

CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2000-R-02
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JANUARY 17, 2000
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,	Mayor
Alfredo Agredano,	Councilmember, District I
Louis H. Bruni,	Councilmember, District II
John C. Galo,	Councilmember, District III
Eliseo Valdez, Jr.,	Councilmember, District V
Joe A. Guerra,	Councilmember, District VI
Mario G. Alvarado,	Councilmember, District VII
Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Larry Dovalina,	Acting City Manager
Cindy Collazo,	Acting City Manager
Jaime L. Flores,	City Attorney

ABSENT:

Motion to excuse Cm. Moreno.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

IV. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Announcements:

None

Invitations:

None

Recognitions:

Mayor Flores presented to Margaret Rubio, daughter of

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Rubio, a Seven Flags Certificate of Recognition. She placed first in the Texas, Oklahoma Region N. F. L. Gatorade Punt Pass & Kick competition. She then advanced to the Nationals in Jacksonville, Florida where she placed 2nd on January 15, 2000.

a. Recognition by the Mayor and City Council Members of employees that retired from the City of Laredo with 20 years or more of service for the period August 1999 through December 1999.

Mayor Flores recognized the following City Employees that recently retired:

Eduardo Guardiola, employee of the Utilities Department, retired after 22 years.

Alejandro L. Diaz, employee of the Tax & Utilities Department, retired after 40 years.

Jose M. Moreno, Jr., employee of Community Development & Municipal Office, retired after 31 years, and finally Alfonso Palacio, Jr., employee of the Fire Department, retired after 27 years.

b. Recognition of Socorro Abrego by Mayor and City Council as an exemplary citizen.

Cm. Agredano presented Socorro Abrego a certificate of recognition for fulfilling her commitments and paying her debts at her late age.

c. Recognition to the Health Department's Vital Records Registration Staff for being awarded the 5-Star Vital Records Registration and Excellence Award from the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, out of 540 offices in Texas, only seven were awarded the 5 - Star Award for the third consecutive year.

Jerry Robinson, Director of Health & Vital Statistics, recognized employees of Vital Statistics for receiving the 5 – Star Award for the third consecutive year for filing records on time.

d. Recognition of the Millennium Celebration sponsors (Univision 27, Guerra Communication, South Texas Distributors).

Cm. Alvarado thanked all the corporate sponsors for their promotion of the Millennium Celebration.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSION, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Council confirmation of Council Member Louis Bruni's appointee of Rolando G. Ortiz to the Impact Fee Advisory Committee.

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

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing approving an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and 10-month budget in the amount of \$42,040 for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project (BCCCP), of the City Laredo Health Department for the period beginning November 1, 1999, to August 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned a budget number 226-6020.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving an amendment of the contract with the Texas Department of Health and Budget in the amount of \$42,040 for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project, of the City Laredo Health Department for the period beginning November 1, 1999, to August 31, 2000; and increase revenue line item 226-0000-323-4055 from \$0 to \$42,040 and expenditure line item 226-6020 from \$0 to \$42,040.

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. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing amending Chapter 15 (Health and Sanitation) of the Code of Ordinances by establishing Article IV (Tire Business Registration), providing definitions, tire business registration, application, and terms of registration, terms of renewal, terms of suspension and revocation, fees, disposal of tires, providing for penalty, injunctive relief, severability, a publication schedule and establishing an effective date.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending Chapter 15 (Health and Sanitation) of the Code of Ordinances by establishing Article IV (Tire Business Registration), providing definitions, tire business registration, application, and terms of registration, terms of renewal, terms of suspension and revocation, fees, disposal of tires, providing for penalty, injunctive relief, severability, a publication schedule and establishing an effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Aldo Tatangelo, former City Mayor, stated that he was in favor of the implementation of the above mentioned ordinance.

Cm. Alvarado wanted reassurance that the ordinance would be limited to wholesale and retail operations within the industry.

Jerry Robinson, Health Director, stated that the ordinance is designed to work in conjunction with a previous ordinance that applies only to retail and wholesale. The ordinance allows the city to monitor tires entering Laredo and their proper disposal.

Cristobal Rodriguez, spokesman for the Tire Association, voiced their support for the ordinance.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduced: City Council

3. Public hearing amending the FY 1999-2000 budget in the amount of \$15,000 for the Special Projects Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning January 1, 2000, through September 30, 2000. The funding sources for these projects are comprised of various organizations who contribute or donate funds to the Health Department for the purpose of carrying out special activities or events, and has been assigned budget number 226-6400.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the FY 1999-2000 budget in the amount of \$15,000 for the Special Projects Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning January 1, 2000, through September 30, 2000. The funding sources for these projects are comprised of various organizations who contribute or donate funds to the Health Department for the purpose of carrying out special activities or events, and has been assigned budget number 226-6400.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

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 Introduced: City Council

4. Public hearing approving an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget in the amount of \$130,520 for local staffing of the Childhood Immunization Action Plan Project of the City of Laredo Health Department \$30,742 in state-paid staff, and approximately \$990,497 in vaccines for the period beginning January 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned a budget number 226-6019.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance on the approval of an amendment to the contract

with the Texas Department of Health and Budget in the amount of \$130,520 for local staffing of the Childhood Immunization Action Plan Project of the City of Laredo Health Department; \$30,742 in state-paid staff; and approximately \$990,497 in vaccines for the period beginning January 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000; and increasing revenue line item 226-000-323-4056 from \$0 to \$130,520 and expenditure line item 226-6019 from \$0 to \$130,520.

Motion to open public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduced: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

VII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5. A. Request by Council Member Eliseo Valdez, Jr.

1. Status report on the replacement of waterlines in the Hillside area with possible action.

Fernando Roman, Utility Director, stated the project to replace the waterlines in the Hillside area will commence in the later part of February.

B. Request by Council Member Joe A. Guerra

1. Discussion and possible action on amending the City of Laredo FY 1999-2000 annual budget by raising the firefighter man years by twelve(12) firefighters and reclassifying nine (9) firefighters to three (3) Captains, three (3) Drivers, and three (3) Assistant Drivers to man Aerial Truck #3. This truck will be temporarily stationed at Fire Station #10 upon completion of Fire Station #12 (TAMIU Fire Station), the aerial truck and crew will be

transferred from Fire Station #10 to Fire Station #12 and remain in full service indefinitely.

Herberto L. Ramirez, Budget Director, submitted the following memo:

As per your request regarding the cost of reclassifying nine (9) firefighters and creating an additional twelve positions, please refer to the analysis below:

\$ 95,073 Cost of reclassifying nine firefighters.
\$400,224 Cost of hiring an additional twelve (12) firefighters.
\$525,000 Cost of replacing Reserve Aerial Truck
\$1,020,297 Total Cost

Currently, we do not have sufficient reserve appropriations to fund such request. Additionally, we cannot not use fund balance to fund operational expenditures as per City of Laredo Charter.

If a motion is made to fund the reclassifications and additional firefighters, then I recommend that we reduce expenditures from other General Fund departments including Parks, Public Works, and Police to make up the \$1,020,297.

Cost of 12 Firefighters

23,688 Base Pay per Firefighter
2,368 Additional Pay – EMS

26,056 Sub-total
7,296 Benefits

33,352 Sub-total
X 12 Months
400,224 Total Cost of 12 Additional Firefighters

Fernando Alarcon, Union President, made the following presentation:

This presentation is being made to express the need for added safety for our city. The city is in a position to greatly improve the fire protection of our city's rapid growth. Our request is to allocate the necessary funds needed to man a full crew for Aerial Truck # 3,

consisting of Captains, Drivers, Assistant Drivers and Firefighters. The following information will accurately distinguish the difference between these two fire apparatus.

Fire Engine (Pumper)

Structure Fire

- * Safety
- * Extinguishments
- * Water Supply
- * Aerial Truck (Ladder Truck)
- * Structure Fire
- * Safety
- * Rescue
- * Ventilation
- * Salvage
- * Over-haul

The city currently has two Aerial (Ladder) Trucks in service, one stationed at Central Fire Station (#1 Guadalupe St.) the second at Fire Station #7(1120 W. Calton Rd.). The city also has one Aerial Truck (Ladder #3) currently being used as a reserve (not in service). Due to the vast number of square miles that the Laredo Fire Department must protect along with its numerous warehouses; a third aerial truck implemented into the city's fire protection is most definitely justified.

Aerial Truck #2 was put into service in 1980 along with eight fire stations throughout the City. As per the Census of 1980 they were 100,500 people in the City of Laredo. The estimated growth in population for ten years would be 21% (from 1990 –2000) the population would be 189,021 according to the city's Growth and Statistics. On December 17, 1999 CNN reported the fastest growing cities in the U. S. This report stated that within the eight year span, the City of Laredo for the past few years has been the second fastest growing city and as of today, still has two Aerial Truck in service protecting a larger geographical area.

The two aerial trucks currently in service must protect the City along with other responsibilities.

The crew from Aerial Truck # 1 must also man the Rescue Boat. This double duty will at certain times leave Aerial Truck # 1 unmanned. When this occurs, the entire city is protected by only one Aerial Truck

in service. In 1999, Aerial Truck # 1 responded to 231 calls, 43 of which were water rescue.

The crew from Aerial Truck # 2 must also man the Haz-Mat Truck. This double duty will at certain time leave Aerial Truck # 2 unmanned. Aerial Truck # 2 must also respond to aircraft rescues when there is a possibility of an airplane disaster. When this occurs, the entire city is protected by only one aerial truck in service. In 1999, Aerial Truck # 2 responded to 254 calls, 7 of which were haz-mat related incidents and 11 ARRF (Aircraft Rescue Firefighting) related incidents.

The City's downtown district requires that both Aerial Trucks 1 & 2 respond due to the size and construction of the downtown's older buildings. This occurrence then leaves the City of Laredo without an aerial truck to respond to a potential fire.

Currently the Laredo Fire Department has two new fire stations, one on HWY 359 (#11) and the other at McPherson and Loop 20 (#10). The Laredo Fire Department has one aerial truck in reserve (AT-3) Which could be put in service at Fire Station #10. This would give the City of Laredo fire protection in three very distinct geographical locations. One could serve the City's fast growing South area, the other would protect the highly populated inner city and the third could respond to the increasingly growing North portion of the city.

The Laredo Fire Department has the qualified personnel and a newly built fire station in order to fully man Aerial Truck # 3 at this time. This would only increase the fire protection for a city whose growth we are trying to keep up with. As our Mayor Betty Flores stated in the City Council Meeting of November 22, 1999, "The Council and I want to be careful, but we need to be bold. We have had good leadership in the past years, but we must ask ourselves, as your elected representatives, can we do better? And that is where we are today. The leadership that the City needs must start at the top." By fully manning Aerial Truck # 3 the council has the opportunity to improve the protection for a city with the title of the second fastest growing city in the United States.

Motion to postpone deliberation of the above mentioned

issue and reintroduce as a high priority issue for the new budget.

Moved: Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council Member Mario G. Alvarado

1. Status report on Mines Road Task Force activities and/or recommendations for traffic control on FM1472, with possible action.

Luis Landin, Traffic Director, stated that his department monitors the traffic on Mines Road each day in an expeditious manner.

Cm. Alvarado presented a video concerning Mines Road problems.

2. Presentation by Trent Stricker regarding safety concerns at Father McNaboe Park with possible action.

Trent Stricker, resident by Father McNaboe Park, expressed his concern regarding safety, and suggested speed humps.

John Vidaurri, Parks & Recreation Director, noted that currently his department is considering several different options in securing Father McNaboe Park.

Robert Murillo, Traffic Engineer, stated the analysis of the Speed Hump Pilot Program was in its second phase and would be completed in February.

D. Request by Council Member Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo

1. Discussion and possible action on the release of lien placed on the property owned by Juan San Miguel, located at 317 Water Street by the Department of Community Development.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to resolve this issue.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

6. Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with International Schools for approximately 102,676 square feet of land located at 4618 Maher Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing on February 1, 2000 and ending on January 31, 2001, and may be extended for two (2) terms of one (1) year each ending January 31, 2002 and January 31, 2003. New monthly rent shall be \$1,100.00 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index, providing for an effective date. Current monthly rent is \$1,000.00.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Bruni

7. Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with IRCO Corporation for approximately 47,934 square feet located at 4705 Daugherty Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on January 1, 2000 and ending on December 31, 2019 and may be extended for two (2) consecutive terms of ten (10) years each ending on December 31, 2029 and December 31, 2039. Monthly rent shall be \$680.00 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index and further adjusted by the Fair Market Rental Value Appraisal on the 10th, 20th and 30th anniversaries, providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Bruni

8. Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept an aviation easement from Francisco Noriega and Juan Ramirez over Summer Wind Subdivision, encompassing approximately 27.97 acres out of Survey 1021, Abstract 64, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas and located immediately northwest of the Laredo International Airport and authorizing the City Manager to grant a thirty (30) foot drainage easement encompassing 0.7841 acres out of survey

1021, Abstract 64, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas to Francisco Noriega and Juan Ramirez in exchange and being of equal value to the aviation easement.

Motion to amend ordinance to incorporate additional documentation advising all property owners of aviation easements that will affect the property.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Bruni

IX. FINAL READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Internet Available: <http://www.cityoflaredo.com>

Motion to waive final reading of ordinances #2000-O-010, #2000-O-011, #2000-O-012, #2000-O-013, #2000-O-014, #2000-O-015, #2000-O-016, and #2000-O-017.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. 2000-O-010 Ordinance amending the 1999-2000 budget in the amount of \$2,000 for the Neural Tube Defects Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1999, through August 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Health Foundation and it has been assigned a budget number 226-6101. (City Council)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-010.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

10. 2000-O-011 Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 95-O-100 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a concrete batch plant on 5.0 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located on the west side of Hwy 83 and north of Masterson Road, by

renewing the term of the Conditional Use Permit until April 15, 2002. (Cm. Alfredo Agredano)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-011.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. 2000-O-012 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a welding shop on Lot 1, Block 22, Moreno Addition, located at 1417 Harding Ave. (Cm. Agredano)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-012.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. 2000-O-013 Ordinance designating as a one-way northbound that section of Santa Rita Avenue Block Number 1500 through 3100 between Benavides Street and Blair Street which includes providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate one-way traffic in the designated direction and providing for publication and effective date. (Cm Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-013.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

13. 2000-O-014 Ordinance designating as a two-way north and south bound that section of Juarez Avenue, Block Number 1000 between Victoria Street on the south and Washington Street on the north, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate two-way traffic in both north and south directions and providing for publication and effective date. (Cm. Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-014.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

14. 2000-O-015 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Roberto Villaseñor for approximately 960 square feet constituting Building No.1319 located at 4011 North Jarvis Avenue. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing on December 1, 1999 and ending on November 30, 2000 and may be extended for two (2) terms of one (1) year each ending on November 30, 2001 and November 30, 2002. Monthly rent shall be \$300 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. Current monthly rent is \$295.02. (City Council)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-015.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 2000-O-016 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with LaBaTa Services for approximately 416 square feet constituting Building No. 168 located at 5103 Maher Avenue. Lease term is for three (3) years commencing on December 1, 1999, and ending on November 30, 2002, and may be extended for two (2) terms of one (1) year each ending November 30, 2003, and November 30, 2004. Monthly rent shall be \$450.00 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. Previous tenant was DynAir, Inc., paying \$500.00 per month. (AS AMENDED)(City Council)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-016.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

16. 2000-O-017 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to grant a Non-Exclusive Revocable License with Autophone of Laredo, Inc., for the installation of radio communications equipment atop the beacon tower located at 4419 North Bartlett Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for three (3) years commencing on November 1, 1999 and ending on

Monthly rent shall be:

1. \$250.00 from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000, and
2. \$270.00 from January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001, and
3. \$290.00 from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002.

Current monthly rent is \$230.15. License may be terminated by either party upon giving a sixty (60) day written notice.
(City Council)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-0-017

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

X. RESOLUTIONS

10. 2000-R-005 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant from the Texas Department of Health in the amount of \$130,520 for local staffing of the Childhood Immunization Action Plan Project of the City of Laredo Health Department; \$30,742 in state-paid staff; and approximately \$990,497 in vaccines from the period beginning January 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned a budget number 226-6019.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-005.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. 2000-R-006 Authorizing the City Manager to accept grant from the Texas Department of Health in the amount of \$42,040 for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project (BCCCP), of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning November 1, 1999 through August 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned a budget number 226-6020.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-006.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. 2000-R-007 Officially adopting the 2000-2005 Parks and Open Space Master Plan as presented to the City Council in the Public Hearing of December 20, 1999 by Halff Associates, Dallas, Texas.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-007.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

13. 2000-R-009 Authorizing the City Manager to adopt a resolution supporting a "Letter of Understanding" between the City of Laredo and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation dated April 8, 1999 which places restrictions regarding the future development on a ninety-foot wide parcel, described herein by metes and bounds legally described, to ensure that any future development on the subject property is compatible with Laredo State Center and sensitive to the needs and welfare of its consumers, and specifically, to

prohibit variances that reduce or eliminate setback requirements. This right-of-way is needed for the Cherry Hill widening Project.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-009.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

14. 2000-R-010 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to fund the Texas Narcotics Control Program. The total grant funding is in the amount of \$1,511,974 with the Criminal Justice Division providing \$1,133,980 and the City of Laredo providing \$377,994 in matching funds. Funding is available from the opening balance of the Narcotic Task Force Division and will be used to pay salaries, overtime, indirect operating expenses, and the purchase of equipment from June 1, 2000 through May 31, 2001.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-010.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

15. 2000-R-011 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute an Interlocal Governmental Agreement pursuant to the Vernon's Texas Government Code, Chapter 791, between the City of Laredo and the County of Webb, in which Webb County's Law Enforcement Agency, namely the Webb County Sheriff's Department and the City's Law Enforcement Agency, namely the Laredo Police Department, require the formation of a Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Task Force to mutually assist each other in the areas of traffic control, crowd control, and general law enforcement both within and beyond the city limits during the "Menudo Bowl" scheduled for January 29, 2000.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-011.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

16. 2000-R-012 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute an Interlocal Governmental Agreement pursuant to the Vernon's Texas Government Code, Chapter 791, between the City of Laredo and the County of Webb, in which Webb County's Law Enforcement Agency, namely the Webb County Sheriff's Department and the City's Law Enforcement Agency, namely the Laredo Police Department, require the formation of a Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Task Force to mutually assist each other in the areas of traffic control, crowd control, and general law enforcement both within and beyond the city limits during the various Washington's Birthday Celebration festivities scheduled for February 5, 2000 to February 20, 2000.

Motion to approve Resolution #2000-R-012.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XI. MOTIONS

17. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the Corridor Intersection Analysis for Laredo, Texas, which will identify necessary capital improvements at key intersections to enhance the safety of the traveling public and expedite the flow of cars and trucks to and through Laredo. The study will provide location and impact of infrastructure deficiencies along identified corridors, capital improvement alternatives, cost estimates, alternative circulation recommendations and order of implementation for proposed improvements. Funding is available through the MPO account.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

18. Consideration to award contract number FY00-023, to the LOW BIDDER, Hollywood Garden Company, Laredo, Texas in the annual amount of \$42,310, for providing lawn maintenance services for the Airport Department. The term of this contract is for two years contingent upon continued funding for this function. The contract requires lawn maintenance service at International Airport Facility, Building S-1-1718 E. Calton, Building 1050 - Calton Road/Bartlett Building 132-4719 Maher, and Building 134-4605 Maher. Funding is available in the Airport Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

19. Consideration to approve change order no. 1 for an amount not to exceed \$145,941 to the Transcore contract for the installation of the Laredo Bridge Toll System Upgrade. The original contract was for \$8,442,136. This change order brings the total contract amount to \$8,588,077. Camera surveillance will increase at every lane and at all international bridges. This Digital Visual Auditing System will be the backbone to the accountability and auditing of lanes.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to accept the proposal by Vertex Targeted Opportunities (hereinafter referred to as Vertex) of Dallas, Texas, to complete Medicaid Administrative Claims for the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2002.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to accept the World Trade Bridge Project Plaque.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to approve the Project Plaque for the City of Laredo Telecommunications Center.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

23. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultant Mejia Engineering Co., Laredo, Texas, for the Zacatecas Street Extension Project from Las Americas Subdivision, Phase III to Ejido Avenue, and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund-Zacatecas Street Extension.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

24. Consideration for approval of a selection of consultant Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for the San Francisco Xavier Road along Piedregal Street from Eagle Pass Street, East to the Tex-Mex Railroad Bridge and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund Eagle Pass Underpass.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

25. Consideration for approval of Change Order No. 1 an increase of \$20,767.70 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, acceptance of the Frost Street at McPherson Ave. and Plum Street at East San Francisco Avenue Drainage Improvements and approval of final payment in the amount of \$52,197.93 to Ramos Industries, Inc., Pasadena, Texas. Final Construction Contract amount is \$236,973.60. Funding is available in the 1998 CO Issue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

26. Consideration to award contract number FY 00-049, to the LOW BIDDER, Skaggs, San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$22,954.50, for the purchase of thirty pistols for the Police Department. Funding is available in the Police Trust Fund.

Motion to approve. G. T. Distributors of Austin, Texas in the amount of \$24,313.00 due to the fact that Skaggs is no longer authorized to sell these firearms.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to refund property taxes to the following taxpayers:
1. U.S. Filter Distribution Group, Inc. in the amount of \$1,695.99 due to a clerical error 25.25(c) as per ARB supplement 15, Cause #99-6311.
 2. Perez, Efrain Sergio in the amount of \$538.88 due to a double payment made by Norwest Mortgage and Webb County Title.
 3. PHH Mortgage Service Center erroneously paid \$2,079.16 for 1998 and a local abstract company also paid the tax.
 4. Solis, Javier and Yolanda erroneously paid the 1999 tax in the amount of \$612.65. The Mortgage

company is responsible for the payment.

These refunds will be paid from line item Deferred Revenue/Unapplied Payments. Account #101-000-222-0300.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

28. Consideration to approve monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amount to be adjusted for the month of November 1999, which represents a decrease, is \$526.76. The amount to be adjusted for the month of December 1999, which represents an increase, is \$9,209.05. These adjustments are produced by the County Appraisal District and by Court Orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to amend contract number 98-115 awarded to Enpointe Technologies, Austin, Texas, in the amount of \$35,379.20, for the purchase and installation of communication network equipment for Bridge 3 and Bridge 4. This equipment will allow these facilities to be connected to the City's Institutional Network (I-Net). The original contract award was for \$847,783.00 and included the purchase and installation of the City's institutional network equipment. The network has been completed and equipment is needed for Bridge 3 and Bridge 4 to use this network.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to reject the three bids received for the Zacate Creek Beautification Project Phase II since all bids were over budget and authorizing staff to revise the plans and specifications and

authorization to rebid the project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to award contract number FY00-051, to the SOLE BIDDER, Smith Banc Equipment, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$56,750.00, for the rental of one modular building for use by the Bridge System as an operations facility. The rental term shall be for a period of six months. This modular building, which is similar to those used by banks and other financial institutions as temporary facilities, will house the bridge system staff at Bridge IV while the permanent administrative structure is being built. The building includes teller stations, work areas, and security systems. Funding for this rental contact will be made available in the Bridge Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to approve change order no. 2, a net increase of \$119,409.50 to the Santa Maria Reconstruction Project with Pete Gallegos Paving Inc., Laredo, Texas, for additional work required to repair reinforced concrete pipe cave-ins, construct additional fencing, utilities, drainage and other miscellaneous improvements, and to add 93 working days of contract time to cover the additional work and to cover delays due to utility conflicts. Funding is available in the 1998 CO Issue-Santa Maria Reconstruction.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

33. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to finalize a negotiation and execute an Agreed

Order with the TNRCC for the completion of the Industrial Pretreatment Program for the Utilities Department and the adoption of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) in lieu of a \$7,000 fine. The fine would have been imposed because of delays in the preparation of a plan to adopt a pretreatment program. The SEP is a continuation of a program initiated by Public Works to clean illegal dumping sites.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

34. Consideration to award a professional services contract to Danny R. Anderson Consultants, Inc., El Paso, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$15,995.00 to provide laboratory, sampling and testing services of materials for quality control for the Calton Road Widening Project at the Public Library and the McPherson Road Widening Project from Calton Road to the Culvert Drainage Channel at Cotulla's Restaurant. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund McPherson Widening I.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XII. STAFF REPORT

35. Status report on the development of the Customer Service Program.

Horacio De Deon, Assistant to the City Manager, read following document for the record:

Members of the City Council:

The customer service program has been of great success, employees from all city departments have accepted the challenge to be more conscience of their customer service practices and to place citizens first when service request are reported. An example of this has been the Public Works Department. Their Sanitation Division has under gone changes

in scheduling of trash pick up to accommodate one work day a week for the pick up of branches. This has been very effective and complaints in that area have dropped.

One strategy of the customer service plan was to acquire a complaint tracking software; the software was acquired in July of 1999 and has been used in the City Manager's Office since then. Over 400 complaints have been logged and monitored. This program is very effective and will be more effective when satellite offices of the city have access to the software through the integrated network (I-Net), scheduled to be in place the later part of February.

This will reduce the follow-up required now from the Customer Service Coordinator and will give departments an online view of what's pending in the system at any time. Our Customer Service Coordinator position is currently vacant; Ana Verdin resigned effective December 31, 1999 to attend Graduate School. The position is currently posted with Administrative Services and interviews are expected to be conducted the last week of January. In the meantime, the work load has been distributed among the secretaries in our office and myself.

Training has also been a big part of the program with front line employees and management attending training courses in telephone etiquette, hospitality, priority procedures for Mayor and City Council, Mastering Protocol the Laredo way, complaint tracking with Trackwise and other training seminars currently scheduled for next month.

Also, in compliance with the customer service plan an implementation committee has been formed and is made up of one (1) representative from each department. The committee meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues and strategize on how to improve customer service. One project currently on the table is a city wide pamphlet that offers information about city services and offers a survey to the citizen on the quality of services being provided.

In addition to this we have initiated a monthly newsletter titled "Citizens First", a copy has been passed out for your reading leisure. This is intended to bring awareness to City Council and employees on the latest activities, improvements, milestones, recognition of employees by citizens for good customer service and tips to employees on the importance of good customer service.

Another important factor and improvement as a result of the customer service plan has been the customer service employee

evaluation, performed on an annual basis as part of the regular employees evaluation. This has brought accountability and responsibility from employees and rewarded those employees who practice good customer service I the workplace.

Areas of the plan currently being developed include A Mystery Shopper, Survey forms and comment to the City Manager's Office Upcoming events.

The month of February is scheduled to once again be proclaimed by the Mayor as Customer Service Month. The Customer Service Committee from the Chamber of Commerce will be present on the first meeting of February before the Council to provide an update on some of the activities being undertaken by the private and public sector.

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

XI. MOTIONS

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into and execute a Three Party Agreement for the acceptance of the dedication and maintenance of roadway and improvements with La Bota Ranch Homeowners Association, United Independent School District, and the City of Laredo, Texas.

Motion to approve and allow to continue to negotiate.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Consideration to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder Price Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$171,277.35 for the University Blvd. Extension Project. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund University Blvd. Extension Project/Casa Verde and 1999-2000 Allocation of District II Projects.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

I hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 21 are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Meeting held on the 17th day of February.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary