

Office. Because their personnel will increase, they are constructing a new building. By this DEA will be able to work closer with our Police Department and with the narcotics task force.

XI. CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

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

A. Request by Council member John C. Galo

1. Status report of the lease agreement with the airlines at the new terminal.

Jose Flores, Airport Director, stated that a status report was provided to Council on Friday's package. He then said that it's not been from staff not wanting to conclude the negotiations with the airlines, but because it is a difficult task. Everything that we propose would be retroactive to the day they move into the new passenger terminal. Mr. Flores mentioned that they are planning to meet with the President of Continental Express, Mr. David Segall, since he is the company's decision-maker. Mr. Flores hopes that in that meeting, perhaps, we can conclude our negotiations on the terms of the new contract.

Cm. Bruni thinks that it may be prudent to wait until the February 24, 1999 meeting, with Mr. David Segall before consummating any lease agreement deals with the airliners. He would like to see if it would be in agreement with Council to visit with Continental in Houston, in the afternoon; and maybe invite two of our local bank presidents, someone from the business community, and a Conoco representative to join us and fly in the morning and come back in the evening.

Cm. Galo wanted to know if we got a response from Mr. Barkley on the October 28, 1998 letter.

Mr. Flores replied that the only response was a telephone conversation in which Mr. Barkley basically said that they are evaluating airports in the Valley and pointed out that Laredo is not in the Valley. Nonetheless, they are evaluating the Laredo Airport for profitable purposes.

After discussion it was determined that Cm. Galo, Cm. Bruni, Cm. Valdez, Cm. Guerra and Mayor Flores will attend the meeting. An agenda will be posted for a workshop session with the President of Continental in Houston, Texas for February 24, 1999.

2. Discussion of the Airport Advisory Committee's role, with possible action.

Cm. Galo stated that an appointee, for the above mentioned committee, expressed concern because the committee members are not getting enough input.

There was discussion on the committee's functions. Mr. Jose Flores added that the meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of every month; and that the committee reviews all the leases and matters that come before the City Council.

Charles Martens, Chairman, replied that before the ordinance was created, the Airport Advisory Board which is a committee, had full authority over the property. Nevertheless, he feels that the committee is being kept informed. He added that committee members have always been welcomed to place items on the agenda for discussion.

- B. Request by Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.

1. Request for City staff to review the need for increasing the hours of operation for the Main Public Library, with possible action.

Mary Solis, Assistant Director Library, reported that the library' staff and operation hours are in average compared to other libraries that serve the same number of population. The library currently has two rotating crews that work thin on the weekends and at night, so extending the hours of operation will require additional staff.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, stated that staff can look at modifying the hours of operation and report back to Council. Also, staff can prepare an estimate on the cost associated to increasing the hours of operation in order to have a comparison figure for the budget hearings.

Cm. Bruni added that he received a communication stating concerns pertaining to numerous incidents of sexual

misconduct, theft, gang influences and vandalism at the library. The communication also speaks about the 1998-1999 budget which included \$25,000 for security but no security has been seen at the Laredo Public Library.

Mr. Pena replied that the \$25,000 were not budgeted. That was an amount requested in the budget for additional security. Because the money was not available, the Police Department was asked to frequent the library as a security measure. Nonetheless, this is an issue that needs to be re-evaluated but there will be a cost associated with it.

Cm. Bruni suggested that we should look into this at the upcoming budget hearings.

Motion to include both items, library expansion of hours and security, for further discussion in the 2000-2001 budget.

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

C. Request by Council member Joe A. Guerra

1. Status report on the demolition and removal of the abandoned water storage tanks on San Dario Avenue, Village Boulevard, and Del Mar Boulevard, with possible action.

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, reported that the abandoned 30,000 gallon tank close to the Bingo is part of what was called the Casa Norte booster station that used to serve the Del Mar area before the new booster station was built. They are currently looking at taking the Casa Norte station down within the next 60 days.

On the other hand, the Ex-Del Mar Water Treatment Plant, confiscated in 1985, has many elements that can be salvaged if we find an interested company. The plant itself can't be reused because the filtration system is outdated according to TNRCC. Although the iron elements have no value to us, there is a conical unit that might be utilized by somebody else; however taking the unit down, transport it, and erect it would cost more than what it's worth. Since we contacted a salvage company to see if they were willing to take the plant down, our

Purchasing Department recommended us to prepare an RFP. We will do well if we find somebody that will take the components at no cost to us.

Cm. Galo suggested to contact Webb County or Rio Bravo City and see if either party is interested.

Cm. Guerra asked Mr. Roman to expedite taking down the abandoned water plant because he would like to have a recreational center developed on this land.

There was discussion regarding the quality and quantity of water that some wells on this area may produce.

D. Request by Council member Mario G. Alvarado

1. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into and execute a cooperative working agreement between South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; Association for the Advancement of Mexican-Americans; and Stop Child Abuse and Neglect, Inc. for the purpose of developing a community coalition in Webb County, to reduce substance use and abuse and promote healthy development of youth, families and community, with possible action.

Cm. Alvarado stated that this is basically to provide a cooperative working agreement that would support and allow different departments to participate in this particular city-wide coalition. The school districts, other government bodies, various law enforcement entities, the business sector, and different social service agencies are supporting the creation of this coalition.

They are trying to bring additional money into this community to hire an individual that would lead the work to form this coalition. The coalition will be run by group individuals, who will form a board and will decide what items need to be addressed regarding drug and substance abuse problems that the community is currently facing.

Cm. Alvarado added that the City's support is needed and that it will entail being able to work with different departments like Police and Health, and bring people with expertise in their areas to talk to the coalition about what can be done to help address the substance abuse problems. Also the City can bring in the Parks and

Recreation Department because the more activities we provide to our young individuals, the less likely they will engage with substance abuse or other things of no so positive nature.

Mayor Flores announced that at the U.S. Conference of Mayors, that she recently attended, one of the items on the agenda was what we call the "2-8". These are the hours where children get the most in trouble, from 2:00-8:00 P.M. She added that Mr. Vidaurri and the Police Chief have been working on after schools programs and activities for our youth.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to enter and execute a cooperative working agreement between South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; Association for the Advancement of Mexican-Americans; and Stop Child Abuse and Neglect, Inc.

Moved : Cm. Guerra
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 6

Against: 0 Abstain: 1
Cm. Alvarado

2. Consideration to have City Council meetings at each of the City Council Districts, with possible action.

Cm. Alvarado stated that Mayor Flores previously brought this item up and now he wants to discuss it with Council. Cm. Alvarado said that he mentioned to the UISD and LISD Board members, during the past proclamation, the possibility of holding the Council Meetings at different districts. The response from the board members was positive and they are willing to provide their facilities for council members to go throughout the community and hold the City Council meetings there. This will bring more participation from the community. Also the schools may do projects in which the students will get involved with the governmental process, thus benefiting all the members from this Council.

Mayor Flores said that one of the reasons she brought this item up is because every district has some specific characteristics. Although we have the town-hall meetings, it would be beneficial if we could bring the Council meetings themselves to the people.

Motion to instruct staff to draft an ordinance to provide

for meetings at each of the City Council Districts.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

29. Public hearing concerning an application by Alberto Pena, Owner and Renato Madrigal, Applicant amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 898, Eastern Division, located at 405 Meadow Ave., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of this item.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 898, Eastern Division, located at 405 Meadow Ave., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and deny the zone change as per recommendation by Planning and Zoning.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

30. Public hearing concerning an application by Mike Link, Owner amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 2, 3 and 4, Block 1218, Eastern Division, located at 2119 Corpus Christi St., from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of the proposed zone change to B-4 and approval of a Conditional Use Permit for Truck/Trailer Rentals on this site.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 2, 3 and 4, Block 1218, Eastern Division, located at 2119 Corpus Christi St., from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Martin Lopez, stated that the business will be only truck rentals, not trailers. He said that on the last meeting there was a situation about him not having sufficient parking, presently there is sufficient parking. Also, he added that they will not rent that many Ryder trucks where it would cause that much congestion at the location.

Motion to close the public hearing and deny the zone change requested, but grant a Conditional Use Permit for the Ryder truck rental units for period of one year and to be reviewed after that period of time.

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

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Galo

31. Public hearing concerning an application by Leticia Quintana amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 10, Block 712, Eastern Division, located at 220 S. Loring Ave., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends denial of this item.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 10, Block 712, Eastern Division, located at 220 S. Loring Ave., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).

Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Miss Leticia Quintana, requested that if the zone change is not granted, then if it was possible to get a conditional use permit.

Mr. Hernandez spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close the public hearing, deny the zone change but grant a Conditional Use Permit for a period of six months and for the specific use of a flower shop.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Galo

32. Public hearing approval of an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget in the amount of \$435,686 (which consists of \$230,386 in direct funds from the State and in-kind services match of \$205,300) for an Abstinence Education Program partnered between the City of Laredo Health Department and the Laredo Independent School District for the beginning January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

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Motion to open the public hearing.

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

Against:

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Agredano

Primary Contract Vendors:	Estimated Contract Amount
Gillig	\$137,348.19
Universal Coach	\$104,099.27
Muncie Reclamation	\$ 60,090.07
Stewart and Stevenson	\$ 47,749.90
San Antonio Brake and Clutch	\$ 21,853.09
C.C. Battery	\$ 15,648.75
Commercial Rebuild	\$ 10,690.00
Power Equipment	\$ 6,967.50
McCarty	\$ 5,227.15
Velco, Laredo, Texas	\$ 2,326.49

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Consideration of an award of contract number 99-041, to Lucent Technologies, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$23,877.12, for the purchase of a replacement telephone system for the El Metro Operations facility located at 201 Scott. The complete system will be installed within thirty days.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Consideration of approval of amendment no. 5, an increase of \$65,587.05 to the professional engineering and architectural contract with Wilbur Smith Associates Engineers, Houston, Texas, for additional reproduction and delivery cost for construction bidding documents; additional architectural redesign required not to close Farragut Street and to comply with State Regulations, a second submittal was required to the State Historical Preservation Office; and additional construction phase services for the extended completion date due to construction delays, and the finish out of the Greyhound Terminal for Inter-city Bus Service Facility at Phase "B" of the Laredo Intermodal Transit Center. The original engineering contract was \$765,000.00. This amendment brings the total engineering contract amount to \$857,617.05.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as the Mass Transit Board and convene as City Council.

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Adjournment time: 7:40 P.M

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

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

I hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 31 are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Meeting held on the Houston Street, Iaredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted on Wednesday, January 27, 1999, at 6:30 p.m.


Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary