

CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JANUARY 18, 1999
5:30 P.M.

M99-R-02

M I N U T E S

JANUARY 18, 1999

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 G. Bruni,	Councilmember, District II
John C. Galo,	Councilmember, District III
Cecilia May Moreno,	Councilmember, District IV
Eliseo Valdez,	Councilmember, District V
Joe A. Guerra,	Councilmember, District VI
Mario Alvarado,	Councilmember, District VII
Consuelo Montalvo,	Councilmember, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Florencio Peña, III,	City Manager
Jaime L. Flores,	City Attorney

Note: Cm. Galo left at 7:35 P.M.

IV. MINUTES

NONE

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE

1. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Texas/Illinois cellular limited partnership, by its general partner Southwestern Bell Wireless, Inc., to install, construct and maintain a monopole type cellular tower capable of supporting two (2) providers, antennas, appurtenant

equipment and an appropriate number of equipment buildings on a former portion of Chihuahua Street more fully described on Lease Agreement.

- 1) Term of the lease shall be fifteen years commencing on January _____, 1999 and ending January _____, 2014 with an option for only one (1) SUCCESSIVE RENEWAL term of five (5) years.
- 2) The annual base rent shall be \$7,200.00 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.

Motion to table.

Moved : Cm. Valdez
 Second: Cm. Alvarado
 For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement between the City of Laredo and the County of Webb on behalf of the Laredo-Webb County Community Action Agency.
 - 1) Term of the lease shall be one (1) year.
 - 2) The annual rent payment of \$1.00 per year with an automatic renewal option for the property legally described as Block 912, Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Webb County for approximately 480 square feet constituting Suite #26 of Building No. S-1 located at 1718 E. Calton Road at the Laredo International Airport.
 - 1) Lease term is for one year commencing on October 1, 1998 and ending on September 30, 2000.
 - 2) Monthly rent shall be \$552.00 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

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Webb County for approximately 1,192 square feet constituting Suite #11 of Building No. S-1 located at 1718 E. Calton Road at the Laredo International Airport.
 - 1) Lease term is for one year commencing on October 1, 1998 and ending on September 30, 1999 and may be extended for one

term of one year ending on September 30, 2000.

- 2) Monthly rent shall be \$1,992.00 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

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Webb County for approximately 300 square feet constituting Suite #21 of Building No. S-1 located at 1718 E. Calton Road at the Laredo International Airport.
 - 1) Lease term is for one year commencing on September 1, 1998 and ending on August 31, 2000 and may be extended for one term of one year ending on August 31, 2000.
 - 2) Monthly rent shall be \$345.00 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

6. Closing as a public easement a 30 foot wide street out of the most easterly 30 feet of Lot 2, Block 1, as per the P&J Villarreal Plat recorded in Volume 8, Page 15, Webb County Plat Records, extending 300.481 feet between the south right-of-way line of Flecha Lane and the north boundary line of a 30 foot wide ingress and egress easement, however closure of said street is contingent upon the final approval of replat of Lot 2A, Block 1, R.M.R. Industrial Park, Unit 4, whereby a 30 foot wide access easement will be platted on the most easterly portion the above mentioned property and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Alvarado

VI. FINAL READING

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

Motion to waive the final readings of ordinances #99-O-008, #99-O-009, and #99-O-010.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 99-O-008 Ordinance amending Article II, titled "Administration and Enforcement," Division 2, titled "Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, of Chapter 19, of the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, thereby

revising Section 19-51, to delete item (3) which refers to advising the City Council and City Manager on issues pertaining to the operation of the Municipal Transit System.
(City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-008.

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

99-O-009 Ordinance adding New Section 19-541 titled "Transit Committee" of Article XII, titled "Transit System" of Division 1, titled "Generally" of Chapter 19, of the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, thereby, establishing the Transit Committee; providing for three members; setting forth its duties; and providing for effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-009.

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

99-O-010 Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 1998-1999 Annual Budget in the amount of \$5,000 for a grant from the National Library of Medicine for professional development and promotional printing and supplies, providing for effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-010.

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS

8. 99-R-005 Authorizing the City Manager to transfer the City of Laredo Application package for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant to Webb County. The City of Laredo can not comply with the purpose areas of the grant. The purpose of the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant is to hire prosecutors, judges, probation officers, etc... to handle juvenile cases specifically.

Motion to approve Resolutions #99-R-005.

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

- 9. 99-R-007 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a gift from H.E.B. in the amount of \$12,500 for the automation and equipping of the Bruni Plaza Branch Library.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-007.

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

- 10. 99-R-008 Accepting the assignment of 65.1 acre feet of municipal water rights from the 800 acre feet deeded to the City of Laredo by Vaquillas Ranch Company, LTD in payment of water availability charges in connection with the platting of Independence Hills subdivision, Phase II and III, and Concord Hills Phase IV.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-008.

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

- 11. 99-R-009 Authorizing the acceptance of a perpetual easement and public right-of-way, from Auto Testing Properties, L.L.C., a Texas Limited Liability Company, said easement being located on Lot 1, Block 2, Unitec Industrial Center, Phase I, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas as per plat recorded in Volume 8, Page 17, Webb County Plat Records.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-009.

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

VIII. MOTIONS

- 12. Consideration of an approval of the construction plans and authorization to advertise for bids for the Laredo Bridge

Department Security Systems for Laredo International Bridge I, Bridge II, and the Laredo-Columbia Solidarity Bridge with tentative award March 15, 1999. Funding is available in the Bridge System Toll Plaza Improvements.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Consideration of an award of a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, American Construction Corporation of Texas, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$31,000.00 for the Re-Roofing of Building No. 170 at the Laredo International Airport. Funding is available in the Airport Building and Improvements to Buildings.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Consideration of an award of an engineering contract to Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$21,618.75 to design, prepare plans and specifications and cost estimates to relocate existing utility lines which are in conflict with the proposed Texas Department of Transportation's (TXDOT) project at Loop 20 from the East of IH 35 towards the West, to the proposed International Bridge IV (Fourth Bridge) Border Station for: FM 1472 and Loop 20 Intersection. Funding is available in the Bridge System SIB Loan Project Engineer Fees.

Motion to approve with correction, delete "1) IH 35 and Loop 20 Intersection."

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Consideration of an award of an engineering contract to Groves and Associates, Inc. (Frontera Associates International, Inc.) San Antonio, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 to provide surveys, design, prepare plans and specifications and cost estimates for the site adaptation of the Farias Recreation Center Plans to fit the new proposed East Hachar Recreation Center located at 3000 Guadalupe Street. Funding is available in

the Community Development East Hachar Recreation Center.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Consideration of an award of an annual contract #99-034, to the SOLE BIDDER, Dominguez Development and Construction, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$132,000.00, for re-plastering the Civic Center pool. The contract vendor will be required to complete the project within sixty days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Galo questioned the amount budgeted for re-plastering the Civic Center pool.

Francisco Meza, Purchasing Agent, reported that the amount did come under-budgeted because originally it was \$150,000.

17. Consideration of an award of a thirty six month rental contract (99-024) in the estimated amount of \$233,874.00 to the LOWEST PROPOSER, International Copier Corporation, Laredo, Texas for providing thirty five copiers for various City Departments. This vendor is being recommended based on the lowest cost per copy and is providing high quality digital copiers. The per copy cost will include the use of the copier, a maintenance contract, all consumable supplies (toner, developers) during the three year period. The contract pricing is approximately 11% less than the previous contract. The City will be receiving digital copiers that will be connected to our computers. The copiers can function as laser printers and with an optional feature, as fax machines. These copiers will be delivered within thirty days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration of an award of contract #99-032, to the LOW BIDDER, Valmont Industries, Inc., Valley, NE, in the amount of

\$42,377.00, for the purchase of traffic signal mast arms and poles. These will be installed at the following intersections McPherson/Fenwick. Calle Del Norte/West Drive, U.S. 59/Buena Vista, Santa Maria/Industrial Blvd., and U.S. 83/South Gate. Delivery is expected within sixty days.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 19. Consideration of an award of annual contract number 99-045, to the HIGHEST BIDDER, Adan Tire Shop, Laredo, Texas, for the sale of useable used tires collected at the Fleet Maintenance Division. The contract vendor will be responsible for purchasing on a weekly basis, those tires that are deemed useable by the contract vendor. Tires included in this sale are passenger tires (14 in. and 15 in.) and truck tires (15 in.). All unusable tires removed from City vehicles are taken to the landfill for disposal.

Cm. Guerra gave a copy of a memorandum to Mayor Flores to make it part of the record and share it with staff.

Memo reads:

"TEJAS SALES INTERNATIONAL, LTD

TEL (956) 723-1583

P.O. Box 243, 1708 Victoria

FAX (956) 727-7627

Laredo, Texas 78040

January 15, 1999

Memorandum to: Mr. Florencio Pena
City Manager

From: Hector Farias, Jr.

Subect: R.F.P. Landfill Tires

Because we have reason to be at the landfill several times a week on customs brokerage business, we know that the tire situation continues to worsen.

From the inception of the award to World Tires, we knew that at the contract amount awarded, it would be difficult for any responsible party to meet the City's requirements. For that reason, our firm contacted Fernando Trevino, owner of World

Tires, and offered to take all the usable tires which we can sell through TSI. An agreement with Mr. Trevino is still pending. However, we would like to make sure that this arrangement would not violate his present contract. Our interest was in not only providing tires for our established market but to expedite the process.

Since our last meeting, we have formed a partnership which has obtained a private landfill permit for the disposal and processing of tires. This partnership has been awarded a contract by Zapata County for removal of all tires from their landfill.

We have the ability to take all the tires from your landfill and transport them to our facility, hence this would allow for much needed capacity in Laredo because it would eliminate the storage of shredded tires. Because of the inordinate expenses related to baling tires, transporting and processing, we would need to enter into a long term contract with the City in order to realize our investment. Expensive specialized equipment for loading and unloading tires would be purchased by our firm to service the contract. The only constraint which would prohibit us from considering the City's RFP would be the selection process. In order for our firm to undertake the task of responding to the City's request, we need your assurance that our proposal would be given consideration based on its merit alone.

As you know, the previous process was tainted by the involvement of DPW Director Joe Guerra who in our opinion has serious conflicts of interest as well as Assistant City Manager Larry Dovalina who disqualified our firm without any basis. As a matter of fact, you have a copy of a request our firm made from Mr. Dovalina regarding the landfill tires, which he has failed to answer. Our firm requests only that we be on an equal playing field and would respect whomever you designate to formulate the RFP and select the best proposal for recommendation to the City Council. However, we would have a problem should either Joe Guerra or Larry Dovalina be involved in this process.

Let me assure you that it is our intent to submit a proposal keeping in mind the rate charges for tires under the proposed ordinance which should not incur additional costs to the City. This would be possible if the rates were set at \$6.00 per truck tire and \$2.50 per automobile tire. There are other particulars which can best be addressed in a meeting and I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible. In the

meantime, my best wishes."
End of memo.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to approve change order no. 1, in the amount of \$900,000.00 to the construction contract with MW Builders, Inc., Temple, Texas to expedite the construction contract time of the Border Facilities for the Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge). As an added incentive and part of this change order no. 1, if the contractor completes the work required to construct the Stage I Facilities prior to March 15, 2000, the Contractor will be paid \$4,500.00 for each calendar day, up to a maximum of 60 calendar days for a total amount of \$270,000.00 and would be added as a subsequent change order after March 15, 2000. Approval is contingent only upon the outcome of the meeting the City Officials and Mexican Officials scheduled for January 14, 1999 concerning the timetables to reconfirm the progress of the international bridge on Mexico's side. City Staff will inform the Council at the City Council Meeting, and further, will recommend approval of change order no. 1 only if the Mexico's portion is on time. If change order no. 1 is approved, the current completion contract time of September 15, 2000 is revised for a new completion date of March 15, 2000 for the construction completion of the Stage I Facilities and September 15, 2000 for the construction completion of all other work than Stage I Facilities. The project consists of eleven building structures with related plumbing, electrical, sprinkler and security systems. The original construction contract was \$29,277,000.00. This change order brings the total construction contract to \$30,177,000.00. Funding is available in the Bridge System/Taxable Bond and Bridge System/Tax Exempt Bond.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration of a renewal for a lease agreement with Casa Beto, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$16,800.00, for the lease of a warehouse facility located at 702 Davis. This warehouse is being utilized by the Health, Finance, Bridge, and Engineering Departments as a central storage facility of records and

documents. This will be the third year that the City has occupied this facility. The lease cost of \$0.16/sq. ft. is prorated based on the square footage utilized by each operation. The City is planning to construct a records retention warehouse at the new Public Works facility. All city records will then be stored at this facility.

Motion to approve.

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

- 22. Consideration to authorize the selection of a consultant and enter negotiations for architectural/engineering services for the stabilization and preservation of the Benavides Herrera home, an Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Enhancement Project the consultant recommended for the project is Turner, Hickey, and Associates. (The Engineering Review Committee recommends approval)

Motion to approve.

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

- 23. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into and execute a lease agreement between the N.D. Hachar Trust, as Lessor, and the City of Laredo, as Lessee, for a primary term of one year, at the rental rate of \$1,750.00 per month, for 70 designated parking spaces located on the north corner of Lot Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9. 10, in Block No. 61, in the Western Division of the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, for use as a City of Laredo employee parking lot.

Motion to approve.

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

- 24. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into an inter-local governmental agreement between the City of Laredo and the Laredo Independent School District regarding a joint use and maintenance agreement for the D.D. Hachar neighborhood recreation center authorized by and pursuant to Chapter 791 V.T.C.A., Texas Government Code.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1
Cw. Moreno

25. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract between the City of Laredo and Grupo Empresarial, Nuevo Laredo, S.A. De C.V., a Mexican Corporation which runs the Tecolotes De Los Dos Laredos, a professional 'Triple A' Mexican Baseball League, for twenty (20) regular season games to be played at Veterans Field during the 1999 season.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Consideration to authorize approval of a contract with CH2MHill Engineers for the development of a groundwater supply study at a cost not to exceed \$185,000.00. The scope for this project was presented to Council during the December 14, 1998 workshop.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever and McDaniel, L.L.P. for legal services related to the negotiations with various departments of the Mexican government including but not limited to the Secretaria de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT), the Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE) and the Comision de Avaluos y Bienes Nacionales (CABIN) to present a project for the joint development and construction of a new rail bridge and related facilities. The contract is for \$4,500.00 per month, plus cost and expenses, for up to six (6) months duration, for a maximum sum of \$27,000.00, plus cost and expenses.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Consideration of a refund for property tax to the following taxpayer(s):

a. Oscar M. Saldana and Mary Ann Saldana, wife, in the amount of \$1,126.83.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to authorize the reimbursement of \$65,100.00 to Vaquillas Ranch, Company, LTD in exchange for the assignment of 65.1 acre-feet of water rights, already deeded to the City of Laredo. The reimbursement is requested since cash was collected from the developer when water rights could have been assigned in accordance with contractual obligations between the City and Vaquillas Ranch Co., LTD.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to authorize the amendment of the City of Laredo's 20th AY Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Final Statement and its 1995 Consolidated Plan as they pertain to the use of 20th and 21st AY CDBG funds for the purpose of reprogramming project balances totaling \$400,000 to finance new and/or previously identified activities as noted below:

20th Action Year CDBG (Project Balances)

Santo Nino Wastewater Improvements	\$104,924
Paving Project #53 Grants.	250
Paving Project #54 Grants.	28
Traffic Street Signs	346
Demolition of Substandard Buildings	20,397
Affordable Housing Infrastructure.	227,188
Land Acquisition	<u>128</u>
Subtotal	\$353,261

21st Action Year CDBG (Project Balances)

Santa Maria Drainage	\$ 763
Affordable Housing Infrastructure.	15,122

April 1, 1999.

Motion to table until the first week of February.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

33. Status report regarding the Speed Hump Pilot Project, Phase I, which entails the installation of speed humps for the following streets, McPherson Drive, Fenwick Drive, Kentucky Drive, Ash Street, Lyon Street, and Taylor Street and request for approval to go out on bids.

Robert Murillo, gave a status presentation. He informed that meetings were held with the residents of these streets in order to provide them information on the speed humps project. Also, certified letters were mailed out to these residents for their input. The following are the results:

Street:	Letters Mailed	Responses Received	In Favor	Against
McPherson Drive	66	36	30	6
Fenwick Drive	40	30	24	6
Kentucky Drive	58	32	27	7
Ash Street	11	4	4	0
Lyon St. (east side)	32	10	10	0
Taylor St.	36	25	25	0

The estimated cost for this First Phase of the project is \$60,000.

Some of the concerns addressed by the property owners were: property damage due to vehicle control, liability issues, noise, allocation of traffic control devices, and decreasing of property's value. Neither of the responses mentioned concerns regarding emergency vehicles having to slow down.

Mr. Murillo added that after the installation of the speed humps there will be a 90-days trial period in which an evaluation will be made.

Tomas Ramirez, Fire Chief, voiced his concerns regarding the emergency vehicles damages and response time. He also expressed concerns with these residential areas since many children play

on the sidewalks and if a speeding vehicle hits a hump, it may lose control and plow towards the children or into a house.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated that these are the type of liability issues they are looking into. That's why this project has an extensive process.

Motion to authorize to go out for bids.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Note: Cm. Guerra requested to move up item #36.

34. Status report of the City of Laredo International Airport Noise Compatibility Program for the month of January 1999.

Cynthia Collazo, Community Development Director, made a presentation on this item. She reported that the appraisals for the 18 families that selected fee simple acquisition are already completed. Offers were made to 6 families, of these 4 have accepted and one has already been closed.

For the 4 families that elected the acoustical treatment program, the review committee interviewed the acoustical treatment consultants on January 13, 1999.

Mr. Hinton is finalizing the work on the avigation easements. (5 families elected this program). There are still 18 families undecided.

Ms. Collazo informed that up to date we have received 12 review appraisals totalling over \$1 million. So far, we have about \$6 million for the noise compatibility program.

35. Status report regarding Ryder/ATE proposal for management of Transit Management services and discussion of the City's proposal for creation of a non-profit corporation to replace private management and possible action thereon.

Keith Selman, City Planner, stated that City Council directed staff to submit a proposal managing El Metro Transit System, therefore, a committee was formed by staff members including himself. One of the bigger issues about this transition was: "can we do it?", the answer is yes but the how's to.

The proposed organizational structure outlines how TMCL will be

dissolved and the "El Metro, Inc." will be created in order to make this transition possible. Once in place, the new organizational structure will comprise three entities and two contracts connecting them functionally: The City of Laredo and "El Metro, Inc." (non-profit) will enter into a management contract. "El Metro, Inc." and Union #1670 will enter into a collective bargaining agreement. This structure will meet NLRB tests because all transit department managers and supervisors with responsibility for employees, except for the Transit Director, are employed by the non-profit private corporation, which will manage the employee's work and will negotiate wages and work conditions.

The current organizational structure provides for one General Manager and two Coordinators (PR and Safety) over four division heads. On the proposal, one of the four division heads positions was removed, the Assistant General Manager for Facilities. So the proposed organizational chart indicates one Director and three division heads: an Operations Manager (with the Maintenance Manager, Safety Coordinator and Senior Road Supervisor under him), Public Relations and Marketing Coordinator (Research and Development), and the Administration Manager.

Mr. Selman stated that this particular item did go before El Metro Committee and by unanimous vote they recommended the City to become the manager of El Metro.

Cm. Galo asked why the City Manager didn't take care of the Transit System's problems beforehand, since he has had the ability to remedy them. (Note: Cm. Galo previously provided the City Manager a list entailing his concerns hoping that staff would provide the answers tonight or extend ATE's contract for a period of time).

Cm. Galo stated he hoped that this proposal would have been given to Council quite a while back, so they would have ample time for the transition, instead of doing it at the last minute. He wants to make sure that nothing pops up that hasn't been considered because instead of saving money, it will cost the City more money. Finally, just to ensure that the City hires the best qualified people for the new entity, he made the following motion:

Motion that if and when the City's proposal is accepted, that the qualifications for the Transit Director must be that he or she has served as a Transit Director before or at least as an Assistant Director for a system that is larger than our own and

that the Assistant Director must have served as an Assistant before.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 6

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Cm. Alvarado

Cw. Montalvo

Cm. Alvarado replied that for the last two years El Metro's Ad-Hoc Committee has been promised they will get answers to their questions regarding abuse and misuse at the Transit Center. Nepotism was occurring and different audits that were done reflected discrepancies. There were also allegations brought to Council regarding mishaps going on.

Here we have a managing firm that charges over \$28,000 per month to oversee the operation of the transit system and we don't understand why we are not getting the service that we should be getting. It is for this reason alone that we lost confidence in the managing firm of ATE. Therefore, the Ad-Hoc Committee has unanimously recommended that the City take over the management responsibilities of the Transit System.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, pursuant to Section 551.071(2) of the Open Meetings Act and under his authority as the City Attorney requested that City Council meet with him in executive session in order to provide them with private legal consultation and preserve the attorney-client privilege regarding certain legal issues involved with the discussion of this item.

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

There was discussion about Cm. Galo's motion.

Motion to accept the City's proposal for management services of the El Metro Transportation System and extend the ATE contract for 3 months from March 31, 1999 for the transitional period. And that the City Manager be allowed to post for positions and that the City staff come back with any resolutions or any documents that we need to be able to proceed with the filing of

the corporation and any other items pertinent to this issue.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 7

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. Galo

36. Presentation and possible action of a request from Mary Help of Christians for the City to provide paving improvements that would give access to the school on the north side of the campus with their proportionate share not exceeding \$30,000.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, received a letter from the school regarding the need to decongest Del Mar Boulevard during the school months. It was identified that we can build a road that will connect with Springfield's extension on the north side. This road will take care of the traffic coming out from the school.

The project has an approximate cost of \$100,000 of which the school has offered up to \$30,000. The school is asking us to condition their contribution up to 28%, so if the bids come lower than the estimated amount the school will only contribute their 28% portion.

Patrick Hearn, Boardmember, spoke for Mary Help of Christians on this issue as for approval.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Note: After this item, meeting took regular order.

37. Presentation and request for affirmation of the 2nd Year Street Recycling Project to advise the Mayor and the City Council of the proposed list of streets and solicit input as to changes which may be necessary, and to submit said list to utility companies for scheduling of work required.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported that he needs Council's input on the proposed list of streets for the 2nd Year Recycling Project. Any changes or additions must be submitted in writing in order to avoid misrepresentations. As soon as the list gets approved, he will notify the utilities companies so they will be ready when advertising for bids starts.

Mayor Flores asked Council to review the list and turn in any revisions or additions in writing to the City Manager.

Cm. Guerra stated that on the meeting of December 7, 1998, Council approved a motion to include the 400 block of Chevy Chase on this program.

Cm. Bruni also stated that Council had approved a motion on October 5, 1998 to add the 2500 block of Villa Way to the current program.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, informed this three year program is based on a \$750,000 budget and was approved by Council on August 1998. He would like to have Councilmembers' revisions by the next meeting.

The City Manager requested this item to be tabled for the next Council Meeting.

Note: At this point Cm. Galo requested to move up items under #38-D (1,2,3), since he will be leaving early.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Cw. Montalvo recognized the Traffic Department and two of its employees, Minda Guerra and Janie Estevez, for providing and continue to provide the best customer service in selling bridge coupons.
- B. Cm. Guerra gave a letter to Mr. Pena and asked him to have staff solve the situation addressed in the letter. The letter is from Mr. Ronald Goodman, Manager of ROADRUNNER ESCORT SERVICE, INC., 8340 Tejas Loop, Laredo, Texas 78043, (956-712-9292), and it's dated January 18, 1999.

Letter reads:

"Recently, it seems that due to the fact that I frequently voice my opinion and our concerns before Council, we are being treated differently than all other customers of the Traffic Safety Department (Permit Office). If a citizen voicing concerns and opinions make him subject to mistreatment from Staff simply because they don't like or agree with him, we live in a very poor community. We sincerely believe that this department has a double standard and sometimes, dealing with Staff makes us feel that we are not in the U.S. but in Mexico. This type of attitude is not supposed to exist in our country.

As employees of a vehicle escort company and being on the streets all day long; we happen to see a lot of different violations of the Department's policy and rules. We have reported many of these to Staff and we have been told that we need to put the complaint in writing and have it notarized. This requires access to a typewriter and an expense of at least fifteen dollars to have a document notarized. What happened to accepting a citizen's complaint and following upon it. If we dial 911 and say someone is shooting someone, the police do not ask for a notarized letter in order to act. If we see something happening now and we report it, they should send someone out now and catch the violators in the act not wait for a lot of red tape. Staff earns a salary come rain or shine, their job as public servants is much more secure than ours or than working for the private industry.

I sometimes feel that we are at war and Staff is the enemy. We try to make peace but our efforts always fall on deaf ears. I have been told that I am always asking for favors and nobody else ever asks. Maybe I am the only one who can take the heat and everyone else is afraid to step on someone's toes and get blacklisted as we seem to be.

We are customers of the Department, Staff works because of us, treat us like customers and be impartial and don't let public opinion tell you how to treat some customers differently than others. You might consider a change in upper management. Management should not have to be told about these problems, they should not let them start or at least catch them and nip them in the bud."

- C. Mayor Flores forwarded a letter that she received to Mr. Pena. The letter is signed by residents on Live Oak Street, in the Terra Hills subdivision. They are concerned with the opening of the street for traffic to go through.
- D. Jesus Hernandez, from GI Forum, appeared before Council for the purpose of soliciting to claim the flags for Mothers Days for the Veterans Organization and also asked for diapers for the Veterans. And his third issue was a concern for the Food Bank that according to him have not been paid by the City.

Mayor Flores stated that she will give his letter to the Veterans Affairs Committee so that they can discuss his concerns, and told him that Food Bank is working.

Jerry Robinson, Health Department Director, added that the

Health Department has been furnishing incontinence supplies (diapers) and other necessary supplies, and will continue to do so, to the Veterans.

XI. CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

38. Requests by Mayor and City Council members for presentation and discussion.

A. Request by Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores

- 1. Invitation by the Laredo Center for the Arts to all citizens in our community to visit their photography exhibit called, Children of Children, for the month of January and February.

Martha Gonzalez, Executive Director of the Laredo Center for the Arts, and Elva Garcia, Chairman of the Board of Directors invited Council and public to this event.

- 2. Discussion and possible action on naming a Year 2000 Planning Committee to work on city sponsored festivities in celebration of the new millennium.

Mayor Flores wanted to know if Council had any interest in naming a Council Committee for the Year 2000 Planning and stated that she would like the City Manager select a staff member to coordinate this committee.

Motion to name a Year 2000 Planning Committee to work on city sponsored festivities in celebration of the new millennium.

Moved : Cm. Agredano
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
(Cm. Galo was not present.)

- 3. Confirmation of appointee, Ms. Meriam Norton to the Cemetery Board.

Motion to confirm appointee, Ms. Meriam Norton to the Cemetery Board.

Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
(Cm. Galo was not present.)

4. Presentation by Sylvia Romero, Partnership Specialist for Webb County regarding the United States Census 2000 and the need to establish a Complete Count Committee to develop and implement local activities to promote the census.

Ms. Romero informed that the Census Bureau is offering state and local governments the opportunity to participate in programs that will contribute to a more accurate count. One of these programs is the Complete Count Committee whose chairperson and members should be well respected and influential community leaders coming from all segments of the community. The goal is to make everyone in the community aware of the upcoming Census 2000 and motivate the community to participate by filling out the census form and returning it immediately. She urged us to start this committee as soon as possible in order to avoid being under counted. Ms. Romero introduced Mr. Juan Hinojosa, Area Manager, from Corpus Christi. He gave an overview of the operations on the area.

Mayor Flores assured that this Council will work towards naming the committee.

Motion to approve the formation of a Complete Count Committee.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
(Cm. Galo was not present.)

B. Request by Council member Alfredo Agredano

1. Confirmation of Robert Huber, appointee to the Citizens Environmental Committee.

Motion to confirm Robert Huber to the Citizens Environmental Committee.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
(Cm. Galo was not present.)

2. Confirmation of Jose A. Rugama, appointee to the Cemetery

Board.

Motion to confirm Jose A. Rugama to the Cemetery Board.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
(Cm. Galo was not present.)

C. Request by Council member Louis H. Bruni

1. Status report on 300 Block of Arkansas regarding the Aldo Tatangelo's Day Care Center, with possible action.

Cynthia Collazo, Community Development Director, reported with regards to this property, that there are 2 blocks adjacent to it that were replated into 16 lots. Back in 1997 Council approved building 32 units of housing targeted for lower income families. The plan back then was to finish the 100 units at Los Obispos and then proceed with this project; however, recently, there have been mixed signals from City Council regarding the Laredo Affordable Housing Corporation building houses. Ms. Collazo wants direction from Council on this issue. She also noted that the City had entered into a contract with Laredo Affordable Housing Corporation for 32 units, not including this particular block (300 Arkansas).

Motion to move into the proposed plan and go forward and construct the affordable homes.

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

2. Status report on the extension of University Boulevard, with possible action.

Cm. Bruni informed Council that he received a petition with almost 100 signatures from Casa Verde residents asking to expedite the extension of University Boulevard project. The residents' major concern is their safety when entering into the Bob Bullock Loop.

Cynthia Collazo, Community Development Director, reported that two letters of agreement to the abutting landowners were sent on January 15, 1999, and that the land owners have manifested their support.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, informed they do have an engineer for this project.

Cm. Bruni requested that this item be placed on the February 1, 1999 meeting.

3. Status report on staff's efforts to strengthen the ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms within the city limits, with possible action.

Agustin Dovalina, Police Chief, stated there is already an ordinance and it's a Class "C" misdemeanor. There is a State Charge on disorderly conduct (Class "B") and on the State Penal Code there is a deadly conduct charge which is a felony. He feels that adding more teeth to the ordinance will not stop people. Due to last New Year's festivities, the Police Department received over 131 calls regarding shots being fired; they made two arrests.

Cm. Bruni stated that ammunition suppliers even asked to ban the sale of ammunitions 48 hours prior to the celebrations. Cm. Bruni suggested that the ban may start even be a week before the celebrations. He asked legal staff to look into this issue.

4. Status report on amending the Oil and Gas Ordinance to include the plugging and abandonment of non-producing gas wells with possible action.

Cm. Bruni stated that a certain company in town wanted to plug several gas wells located at Cm. Guerra's district, but due to their proximity to a supermarket and restaurant, the company decided there were too many restrictions and they rather leave the gas valves in place and not worry about it. These wells present a problem because, eventhough they have been depleted, there still are lingering gas and shooting pressure at the well head. He is concerned about our ordinances not having such provisions while oil and gas contracts written to owners have provisions calling for abandonment and plugging of gas wells that are no longer productive for a period of six months.

Keith Selman, City Planner, informed that we certainly can amend our ordinance to put this kind of language into it, but he is not sure on how this will be enforced

retroactively. He added that we can work out the language on the ordinance and incorporate it but it seems, to a certain degree, the private sector is taking care of it.

Cm. Bruni replied that in this particular case the surface owners will ask the oil company to plug the wells, but the company may refuse if it's not stipulated in their lease agreement. So, it has to be either in the oil & gas lease or in our ordinance to effectively and efficiently make the company plug and abandon the well and remove their well head equipment.

Motion to instruct staff to proceed to amend the ordinance to call for the abandonment and plugging of non-producing oil/gas well and that we set time parameters on how long a gas well cannot produce gas and still be allowed not to be plugged.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
 Second: Cm. Guerra
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council member John C. Galo

1. Asking for a report from Tex-Mex on the progress made at their new rail yard and on the reconstruction of the at grade crossings at Hendricks and at Seymour.

Keith Selman, City Planner, reported that he received a letter from Tex-Mex which outlines their recent accomplishments undertaken in Laredo over the last twelve months.

(Excerpt from letter:)

New Tex Mex Yard at Mile Post 9:

Phase I -1 15,000 ft. track and 3 tracks of 10,000 ft., each 95% complete.

Phase II -Intermodal track to be completed by the end of January 1999.

Phase III -10 yard tracks proposed to start construction by summer 1999.

Laredo:

- o Installed 5.4 million pounds of ballast to upgrade the mainline through the city.
- o Installed 10,000 mainline rail ties.

- o Reconstructed railroad grade crossings at Arkansas, East Market, Bartlett, Buena Vista, Seymour, Hendricks, West Market, Marcella, Corpus Christi and Convent Streets.
 - o Replaced 70% of mainline switches.
 - o Removed 4 tracks on Convent & Moctezuma crossing.
 - o Currently removing one of the tracks between Logan and Seymour Streets.
- (excerpt ends).

Arturo Dominguez and Larry Fields from Tex-Mex were present.

Mr. Fields reported there are currently 5 tracks in service at the new yard, and they are at least 90 days from completing the second inner-motor track (boxes, trailers, etc.). Tex-Mex will start using the new facility on February 1, 1999.

At least 3 tracks from the Heights Area are being retired; this will be completed in 60 to 90 days. Switching in town will continue, but it will decrease by 70-80%. So far, Tex-Mex has spend \$15.5 millions in major improvements in and around the City. They are rehabilitating the tracks throughout town and the embargos (tracks adjacent to Rio Grande).

The crossing upgrades at Hendricks and Seymour have been done and finalized.

Cm. Galo requested that staff look into the above two crossings because there are some bumps where the regular street connects with the upgraded area.

Cm. Bruni, also, requested that staff look into the crossing at Guadalupe and Arkansas because there is a dip where the upgrade meets with the City's portion and that's the City's problem.

2. Staff reports on any city or government ordinance that may control noise levels concerning the railroads and the possibility of government grants for noise abatements to those residents who qualify.

Keith Selman, Planner, reported that the tendency in the legislation is to get louder. He is not aware about any grants or similar things regarding noise abatements, and there are no local ordinances addressing the noise.

3. Staff reports on all city ordinances that regulate the railroads, with possible action.

Keith Selman, City Planner, stated that Chapter 27 of our local code has three different provisions: Section 27-1 deals with the speeds and how fast the trains can move through Laredo. Section 27.2 pertains to the issue of obstructing the crossing for five minutes. Section 72-3 pertains to maintenance of the crossing and identifies the Railroad Companies as being responsible for it.

Cm. Galo wanted to know how enforceable is the ordinance pertaining to blocking the crossing.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, replied that the violation has to do with stopping for five minutes. A call is received by the Police Department and an officer will be sent to the location. The logistics of this ordinance are complicated.

Cm. Galo stated the trains are getting longer and longer and this problem needs to be addressed greatly. We don't need an intersection at every single block, but the intersections that are available need to carry the increased traffic load.

Agustin Dovalina, Police Chief, stated that the Police Department does respond to a number of calls involving a train blocking an intersection for a lengthy period of time, but sometimes the train is moving slowly and there is no violation. But citations as well as a couple of arrests have been made regarding trains stopped for lengthy periods of time.

Cm. Galo mentioned that sometimes the locomotive is parked at Seymour, outside their yard, and it's left just idling. Does this fall into the noise ordinance?

Keith Selman replied that he will look into it and find out.

4. Confirmation of Sigifredo Perez Jr., appointee to the Ordinance Review Committee.

Motion to confirm Sigifredo Perez, Jr. to the Ordinance Review Committee.

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

Note: Cm. Galo left at 7:35 P.M.
The meeting followed the regular order of business
item X (Communications).

E. Request by Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.

1. Status report on the replacement of water lines in the Hillside area.

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, reported that streets needing water lines replacement were identified at both sides of the Zacate Creek in the Hillside area. Priority was given to the most difficult streets which were on the east side of the creek. To this date, work has been completed, including patching and sidewalks reconstruction, at the following streets Nebraska, Oklahoma, East Dakota and about 60 feet of Montana.

Work pending is on the west side of the Zacate Creek which includes the streets of Mayberry, Indiana and Kentucky. There are no funds available in the current year's budget to start this project; so is has to wait until next FY budget (October 1999).

2. Status report on right hand turning lanes on St. James/Calle Del Norte and Springfield Road/Calle Del Norte.

Cynthia Collazo, Community Development Director, reported they have been working with the property owner on the St. James/Calle Del Norte. He wants to negotiate some agreements he previously made with the City. If an agreement is not reached with him within the next two days, we will proceed with an appraisal of the property and make an offer. If the owner rejects the offer then we will proceed with eminent domain proceedings.

Robert Murillo, Traffic Engineer, informed that the award for the signal post was approved today and the it will be installed within the next 3-4 months.

Ms. Collazo, reported that the property owners are willing to work with us on the Springfield/Calle Del Norte intersection. The Engineering Department prepared

an estimate on the actual cost of the project including the removal and reconstruction of curb and gutter, pavement, sidewalks and ramps, new curb and gutter pavement, relocation of the mast turn signal, fencing, stripping and relocation of water lines. The estimate came to approximately \$175,000 and does not include the right-of-way nor the A & E Fees; however this project's construction is unfunded at this time.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated this is the early part of the CIP process. If the A & E money gets allocated for the project's design and if the project gets approved on August 1999, the bidding process can start on October 1999 when next fiscal starts and funds may be allocated. This will make it possible to proceed in a much faster pace.

Motion to proceed with RFP for solution of Engineers.

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

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

39. Public hearing amending the City of Laredo FY 1998-1999 Annual Budget in the amount of \$12,500 for a gift from H.E.B. for the automation and equipping of the Bruni Plaza Branch Library, providing for effective date.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 1998-1999 Annual Budget in the amount of \$12,500 for a gift from H.E.B. for the automation and equipping of the Bruni Plaza Branch Library, providing for effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 40. Public hearing amending the City of Laredo's 1998-1999 Annual Budget by reclassifying eight firefighter/cadets to eight communications technicians (911) and adding one communications technician supervisor and one communications technician for the Police Department and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's 1998-1999 Annual Budget by reclassifying eight firefighter/cadets to eight communications technicians (911) and adding one communications technician supervisor and one communications technician for the Police Department and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 41. Public hearing concerning Delfina Alexander Ochoa and Josefina Alexander Gonzales amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 84.6274 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located southeast of the intersection of Del Mar Boulevard and McPherson Road, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of this zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 84.6274 acres, as further described by

metes and bounds, located southeast of the intersection of Del Mar Boulevard and McPherson Road, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Larry Puig spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Bruni

- 42. Public hearing concerning Blackstone Dilworth amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning .650 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located at 10810 McPherson Road from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Industrial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of this zone change.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning .650 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located at 10810 McPherson Road from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Industrial District).

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Harry Dewitt, representing Mr. Blackstone Dilworth stated that the rezoning acreage is .65 and that it is for a communications site across the street from the fire station on McPherson Road.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce the ordinance.

Moved : Cm. Guerra

Second: Cw. Montalvo

City of Laredo 1999 Capital Improvements projects:

1. Killam Industrial Boulevard to Foster Engineering Company
2. Jacaman Road to Porras Engineering Company
3. McPherson Road Widening to Mejia Engineering Company
4. Community Development Sidewalks Approaches to Schools in District IV to Crane Engineering Company
5. Zacate Creek Beautification Phase II to Sherfey Engineering Company.

The Engineering Contract Review Committee concurs with the Recommendation.

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

Award of a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, Dominguez Development and Construction, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$241,662.50 for the Zacate Creek Beautification Project. Funding is available in the Community Development Zacate Creek Beautification.


Moved : Cm. Agredano
 Second: Cw. Montalvo
 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn. Adjournment time: 8:45 P.M.

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

I hereby certify that the above Minutes contained in pages 01 to 34 are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the Regular City Council Meeting held on the 18th day of January, 1999. A certified copy is on file at the City Secretary's Office.



 Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
 City Secretary

Minutes approved on: February 16, 1999