

CITY OF LAREDO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2000-R-11
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
APRIL 24, 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
Cecilia May Moreno, Councilmember,	District IV
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
Cynthia Collazo,	Acting City Manager
Larry Dovalina,	Acting City Manager
Jerry Cain,	City Attorney

IV. MINUTES

None

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Announcements

- a. Presentation to the Council of a framed copy of an 1890 map of the City of Laredo.

Janice Weber, Library Director, and Joe Moreno from Library Archives presented the framed map to the Mayor and City Council. A copy was also presented to the Webb County Heritage Foundation.

The following information was submitted:

"Filed as part of report of Committee of Surveys Feby 6th 1890.
All unmarked streets to be 20 varas in width except those running North and South West of Montgomery Street which are 21 1/2 varas."

The map have the number "00393277" stamped about two inches to the right of the year 1890. Major landmarks on the map included a city park at the present location of Martin High School, U. S. Fort McIntosh, the Yguana Smelting and Refining Company and the H. Garcia grant, Juan E. Farias (grant?), A. G. Markely (grant?), the Mexican National machine shops operations. Also there was a foundry between McClelland St., Loring St. Market St. and the Texas-Mexican railroad lines.

Three railroad lines and depots are noted. These are the International & Great Northern, the Rio Grande and Eagle Pass, and the Mexican National. The I. & G. N. depot was near Fort McIntosh between Matamoros St. and Farragut St. the R. G. & E. P. depot was on the northwest corner of Coke St. and Vidaurri St., and the Mexican National depot was on Montezuma St. between Convent and Salinas St.

Street names are barely visible.

- b. Presentation by Cm Louis H. Bruni, Director of the South Texas Rain Enhancement Association, on an up-to-date progress report.

A video was played.

The following correspondence was submitted.

Southwest Texas Rain
Enhancement Association
P.O. Box 1433
Carrizo Springs, Tx 78834
wggwcd@brushco.net

Dear Councilman Bruni,

As of the first week in April, 2000 the project is fully functional with the exception of one aircraft. San Angelo weather mod is currently installing the cloud seeding modifications and telemetry (tracking sys) on this 2nd aircraft.

To give one a perspective of where the project really is and where it has come from along with the dedication and commitment of the board and personnel, I have listed the events and purchases over time.

December

1. Commitment by the Association to begin efforts to become self-sufficient.
2. Acquired 54 foot tower from Victoria Airport (Ex Nat. Wx. Bureau) free of charge, provided there is no cost to the airport.

January

1. Disassemble tower and move to Cotulla via contractor/bid.
2. Received permission from LaSalle Commissioners court to erect tower.
3. Submitted and received FAA approval to erect tower on the airport.
4. Purchased 1st aircraft from Kansas WX Mod completely outfitted with exception of telemetry (tracking) system which is now installed.
5. Ordered complete set of cloud seeding modifications for second aircraft.
6. Received soil core/engineering specs for tower foundation.
7. Received cement engineering specs for tower foundation.
8. Purchased a completely remanufactured 74-C weather radar with 8' dish and 12' radome (Best available radar shy of new, 1/2 mil dollars, and one of 2-3 left.)

February

1. Drilled 36' pillar cores, set steel, set forms, poured, placed/leveled anchor bolts.
2. Submitted and received FCC tower registration #.
3. Submitted for licenses from FCC on Radar, Voice, and Telemetry frequencies.
4. Hired meteorologist out of the Kansas program, with 2yr/hail experience.
5. Began new licensing process, (publishing in 11 newspapers) to add Zapata County and hail suppression to all counties.
6. Purchased complete insurance coverage on property and liability for the association.

March

1. Purchased 2nd aircraft.
2. Erected tower, radar dish, and radome, total height being 66'.
3. Purchased 12 X 40 portable building to house radar and office. Tower foundation, erection, building move/set/level/tie in, was accomplished in house.
4. Purchased state of the art computer bank to operate the radar, telemetry, internet/Nat Wx Serv monitoring, as well as provider to upload seeding events via www.vsta.com/-synoptic web page.

April

1. Submitted the completed process to TNRCC for new license for Zapata County and Hail Suppression.
2. Installed latest version of TITAN software via the author Farren Hiscutt from South Africa and Karl Dewaal.
3. Installed the telemetry system in the aircraft and radar, to track aircraft on the radar screen which also be uploaded to the internet along with the rain cloud cells.
4. Hired full time pilot for Laredo.

5. Secured hangar/office space at LaBaTa for the second aircraft.
6. Put on line SWTREA's webb page, www.vsta.com/synoptic

If I can be of further help, please feel free to let me know.

Respectfully,
Ed Walker

End of Letter

Invitations

Recognitions

Communiqués

Cm. Moreno stated that two blocks in front of Ochoa Hermelinda Elementary School were added to the Speed Hump Pilot Project. Cm. Valdez exemplified the importance of expediting the Speed Hump Pilot Project in the Chaparral Subdivision. Mayor Flores read the speech she gave at the bridge ceremonies on Monday, April 24, 2000 and it reads as follows:

Buenas tardes Nuevo Laredo. Buenas tardes Señor Presidente Ernesto Zedillo, Señor Gobernador, Tomas Yarrington, Señor Gobernador George W. Bush, Señor Presidente Municipal Horacio Garza Garza. Les brindo un saludo de parte de Laredo, Texas y una bienvenida a nuestra frontera. Es con gran orgullo que me uno a ustedes en esta importante ceremonia para el pueblo de Mexico y para Los Dos Laredos. Como ustedes saben, la ceremonia en el lado de Estados Unidos se llevó a cabo el pasado 14 de abril. Una vez mas deseo expresar mi agradecimiento al Presidente Bill Clinton por la grata felicitación que nos envió a nuestra dos ciudades mediante un mensaje grabado en video. También expreso mil gracias al Secretario de Transportación, Rodney Slater, por habernos acompañado como Huesped de Honor. Pero no habría sido completa nuestra ceremonia sin la presencia de Saúl Ramirez, Alcalde Inmediato Anterior de Laredo, ahora Subsecretario de Viviendas, quien ayudó a iniciar el proceso de este puente. Nuestras naciones son naciones con una nueva promesa. Nuestras ciudades fronterizas, es donde la frase "competencia global" ha sido transformada substancialmente, para significar crecimiento economico en el mundo real, mediante la vision, la experiencia y el trabajo de nuestra gente. Mas y mas personas cruzando lineas internacionales han realizado que la frontera norte de México, sur de los Estados Unidos forma una gran parte de esta nueva promesa. Esta frontera no es el sitio donde termina Mexico o se inicia Estados Unidos. Es más bién el lugar donde nuestras naciones se unen; es donde el comercio internacional se convierte en ganancia nacional es donde las politicas gubernamentales se convierten en franca realidad. Desde que se establecio el primer Puerto de entrada hemos desarrollado un sistema de transportacion multimodal y una eficiencia en el manejo del comercio que no puede ser igualada en ninguna otra parte. El personal de las aduanas de ambos países, los agentes aduanales, las empresas de transporte, los ferrocarriles y las empresas de carga

aerea, continuamente dan prueba que son los de mayor experiencia, los mas rapidos y mas eficientes en el manejo del intercambio comercial en la frontera Mexico/ Estados Unidos. Esta frontera, que esta contribuyendo tanto a la economia de dos grandes naciones, es un lugar muy especial. Su gente es gente especial. Yo felicito al pueblo de Nuevo Laredo por su gran esfuerzo para abrir este puente en el plazo fijado ...Le doy las gracias a mi amigo, Horacio Garza Garza, por su ayuda para que este evento se realizara, y por ser el caballero que es, un lider entre los lideres, y sobre todo un buen vecino. Nuevo Laredo. Tamaulipas. Mexico...les brindo mi cariño, los felicito, les doy las gracias por permitirme el honor de formar parte de esta ceremonia y les aseguro que nuestra amistad y cooperacion seran para siempre. Que Dios los bendiga,

End of speech.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSION, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment of Irma Trautmann by Council Member Joe Guerra to the City Cemetery Board.

Motion to approve.

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

- b. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Cm. Louis H. Bruni to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

To replace Cm. Moreno.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- c. Confirmation of Cm. John C. Galo appointment of Allison Lambreth to the Tree Board Committee.

Motion to approve.

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

- d. Confirmation of Christopher Paul Arthur to the Board of Adjustments nominated by Cm. Eliseo Valdez, Jr., District V.

Motion to approve.

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

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing amending the FY1999-2000 budget in the amount of \$74,000.00 allocating indirect (cost) funds reimbursed by the Texas Department of Health to further the activities and scope of work of the Women and Children Health Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000, and increasing revenue line item 226-0000-323-4137 from \$0 to \$74,000, and expenditure line item 226-6800 from \$0 to \$74,000.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

An ordinance amending the FY1999-2000 budget in the amount of \$74,000.00 allocating indirect (cost) funds reimbursed by the Texas Department of Health to further the activities and scope of work of the Women and Children Health Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000, and increasing revenue line item 226-0000-323-4137 from \$0 to \$74,000, and expenditure line item 226-6800 from \$0 to \$74,000.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing amending Section 24.80 of the Laredo Land Development Code by repealing the existing Model Subdivision Rules adopted on January 22, 1996 and adopting the new Model Subdivision Rules as revised and adopted by the Texas Water Development Board and as provided by the Texas Water Code regulating development within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of the City of Laredo; and amending Appendix A of the Laredo Land Development Code; providing for publication and effective date.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

An ordinance amending Section 24.80 of the Laredo Land Development Code by repealing the existing Model Subdivision Rules adopted on January 22, 1996 and adopting the new Model Subdivision Rules as revised and adopted by the Texas Water Development Board and as provided by the Texas Water Code regulating development within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of the City of Laredo; and amending Appendix A of the Laredo Land Development Code; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

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

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing to amend the City of Laredo 1999-2000 Annual Budget by increasing the estimated revenues and appropriations in the General Fund by \$7,833.00 for a Texas Historical Commission grant of \$2,272.00 to complete the preparation of an application for a National Register District nomination for El Azteca Neighborhood. A \$5,561.00 match will be provided by El Azteca Economic Development and Preservation Corporation and the Webb County Heritage Foundation, Inc., which exceeds the federal match requirement, to complete the final phase of the project.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

An ordinance to amend the City of Laredo 1999-2000 Annual Budget by increasing the estimated revenues and appropriations in the General Fund by \$7,833.00 for a Texas Historical Commission grant of \$2,272.00 to complete the preparation of an application for a National Register District nomination for El Azteca Neighborhood. A \$5,561.00 match will be provided by El Azteca Economic Development and Preservation Corporation and the Webb County Heritage Foundation, Inc., which exceeds the federal match requirement, to complete the final phase of the project.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

4. Public hearing concerning an application by Salinas Investments amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 441.393 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located north of the City of Rio Bravo and west of Hwy. 83 from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 441.393 acres, as further described by metes and bounds; located north of the City of Rio Bravo and west of Hwy. 83, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Jose Hernandez, from Mejia Engineering, spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Agredano

5. Public hearing concerning an application by Corona Land Development amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 9 and 10, Block 10, Crown Ridge Subdivision Phase 5, located at 406 and 408 Northstar Rd. from B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1 (Single Family Residential District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning

Lots 9 and 10, Block 10, Crown Ridge Subdivision Phase 5, located at 406 and 408 Northstar Rd. from B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1 (Single Family Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Guerra

6. Public hearing concerning an application by Salinas Investments amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 47.317 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located north of the City of Rio Bravo and west of Hwy. 83 from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 47.317 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located north of the City of Rio Bravo and west of Hwy. 83 from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

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

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Agredano

7. Public hearing concerning an application by Columbus Energy Corp., authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for gas extraction on 3.00 acres out of Porcion - 46, Abstract 478, as further described by metes and bounds, located west of Hwy. 83 and north of the City of Rio Bravo. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the Special Use Permit.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for gas extraction on 3.00 acres out of Porcion - 46, Abstract 478, as further described by metes and bounds, located west of Hwy. 83 and north of the City of Rio Bravo, known as McKendrick - Akin No. 2; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and table this item.

Moved: Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. Public hearing concerning an application by Humberto Treviño Jr., amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 2.784 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located north of Hwy. 359 and east of Loop 20, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 2.784 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located north of Hwy. 359 and east of Loop 20, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Jose Hernandez, from Mejia Engineering, spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and not allow M-1.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7 Against: 1 Abstain: 0
Cm. Galo

Motion to reconsider.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to deny the M-1 and approved a B-4.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Bruni

9. Public hearing concerning an application by Alfredo Santos, III, amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 6.008 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located west of McPherson Rd. and north of Shiloh Dr. from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 6.008 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located west of McPherson Rd. and north of Shiloh Dr. from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Guerra

10. Public hearing concerning an application by Hector Luna amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 409, Western Division located at 2202 Ventura, from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended denial of the proposed B-3 and B-1 zoning and recommended approval of a Conditional Use Permit for a residence and catering services.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 409, Western Division located at 2202 Ventura, from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Mr. Hector Luna was asking for the zone change to set up a catering service.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce as a Conditional Use Permit.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

11. Public hearing concerning an application by N.W. Laredo Development, Ltd., amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 1, Bartlett Apartments Subdivision at Jacaman Ranch located west of Bartlett Ave. and north of Jacaman Rd. from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 1, Bartlett Apartments Subdivision at Jacaman Ranch located west of Bartlett Ave. and north of Jacaman Rd. from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and table this item.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

12. Public hearing concerning an application by N.W. Laredo Development, Ltd., amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 3, Block 1, Bartlett Apartments Subdivision at Jacaman Ranch located west of Bartlett Ave. and north of Jacaman Rd. from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 3, Block 1, Bartlett Apartments Subdivision at Jacaman Ranch located west of Bartlett Ave. and north of Jacaman Rd. from R-2 (Multifamily Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and table.

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

13. Public hearing concerning an application by Luis Lauro Gonzalez amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 8 and N 1/2 of 6, Block 485, Western Division, located at 309 Park St. from R-O (Residential/Office District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the proposed zoning.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot

8 and N 1/2 of 6, Block 485, Western Division, located at 309 Park St. from R-O (Residential/Office District) to B-1 (Limited Business District); providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce as B-1 Zoning.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

VIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

14. A. Request by Council Member Alfredo Agredano

1. Report on the program planned for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

John Vidaurri, Parks & Recreation Director, reported on the status of the veteran's flags to be distributed on May 29, 2000.

B. Request by Council Member Eliseo Valdez, Jr.

1. Request for staff to survey areas available for Little League field practice in District V.

Larry Dovalina, Acting City Manager, stated that he would submit a report to Councilmember Valdez listing city owned properties that might be easily converted into a Little League field for Laredo's youth.

He also stated that staff would have to survey the properties in question to ensure that they are not in a flood zone.

Cm. Galo suggested the use of the two city blocks adjacent to the north of the Seven Flags Park.

2. Request for staff to review and make recommendations on an erosion problem at the 3200 Block of San Francisco.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported that his staff has been

working on the erosion problem. He requested that he be allowed to further investigate the project and will submit recommendations at a later date.

C. Request by Council Member Joe A. Guerra

1. Discussion and possible action to use local vendors as much as possible when purchasing merchandise in general and services.

Cm. Guerra complimented Mr. Meza and staff for their fairness in awarding bids. However, he requested staff to be more conscientious to local vendors.

D. 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.

Cm. Alvarado commended Roberto Murillo for his outstanding stewardship. He requested a report of TxDot on the progress of Mines Road. Finally, he expressed his concerns about the status of the Killam Industrial Blvd Project.

He read the following letter:

To: Larry Dovalina, Acting City Manager
From: Roberto Murillo, P. E. Traffic Director

The Traffic Department has been diligently working in the Mines Road area fine tuning timing for all traffic signals since Monday, April 17, 2000. By Tuesday afternoon, the six different timing plans designed to provide improved signal progression between Flecha Lane and Killam Industrial Blvd. had been fine tuned and made fully operational. Traffic signal operation continues to be monitored on a daily basis especially during the heavy a.m. and p.m. peak traffic periods and adjustments continue to be made accordingly. Traffic delays have been significantly minimized in the area as a result of these signal-timing improvements and the assistance of the police department in directing traffic when necessary. Different traffic signal plans providing different timing cycle lengths with signal progressions were developed for Mines Road. These cycle lengths are activated throughout the week with the internal clock within each of the traffic signal controllers depending on the time of day. A different plan is activated for each different peak traffic period so as to make any changes to any plan independent on the others. It is important to note that the sequence and timing at the new intersection of Loop 20 and Mines Road was designed and made operational by the Traffic Department specifically for that intersection. The intended sequence in the original design would have significantly minimized available green time for the Mines Road through movements and would have created additional traffic delays. Observations were made between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. during the week and necessary timing adjustments were made accordingly. During the afternoon peak traffic periods, mainly between 5:00

and 9:00 p.m., traffic backs up continue to be observed in the southbound direction as a result of the heavy amount of truck and vehicular traffic. However, the traffic delays have been significantly minimized with the timing improvements and the assistance of the police department. The opening of the additional traffic lane and the bridge flyover off Mines Rd toward IH 35 by TxDot should improve roadway capacity and in turn minimize the traffic delays through this area. TxDot is constantly being reminded to aggressively pursue completion of these improvements in order to alleviate congestion in this area. We will continue to monitor this area especially during peak traffic periods and implement any additional timing improvements so as to minimize traffic delays to the Mines Road area. If you have any questions regarding the above feel free to contact me at my office.

End of Letter

(Recess)
(Press Availability)

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

15. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with LABATA Services for approximately 117 square feet constituting AOA Office No. 3 of the Passenger Terminal Building located at 5210 Bob Bullock Loop. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing March 1, 2000 and ending on February 28, 2001, and may be extended for two (2) terms of one (1) year each ending February 28, 2002 and February 28, 2003. Monthly rent shall be \$150.00 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

16. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Scheduled Airline Operating Agreement and Terminal Building Lease with Aerolitoral S. A. de C. V. dba Aerolitoral Airlines for exclusive and non-exclusive joint use space located at the Laredo International Airport passenger terminal for the purpose of conducting commercial air transportation services. The term of the agreement is for fourteen (14) months effective May 2, 2000 and ending on June 30, 2001. The monthly rent including landing fees is capped at \$1.50 per enplaned revenue passenger and the monthly rent is waived for the first six (6) months of this agreement.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

17. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey to Fasken, Ltd., a Texas Limited Partnership, a 0.3750 of an acre (16,346 sq. ft.), more or less, tract of land, being out of Porcion 20, Abstract No. 48, Webb County, Texas; being generally described below, and more particularly described by metes and bounds; in exchange for an equal size and equal value, 0.3750 of an acre (16,346 sq. ft.), more or less, tract of land, from Fasken, Ltd., being out of Porcion 20,

Abstract No. 48, Webb County, Texas, being generally described below, and more particularly described by metes and bounds; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Alvarado

18. Authorizing the City Manager to waive rental fees for May 27th and May 28th, 2000 at the Benavides Softball Complex, because Council finds that it is in the public interest to support the Laredo Crime Stoppers Memorial Day Weekend Softball Tournament. The maximum fees waived is approximately \$580.00 based on the two-day rental fees.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

19. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with STPCS Joint Venture, LLC, a corporation for a lease at the Del Mar Water Tower located on 6.7 acres out of Block 13, Del Mar Section 1A, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, to locate cellular antennas and related equipment for use in connection with its communication business. Term of the lease in five (5) years commencing May 1, 2000 and ending April 20, 2005, with three (3) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual base rent shall be \$7,700.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be adjusted on each anniversary of the commencement date according to changes in the consumer price index, providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

X. FINAL READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Internet Available: www.cityoflaredo.com

Motion to waive final reading of ordinances # 2000-O-102, # 2000-O-103, # 2000-O-104 and # 2000-O-105.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

20. 2000-O-102 Amending Ordinance No. 97-O-334 by transferring three grant funded positions originally funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 319(h) grant to the NPDES Fund in order to continue the Illegal Dumping Enforcement Program and to enforce the other environmental ordinances and authorizing the City Manager to implement changes within the 1999-2000 Budget. (City Council)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-O-102.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2000-O-103 Ordinance amending the contract with the Texas Department of Health and Budget in the amount of \$2,497.00 for the Special Project "Community-Based Tobacco Prevention Project" of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning May 1, 2000, through June 5, 2000; and increasing revenue line item no. 226-0000-357-2566 from \$0 to \$2,497.00, and increasing expenditure line item no. 226-6400 from \$0 to \$2,497.00. (Cm. Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-O-103.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2000-O-104 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Aerocarga International, Inc., for approximately 2,040 square feet constituting Building #1328 located at 4015 North Jarvis Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing on April 1, 2000 and ending March 31, 2001 and may be extended for two-one year options ending on March 31, 2002 and March 31, 2003. Monthly rental shall be \$315.00 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. (Cm. Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-O-104.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Guerra
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2000-O-105 Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Jett Racing & Sales, as Lessee, for a tract of land containing approximately 3.01 acres located on Block No. 1, Lot No. 3 as Recorded in Volume 5, Page 1, Plat Records of Webb County, Texas, said property is located at the Laredo International Airport and is further described by metes and bounds description in the lease agreement. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on April 1, 2000 and ending on March 31, 2020 plus two consecutive ten-year renewal option periods until March 31, 2040. Monthly rent shall be \$1,966.75 plus annual rent adjustment based on changes in the Consumer Price Index and the rental obligation shall be further adjusted based on Fair Market appraisal at each ten (10) year anniversary. (Cm. Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2000-O-105.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XI. RESOLUTIONS

21. 2000-R-055 A resolution confirming the appointment by the City Manager of a Member of the Fire Fighters' & Police Officers' Civil Service Commission of the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-055 by naming Joaquin Romero.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

22. 2000-R-062 A resolution authorizing the City Manager of the City of Laredo to accept a grant (reimbursement program) from the Texas Historical Commission for Certified Local Government funding in the amount of \$2,272 to complete the preparation of an application for a National Register District nomination for El Azteca Neighborhood for a total project cost of \$7,833. A match of \$5,561 will be provided by the Azteca Economic Development and Preservation Corporation and the Webb County Heritage Foundation, Inc., which exceeds the federal match requirement, to complete the final phase of the project.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-062.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

23. 2000-R-063 A resolution declaring the public necessity to acquire the "Surface Only" of a 7,497.99 sq. ft. parcel of land, a 4.306 acres (187,570.90 sq. ft.) parcel of land, and the southeast portion of Block 2139 E.D., for the Chacon Creek Improvements Project. Said three parcels being situated in the Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; being generally described below, and more particularly described by metes and bounds, and being delineated on city plats, respectively; and authorizing staff to negotiate for the purchase of said parcels at their market value or less, as established by State Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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, conflicts of ownership, owner refusal to sell, and/or inability to locate a listed owner.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-063.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

24. 2000-R-033 A resolution expressing the support of the City Council of the City of Laredo towards the development of Laredo Viejo Apartment Homes, a proposed affordable housing community of approximately 108 affordable housing units by Atlantic Development & Investments, Inc., and Community Housing Development Associates. Affordable housing will be provided to the citizens of the City of Laredo contingent upon the approval of the submission of a State of Texas Home Application under the Home Investment Partnership Program and the approval of the application submitted to the Texas State Department of Housing and Community Affairs for Housing Tax Credits under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs requires applicants to include evidence of local government support for the proposed application. This evidence must be in the form of a resolution and dated within six (6) months of the application submission deadline.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-033.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

25. 2000-R-064 Expressing the support of the City Council, of the City of Laredo towards the development of Southview Estate, a proposed affordable housing community of approximately 100 affordable housing units by Southview Estates, Limited. Affordable housing will be provided to the citizens of the City of Laredo contingent upon the approval of the submission of a State of Texas Home Application under the Home Investments Partnership Program and the approval of the application submitted to the Texas State Department of Housing and Community Affairs for Housing Tax Credits under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs requires applicants to include evidence of local government support for the proposed application. This evidence must be in the form of a resolution and dated within six (6) months of the application submission deadline.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-064.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

26. 2000-R-065 A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the United States Department of Justice COPS Office for the acquisition of 40 additional Police Officers.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2000-R-065.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XII. MOTIONS

27. Consideration to rescind the award from R.P. Constructors, Inc., New Braunfels, Texas, for the Bio-Solids Dewatering Project Parts A and B and consideration to award the LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER to Lambda Construction Co., New Braunfels, Texas, in the amount of \$1,208,500.00. After review and recalculation of bids based on the specifications proved to be Lambda Construction the lowest responsible bidder. Funding is available in the 1994 & 1998A Sewer Construction Bonds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

28. Consideration to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder, Lambda Construction Co., New Braunfels, Texas, in the amount of \$925,181.00 for the construction of the San Isidro and Highland Booster Stations. The project consists of constructing two booster stations with booster pumps, ground storage tanks, piping, valves, hydropneumatic tanks, SCADA system and water line extensions. The construction time is 100 calendar days. Funding is available in the 1999 Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

29. Authorizing the City Manager to sign a contract with Planergy to participate in a load curtailment program,

beginning June 1, 2000. The City of Laredo Wastewater Division agrees to reduce its electrical demand whenever possible during predefined periods. In return, Planergy agrees to pay cash incentives to the City of Laredo for such demand reduction between June 1 and September 30 of each year in which this agreement is in effect.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

30. Authorizing the City Manager to sign a contract with Planergy to participate in a load curtailment program, beginning June 1, 2000. The City of Laredo Water Division agrees to reduce its electrical demand whenever possible during predefined periods. In return, Planergy agrees to pay cash incentives to the City of Laredo for such demand reduction between June 1 and September 30 of each year in which this agreement is in effect.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

31. Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$109,000.00 to the Texas Department of Health for the Survey on Health Risk Factors and Needs Assessment of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning July 1, 2000, through August 31, 2001.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

32. Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$152,524.00 to the Texas Department of Health for the Folic Acid Education and Support Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning July 1, 2000, through August 31, 2001.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

33. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the purpose of obtaining a non-exclusive license from the State to receive Laredo District Intelligent Transportation System transportation related information and use Laredo District Intelligent Transportation (IT) infrastructure to provide for improved traffic management. In return, the City would grant the State the right to limited use of the City's I-Net fiber optic cable.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

34. Consideration to award an engineering contract to Sherfey Engineering Company, L.L.C., Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$28,500.00 for surveys, design, and preparation of plans and specifications for the City Wide - Sidewalks Project No. 13 (16 Blocks), Project No. 16 (12 Blocks) and Project No. 17 (8 Blocks) for a total of 38 Blocks. Funding is available in the Capitol Improvement Fund.

Motion to approve with a correction of 36 blocks instead of 38 blocks.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

35. Consideration to award a professional services contract to Danny R. Anderson Consultants, Inc., El Paso, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$17,640.00 to provide laboratory, sampling and testing services of materials for quality control for the 16-Inch Water Line along State Highway 359. Funding is available in the Water Works 97 Bond Line Extensions.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

36. Consideration to reject the four bids received for the McPherson Acres Drainage Improvements Phase I and to authorize Staff to rebid the project since all bids were over budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

37. Consideration to award contract 00-093 to the SOLE BIDDER, Paul Young Co., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$667,249.00, for the purchase of thirty vehicles for the Police Department. These vehicles will be assigned to the Laredo Multi-Agency and Laredo Police Department Narcotics Units. Funding is available from the Task Force Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Moreno
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIII. STAFF REPORT

38. Presentation of the Volunteers in Action Annual Report.

The following report was submitted by Jose Vela, III:

Annual report
February 1, 1999 to January 31, 2000
Edited & Submitted by Janice Weber, Director Laredo
Public Library
Prepared by Jose "Chito" Vela III, Coordinator
Nonprofit Management & Volunteer Center
Data Tabulated by Christina Fracchia, Clerk IV
Nonprofit Management & Volunteer Center

Introduction

The purpose of the VIA Program is to promote participation by citizens in the expansion, enhancement and delivery of quality services by the City of Laredo. The goals of the program are to:

- * Encourage and provide opportunities for citizen participation in the operations of city government.
- * Improve the quality of life in Laredo by providing expanded City services without increasing taxes.
- * Enhance the provision of City services by utilizing volunteers to supplement the work of paid City staff.
- * Promote and assist citizen understanding of the programs, issues and problems that municipal governments tackle daily
- * Promote volunteerism within the community

The VIA Program is part of the Nonprofit Management & Volunteer Center, a division of the Laredo Public Library, and is staffed by two people, the Nonprofit Management and Volunteer Center Coordinator and a Clerk IV. The Center is housed in the Main Branch of the Laredo Public Library, at 1120 East Calton Road, Laredo, Texas.

Performance Report

The City of Laredo Volunteers in Action (VIA) Program saw its busiest year ever in 1999. During the past year, the Laredo VIA Program placed a total of 914 volunteers who performed 40,944 hours of service for the citizens of the city. The value of the work of these volunteers totaled \$231,352 for the year. This figure represents an hourly wage savings that would have been paid to City employees for performing the work carried out by volunteers. (The amount does not include benefits and other fringe payments.)

With more volunteers donating even greater amounts of time, VIA has been able to continue providing numerous City departments with volunteer help, while at the same time offering volunteer placements to nonprofit agencies within the City of Laredo. In 1999, VIA placed volunteers with the Laredo Children's Museum, Laredo Animal Protective Society, Laredo/Webb County Food Bank, Laredo Regional Food Bank, Laredo regional Food Bank, Bethany House, Sacred Heart Children's Home, Laredo Community College Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center, Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center, and the Boy's and Girl's Club.

Of the total number of volunteers, 202 individuals were classified as regular volunteers, or people who freely offered their services, talent and time to the City of Laredo. Of these 202 volunteers, 93 were persons under 18 years of age.

Seventy-eight percent of the VIA volunteers in 1999, or 712 individuals, were community service workers, individuals who were ordered by the court to make restitution for a criminal or misdemeanor offense. Performing community service is an alternative to incarceration or a fine, while still holding offenders accountable.

Work locations within City government represented almost all departments, ranging from the City Manager's Office to the Public Works Department. In all, 34 sites served as locations for volunteers to work during 1999. Volunteers' duties varied from department to department, and included activities such as supervising children at play, shelving books, cleaning up city parks, and helping prepare materials for meetings of the City Council.

An integral component of the VIA Program is having supervisors who are willing to accept volunteers and monitor both their work and their hours. During 1999, City employees at approximately 34 locations served as supervisors to VIA volunteers. Some locations, such as the recreation centers and the Library, attracted the greatest number of volunteers due to the nature of their services. These departments are able to greatly augment service to the public by taking advantage of the strong spirit of volunteer service found in Laredo.

The tables attached to this report detail the activity of the Volunteers in Action Program from February 1, 1999 through January 31, 2000.

Future Plans

For the coming program year, 2000, the Nonprofit Management and Volunteer Center plans to enter into more formal partnerships with both City departments and local nonprofits. These partnerships will allow the development of specialized volunteer programs. One example is the Spring Break Volunteer Program. In partnership with the Communities in Schools, the Center recruits high school students to perform volunteer work during spring break. This type of program helps both the City, which gets volunteer labor when it most needs it, and the high school student, who are kept off the streets and in a positive environment. This summer, the Center plans to continue its partnership with Communities in Schools by initiating the City of Laredo Summer Internship Program. High school students who have an interest in a specific field, such as computer sciences, accounting, or law, will be placed by the Center with appropriate City department. The high school student gain valuable insight into a professional field, while the City gets much needed volunteer assistance.

Another exciting partnership is with the Laredo Job Corps. The Laredo Job Corps trains young people that have left school, but are still seeking valuable employment skills. In return for the education that the Laredo Job Corps provides, its members are asked to give back to their community by performing volunteer work. With over 200 members, a partnership between the VIA Program and the

Laredo Job Corps could be extremely beneficial for both organizations.

Finally, as part of the training workshops that is put on by the Center, management of volunteers is one of the topics that will be covered in the upcoming program year. This type of training will help to provide a richer experience for both the volunteers and the City departments that benefit from the volunteers' contribution of time and talent.

Number of Volunteers per Work Site:

Regular Volunteers - 202

Community Service - 712

Total - 914

Number of Volunteer Hours per Work Site

Regular Volunteers - 12,372

Community Service - 28,572

Total - 40,944

Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours per Work Site

Regular Volunteers - \$74,323

Community Service - \$157,120

Total - \$ 231,352

End of Report

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 6:55 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

I hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 26 are true, complete and correct proceedings of the City Council Meeting held on the 22th Day of May, 2000.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary