

Mayor Flores asked staff to report back to Council on the bond reserves or other appropriate funding options.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, reminded Council that once the water and sewer

lines are in front of the homes, the owner will be obligated to connect to

the

lines at their own expense.

2. Status report on empty lot in Los Ebanos Subdivision.

Benny Salinas, Building Director, reported that this individual has been cited and he has gone to Municipal Court.

Cm. Bruni asked the Health Department to inspect the property for health issues.

Cynthia Collazo, Assistant City Manager, stated that the Fire Department and the Health Department would inspect the property. She said that if the

property poses to be a safety or health hazard the City will force clean the property.

D. Request by Council Member John C. Galo

1. Discussion with possible action regarding pigeon problem at the 1400 Block of Guadalupe.

Dr. Hector Gonzalez, Health Director, noted that staff did inspect the property and gave the property owner several recommendations to rid the area of pigeons. He noted that the owner agreed to act on the problem as soon as possible.

2. Requesting a traffic study on the signalization at the intersections of Market and Seymour and Market and Stone.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that they have already initiated a count for those two intersections. He said that he needs to get the action data and the study will be complete in five weeks.

Cm. Joe A. Guerra returned to the meeting at this time, 7:55 p.m.

3. Status report on Chacon Creek Project Clean-Up and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Jogging and Bike Trail.

Horacio De Leon, Parks Director, reported that he submitted a report to Council that included pictures of the Chacon Creek Project Clean-Up. He said that staff is working with Community Development with regards to the Chacon Hike and Bike Trail. He noted that he submitted a chronology on all the different dates.

Riazul Mia, Environmental Director, reported that the City has applied for grants to EPA in the amount of \$300,000 to assist with the jogging trails and clean up. He noted that staff would know the answer by the end of the month.

Erasmus Villarreal, Community Development, noted that the City has acquired property in that area. He said that staff has been working with an engineering firm to survey all of the area. He will report to Council at a later date.

E. Request by Council Member Johnny Amaya

1. Discussion with possible action regarding sidewalk construction projects for District IV.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported that he submitted a short list of the projects that have been completed in District IV. He noted that the latest

project is 35 blocks in District IV and it is 40% complete. He said that they are looking for funding to place sidewalks on five blocks of Plum and Meadow to McClelland.

Motion to complete five blocks of Plum, Meadow to McClelland. The funds will be taken from the discretionary fund of Cm. Amaya.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

F. Request by Council Member Jose A. Valdez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action on the status of CPL Road.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, reported that staff has had several discussions with Crane Engineering and made presentations to Council related to the CPL road. The City has three different alternatives that have been illustrated to the Councilman. Staff is not satisfied with those particular alternatives because there is a conflict with the proposed road and with the proposed overpass. He said that he met with the County Judge, Commissioners, and with TxDOT representatives about the status of the Mines Road overpass, and he indicated to them that the City has received an appropriation with a direct designation under the Transportation Appropriations Bill of \$3.2 million. There is a quarter of a million dollars of which the city is proposing to provide as a long term relief, but the project would have to take a different course to make sure that it is viable and will parallel CPL roadway with Mines Road 1472. The District Planner told us that the guidelines state that the City needs to encumber or spend the money by September 2002. He also stated that the Mayor would get clarification about the funds when she goes to Washington. She will ask if the funds will go to TxDOT or the City. If the funds are awarded to the City we will expedite the project and make sure that the CPL roadway is constructed prior to any construction beginning on the overpass because the indications and the modeling shows there will be a major disruption to the traffic area at that area.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reiterated the fact that the City has three different alternatives for the CPL Roadway. He said that staff has extensive design and estimates for all alternatives.

2. Discussion with possible action on the widening and reconstruction of Markley Street.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, stated that the problem with widening and reconstruction is that the City has only 20 feet of right-of-way. He noted that the street is very old and the railroad tracks are very high. He added that several years back Union Pacific built up the tracks and made it worse because of a spur that is no longer being used. He said that he would contact Union Pacific and ask them to remove the spur.

3. Discussion with possible action to provide speed humps on Center Road.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, asked the Council Member for the name of the contact person. He added that staff would provide the person with the information they need to begin the process of installing speed humps on Center Road.

4. Discussion with possible action on installing flashing beacons on Lafayette Overpass and Rancho Viejo Drive.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, stated that staff has already initiated installing flashing beacons on the Lafayette Overpass and Rancho Viejo Drive and it will be complete in two weeks.

G. Request by Council Member Juan Ramirez

1. Discussion with possible action regarding burned-out street lights in downtown area.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, informed Council that staff identified 22 lights that need repair. He noted that they have replaced 18, and the other four will be repaired when the parts arrive.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding residential parking permits.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, informed Council that staff is drafting an ordinance regarding residential parking permits. He noted that the details need to be specific and the residents must agree. He said that he would have a meeting with other departments because enforcement is an issue. He added that if a resident is handicapped and needs special assistance, the City would work with the individual.

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

10. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with the Washington's Birthday Celebration Association, Inc., for approximately fifteen (15) acres of concrete ramp located on the southwest cargo ramp of the Air Operations Area of the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for one (1) day on February 24, 2002. City Council finds and declares that a valid public purpose would be served in setting the rental fee at \$1.00 plus reimbursement for actual expenses that may

be incurred by the Airport Fund for security and clean-up operations during the air show event; providing for an effective date.

The Mayor stated that she would cancel the reimbursement for actual expenses and use her funds to pay for the airport security and clean up operations so that it continues to be a free event for the people of Laredo and surrounding areas.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with San Antonio MTA, L.P., d/b/a

Verizon Wireless for ground space at the McPherson Water Tower located at 8711 McPherson, Laredo, Webb County, Texas and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" of lease agreement to construct on such premises a 120 ft. monopole and related equipment building for use with its communications business. Term of the lease is for five (5) years commencing January 28, 2002 and ending January 27, 2007 with four (4) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual base rent shall be \$8,400.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be increased by four percent (4%) on each anniversary of the commencement date; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

12. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey

fee simple title to the "Surface Only", at its adjusted market value of \$4,005.00 for certain property described as a 18,520 sq. ft. more or less, tract of land out of the former section of the 600 Block of Jarvis Avenue between Cleveland Street and the south property line of Block 1292-A, Eastern Division to Jesse J. Martinez, Hector F. Martinez and Jorge R. Martinez provided that the City of Laredo retains a 15-foot wide utility easement; said tract being situated in the Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, being described in Exhibit "A" and providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Jam for George, a non-profit

organization, for the El Metro Park & Ride located at 4600 Daugherty for the purpose of holding a concert. The lease term is for one day beginning Friday, February 15, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight. Rental fee shall be \$1.00.

The Mayor amended the Ordinance Introduction as follows: Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Laredo Little Theater, a non-profit organization, for the El Metro Park & Ride located at 4600 Daugherty for the purpose of holding a concert, a Jam for George. The lease term is for one day beginning on Thursday, February 14th at 8 a.m. until Friday, February 15th 2002 until 3 a.m. The rental fee shall be \$1.00.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

X. FINAL READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Internet Availability: www.ci.laredo.tx.us

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinance # 2002-O-001, # 2002-O-002, # 2002-O-003, # 2002-O-204, # 2002-O-005, 2002-O-006, # 2002-O-007, # 2002-O-008, # 2002-O-009, ;# 2002-O-010, # 2002-O-011 and #2002-O-012.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. 2002-O-001 Amending the City of Laredo's FY 2001-2002 Annual Budget in the Capital Improvements Fund by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$80,000.00, which are being donated by Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust and Killam Oil Co., Ltd. in order to fund the installation and activation of a traffic signal on Loop 20 at the northern access for the proposed Wal-Mart Super Center to be located at the intersection of Loop 20 and Spur 400, and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget. (As Amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-001.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-002 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant and amend the City of

Laredo FY 2001-2002 annual budget in the amount of \$111,336.00 from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for the Children's Health Insurance Outreach Project (CHIP) of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning February 1, 2002 through August 31, 2003.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-002.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-003 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a small engine repair business on Lot 7, Block 1800, Eastern Division, located at 2920 Musser St.; providing for publication and effective date. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-003.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-004 Amending Ordinance No. 2000-O-306 authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for mini-storage warehouses on Lots 7, 8, 9, and 10 Block 431, Eastern Division, located at 202 W. Saunders St. such that the permit includes a revised site plan; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-004.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-005 Authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit and Drilling Permit to

Ocean Energy, Inc. for well re-entry and repairs which do not involve deepening or conversion on Lots 119 through 127, Block 4, Colonia Los Angeles Subdivision, Unit III, located at the 4500 Block of La Joya Lane, known as L.A. Wright-Moon "A" #4 Well; providing for publication and effective date. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-005.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-006 Authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit to Libcon, Inc. for an

above ground fuel storage tank on Lot 5, Block 10, Interamerica Distribution Park, Phase 5, located at 8016 Killam Industrial Blvd.; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-001.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-007 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo authorizing

the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a used car lot on Lot 5, Block 296, Eastern Division, located at 2219 McDonnell Ave; providing for publication and effective date. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-007.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2002-O-008 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a meat market on Lot 2 and the South 1/3 or 23.14 feet of Lot 4, Block 1056, Western Division, located at 4201 Flores Ave.; providing for publication and effective date. (As amended)

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-001.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2002-O-009 Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey title to the State of Texas, for the "Surface Only" of two parcels of land acquired in fee simple title, as right-of-way for the Milo Interchange Project, as per Texas Transportation Commission Minute Order No. 107439 and Resolution No. 2001-R-077, as approved by the Laredo City Council; said land parcels being delineated on attached Exhibits "A" & "B", and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-009.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2002-O-010 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with San Antonio MTA,

L.P., d/b/a Verizon Wireless for space at the Airport Water Tower located at 4903 Maher, Laredo, Webb County, Texas and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" of lease agreement for the installation and operation of certain antennae facilities for use with its communications business and a parcel of land within the owned premises for the location of an equipment building and related facilities associated with the antennae facilities. Term of the lease is

ten (10) years commencing January 7, 2002 and ending January 6, 2012 with three (3) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual base rent shall be \$8,400.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be increased by four percent (4%) on each anniversary of the commencement date; providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-010.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-011 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with San Antonio MTA,

L.P. d/b/a Verizon Wireless for ground space at the Milmo Booster Station located at the corner of San Luis and Milmo, Laredo, Webb County, Texas and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" of lease agreement to construct on such premises a 150 ft. high self-supporting tower and related equipment building for use with its communications business. Term of the lease is five (5) years commencing January 7, 2002 and ending January 6, 2007 with four (4) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual base rent shall be \$8,400.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be increased by four percent (4%) on each anniversary of the commencement date; providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-011.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2002-O-012 Amending Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Laredo, Texas

to include Article IV to establish fees for fire inspection services and life safety inspections, within the corporate limits of the City of Laredo, Texas.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2002-O-012.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. RESOLUTIONS

15. 2002-R-001 Declaring the public necessity to acquire the "Surface Only" of two

parcels of land for the San Francisco Javier River Road Extension Project. Said two parcels being Lot 10, Block 610 and all of Block 680, save and except the mid-fifty feet on Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5, Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; being delineated on attached copy of City Plat; and authorizing staff to negotiate with the owners for the acquisition of said parcels by purchase at a market value to be established by a State Certified Real Estate Appraiser; and further authorizing the City Attorney to initiate condemnation proceedings to acquire said parcels if staff is unable to acquire through negotiations due to inability to agree to a purchase price, conflict of ownership, owner refusal to sell, and/or inability to locate a listed owner.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-001.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. 2002-R-002 Declaring the public necessity to acquire the "Surface Only" of nineteen

parcels of land for the Tinaja/Chacon Creek Pilot Channel Improvements Project, Phase II. Said parcels being: Parcel 1- Parts of Lots 1, 2, 3, and all of Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12, Block 1004, Parcel 2- Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12, Block 1072, Parcel 3- Parts of Lots 5 & 6, Block 1071, Parcel 4- Parts of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12, Block 1165, Parcel 5- Part of Lot 4, Block 1166, Parcel 6- Part of Lot 5, Block 1166, Parcel 7- Parts of Lots 6 & 7, Block 1166, Parcel 8- Lots 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12, Block 1197, Parcel 9- The S. 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 1197, Parcel 10, Part of Lot 3, Block 1197, Parcel 11- Lot 11, Block 1297, Parcel 12 - Lot 12, Block 1297, Parcel 13- Parts of Lots 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, & 11, and all of Lots 3, 4, 9, & 10, Block 1298, Parcel 14 - Lot 6, Block 1299, Parcel 15 - Part of Lot 12, Block 1326, Parcel 16 - Lot 1, Block 1325, Parcel 17 - Lot 2 & the West 23' of the South 98.8' of Lot 3, Block 1325, Parcel 18 - Part of Lot 10, Block 1325, and Parcel 19 - Part of Lot 11, Block 1325, all blocks being situated in the Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; being delineated on attached copies of Engineer's Surveys; and authorizing staff to negotiate with the owners for the acquisition of said parcels by purchase at a market value to be established by a State Certified Real Estate Appraiser; and further authorizing the City Attorney to initiate condemnation proceedings to acquire those parcels that staff is unable to acquire through negotiations due to inability to agree to a purchase price, conflict of ownership, owner refusal to sell, and/or inability to locate a listed owner.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-002

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. 2002-R-003 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute all documentation

from the Texas Department of Health Local Projects Grant. The grant award of \$30,000.00 will be assigned toward the purchase of ambulances for the Laredo Fire Department.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-003

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. 2002-R-004 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a Domestic Preparedness Equipment Grant in the amount of \$156,000.00 from the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the purpose of buying equipment for the Laredo Fire Department.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-004

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. 2002-R-005 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for \$1,396,919.00 to fund the Laredo Narcotics Task Force. Criminal Justice Division will grant \$1,047,690.00 and the City of Laredo and participating agencies will match at total of \$349,229.00 for a grant in the amount of \$1,396,919.00. This funding will be used to pay salaries, direct operating expenses, and the purchase of equipment from June 1, 2002 through May 31, 2003.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-005 as amended/corrected. The amount should read \$1,412,546.99 to form the Laredo Narcotics Task Force Criminal Justice Division and will grant \$1,059,410.24 and the City of Laredo and participating agencies will match at a total of \$353,136.75 for a grant in the amount of \$1,412,546.99. This funding will be used to pay salaries, direct operating expenses, and the purchase of equipment from June 1, 2002 through May 31, 2003.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. 2002-R-006 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Office

of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division in the amount of \$80,000.00 with the City designating approximately \$53,149.00 in matching funds for a total of \$133,149.00 for funding a Domestic Violence Program under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) for the period of June 1, 2002 through May 31, 2003.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2002-R-006

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. MOTIONS

21. Consideration to award an annual maintenance contract to Epixtech Co. for library

automation, network services, software, Vmark licenses and equipment for the Library's Dynix(tm) network in the amount of \$65,813.20. Funding is available in the Library Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to award contract number FY 02-050 to the Low Bidder Municipal Pipe

and Fabricating of Mission, Texas in the estimated amount of \$340,599.00 for the purchase of PVC pipe for the Utilities Department. These materials are purchased on an as needed basis for construction and repair projects. Funding is available in the Utilities Department-Water Distribution Division budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration to award a contract to the Sole Bidder, Metro-Quip, Inc. from Austin,

Texas in the amount of \$59,389.00 for the purchase of an auger grinder system for the Zacate Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. A JWC Auger, framework and controls will be installed on an existing channel grinder. Funding is available in the Utilities-Sewer Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration to authorize the purchase of thirty-two (32) mobile radios for the Police

Department from Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc. of San Antonio, Texas through the State of Texas-Qualified Information Systems Vendor (QISV) Program. The amount of purchase is \$96,944.00. Delivery of these radios is expected within forty-five (45) days. These radios will be installed in the new sedans recently ordered for the Police Department. Funding is available in the Police Department's Capital Outlay budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to award contract number FY 02-041 to the Sole Bidder, C.W. Tenorio

Security of Laredo, Texas in the annual amount of \$212,355.00 for providing security guard services. The contract will be for a period of two years. Security guard service is requested for the Bridge System, Civic Center, City Hall, Health Department, Veteran's Field, and the Solid Waste Facility. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Refund of property tax to the following taxpayers and companies:

a. Refund in the amount of \$595.45 payable to Albert Pena. The Webb County

Appraisal District changed the value, certified by the Appraisal Review Board. This mobile home did not exist on the first of the year. Account #812-03000-522, Supplement #5, Cause #2001-1322, 1321, 1320.

b. Refund in the amount of \$909.39 payable to AFJ Forwarding, Inc. There was a

double-payment made on this account for the 1999 taxes. The taxpayer is requesting refund on the overpayment. Taxpayer is providing copy of checks as proof of payment.

c. Refund in the amount of \$661.77 payable to Mortgage Service Center. The

Mortgage Service Center paid on the wrong account and is requesting a refund on the erroneous payment. MSC was responsible for payment on account #985-60006-500, which has since been paid. Proof of payment is provided.

d. Refund in the amount of \$66,684.39 payable to Krups North America, Inc. Part of the inventory qualifies for Federal Exemption as per the Webb County Appraisal Review Board.

e. Refund in the amount of \$943.45 payable to NBC Bank of Laredo due to a change of value certified by the Webb County Appraisal Review Board. Supplement 4 Cause #1630.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to authorize Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$44,618.47 to Lambda

Construction Company for the South Laredo Belt Filter Press Construction Project to pay for electrical improvements to include the reversing of the screw conveyor and providing for the new motor control center to accommodate a 15 horse power pump. Funding is available in the Utilities-Sewer Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Consideration to award a construction contract to the Lowest Bidder MTZ Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for the widening of Del Mar Blvd. from Fenwick Drive to McPherson Road in the bid amount of \$950,549.39. Funding is available in the 1998 CO Issue Del Mar Widening-Fenwick-McPherson.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with URS Greiner Woodward Clyde for professional services to prepare an Airport Master Plan and FAR Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Study Update for the Laredo International Airport

in the amount not to exceed \$500,000.00. The Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Grant No. 3-48-0136-29 will fund ninety (90) percent of the cost. The ten (10) percent local match is available in the Airport Land Acquisition Reimbursement Account. The grant provides \$300,000.00 for the Airport Master Plan and \$200,000.00 for the FAR Part 150 Noise Study Update.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to award annual service contract number FY 02-053 to the Low Bidder,

Star Operations, Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for the furnishing of materials, machinery, equipment, labor and all other services necessary for the maintenance of street lights (not maintained by AEP-CPL) and traffic light signal lights throughout the city. The contract includes electrical services for traffic signals and street lights and for installation, construction, and underground work, for new and/or upgraded traffic signals. This contract also contains provisions for City departmental electrical service projects and repairs.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to award contract number FY01-048, to the Low Bidder, Surrey Fire

Safety House, Napoleon, Ohio, in the amount of \$26,583.00 for the purchase of a trailer mounted fire safety house for the Fire Prevention Program. Funding is available in the Fire Department budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to award contract number FY02-0441-064, to the Low Bidder, D'RYB

International, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$47,247.86, for the purchase of promotional materials for the Police Department, Environmental Services Department, and Employee Wellness Division. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration to authorize Amendment No. 2 to increase the professional services fee

in the amount of \$295,962.00 to Carter & Burgess, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas, to provide channel design in the Villa Del Sol area and Section 404 permitting services for Chacon Creek. The total contract for the project is \$452,070.00 and with Amendment No. 2, the project cost will be \$748,032.00. The proposed channel design and construction plan will assist the City to apply for grant/loan monies from Federal of State Agencies. Funding for the project is available in the NPDES Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. STAFF REPORT

34. A request by Police Investigator Sonia Medina to consider extending her injury leave

with pay, with possible action.

Sonia Medina requested an extension of injury leave. She noted that she would not be able to return to active duty as a Police Officer.

Daniel Migura, Administrative Services Director, said that Sonia Medina was injured on May 26, 2000. The injury is in dispute; however, the City began paying her on June 12, 2000, and it stopped on December 17th 2001. The City has paid her \$46,252.96.

Motion to extend her injury leave for a period of 90 days with pay and get a prognosis.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Request by Police Officer Leonardo Gutierrez to consider extending his injury leave

with pay, with possible action.

Officer Leonardo Gutierrez, Laredo Police Department, requested an extension on his injury with pay.

Dan Migura, Administrative Services Department, noted that there is a provision in the Civil Service Local Government Code 143073 that states a municipality shall provide a fire fighter or a police officer a leave of absence for an illness or and injury related to the persons line of duty. The pay may extend for at least one year. He noted that Leonardo Gutierrez was injured on June 19, 2000 and at that point he started receiving full pay and which ended on November 8, 2002. He said that the pay was extended administratively until December 8th. The City has paid \$43,867 to date.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, said that there have been other police officers that have had extensions in the past, and City Council has asked that there be some prognosis from the physician to determine if the officer will be able to return to duty or not.

Motion to grant the extension of 90 days with pay and get a prognosis.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Staff report regarding code violations at 619 Guadalupe.

Tommy Ochoa, Municipal Court Clerk, reported that the individual has been issued seven violations. He said that the individual entered a plea of guilty to six violations and has a pending fine of \$2,905. The fine will become payable on February 27, 2002. They are working with the client. There are no new violations.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, stated that he would talk to the Municipal Court Judge about the violations. He noted that the City might proceed with a Temporary Restraining Order until all fines are paid because the client has traffic violations too.

37. Presentation by Mr. Keith Selman, Planning Director, regarding One Stop Shop.

Keith Selman, Planning Director, mentioned that staff is working on creating a One Stop Shop process. He said they began the process by moving the curb cut staff from the Engineering Department into the Building department. The next step is going to be the adoption of the fire code and what we do with the fire inspections. Ultimately, the City does not have a facility to house all the different

departments in the building process and that is why staff needs an electronic mechanism for tracking and dissemination.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council hereby reserves the right to go into executive session at any time during this public meeting, when it deems it necessary to consult privately with its attorney about any item upon this agenda, pursuant to the provisions of Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code.

38. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (1) (A) &

(B) to consult with the City Attorney regarding pending litigation and possible settlement offer, Jesus G. Molina v. City of Laredo, Texas, Cause No. 96CVT01556-D2, in the District Court of Webb County, Texas, 111th Judicial District, and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (1) (A) & (B) to consult with the City Attorney regarding the pending litigation and possible settlement offer, Jesus G. Molina v. City of Laredo, Texas, Cause No. 96CVT01556-D2, in the District Court of Webb County, Texas, 111th Judicial District, and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After Executive Session, Mayor Flores announced that no formal action was taken.

Motion authorizing the City Manager to settle Jesus G. Molina v City of Laredo, Texas, Cause No. 96CVT01556-D2, in the District Court of Webb County, Texas, 111th Judicial District, with payment of \$169,392.50 for lost wages plus interest for the period December 1994 through August 2000.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against:

Abstain: 0

XV. RECESS AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MUNICIPAL HOUSING CORPORATION

Motion to recess as City Council and Convene as the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. Consideration to award contract number FY02-041 to the Sole Bidder CW Tenorio

Security of Laredo, Texas in the annual amount of \$13,560.00 to provide security guard services at the Tomas Flores Apartment Complex. One security guard is assigned to patrol the complex from Monday through Sunday. The contract will be for a period of two years. Funding is available in the Housing Corporation budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XVI. RECESS AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

40. Motion recommending approval of contract between Laredo Metro, Inc. and W.B.C.A.

to charter buses for 2002 W.B.C.A. annual events at the charter rate of \$55.14 per hour.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

41. Motion recommending approval of contract between Laredo Metro, Inc. and Jalapeno,

Inc. to charter buses for the Jalapeno Festival, February 22-24, 2002 at the charter rate of \$55.14 per hour.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Consideration to award contract number FY 02-045 to the Low Bidder, Arguindegui

Oil, Co., Laredo, Texas in the amount not to exceed \$375,000.00 for diesel fuel and \$90,000.00 for unleaded fuel. Funding is available in the Transit System Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Consideration to award contract number FY 02-049 to the Low Bidder Arguindegui

Oil, Co., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$47,626.00 for engine oil, CNG engine oil, oil analysis, gear lube, and multi-purpose grease. Funding is available in the Transit System Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Consideration to award a contract to Neoplan USA, Corporation for the purchase of ten

(10) 40-foot low-floor natural gas powered transit type coaches for an amount not exceed \$3,250,000.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Time: 9:30 p.m.

Moved: Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Amaya
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0