

# CITY OF LAREDO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL  
10306 RIVER BANK DRIVE  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
5:30 P.M.

M99-R-34

M I N U T E S

DECEMBER 6, 1999

## I. CALL TO ORDER

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

## II. ROLL CALL

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth G. Flores,

Alfredo Agredano,

Louis H. Bruni,

John C. Galo,

Cecilia May Moreno,

Eliseo Valdez, Jr.,

Joe A. Guerra,

Mario G. Alvarado,

Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo,

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,

Florencio Peña, III

Jaime L. Flores,

Mayor

Councilmember, District I

Councilmember, District II

Councilmember, District III

Councilmember, District IV

Councilmember, District V

Councilmember, District VI

Councilmember, District VII

Mayor Pro Tempore, District VIII

City Secretary

City Manager

City Attorney

## III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. City Council Meeting, November 15, 1999

City Council meeting, November 22, 1999

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Moreno

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

## Announcements

- a.) Cm. Agredano announced that he received a letter addressed to him, Council members, and the Mayor from Cigarroa High School. The letter with signatures quotes as follows:

“Being that Cigarroa High School has made history in Laredo by winning the first Area Championship football game, we feel that it is imperative to have pride for South Laredo. For example, we’ve noticed that subregions in Laredo have something symbolic that represents their school. We have noticed that there is a water tank within the vicinity of our campus. Through a beautification effort, we the students can help our environment by cleaning the area as well as restoring and repainting the tank with our school mascot.”

Cm. Agredano added that he spoke with Mr. Roman and Mr. John Vidaurri about working on painting their school mascot in the water tank.

- b.) Luis Dovalina had an announcement directed to Council about meetings they had on November 29, December 2, and December 3, 1999, concerning the election of the ‘contract’. Currently there are 261 dues paying members, 59% of the members voted and 99.98% stated ‘no’ to a one (1) year deal. He is requesting to send back to Council and see if they can get a multi-year contract.

Mayor Flores stated that it is an item of communication and they will put it on the next agenda, if they need to formalize it, but that the City Attorney will get together with Mr. Luis Dovalina to set up a schedule.

- c.) Cm. Alvarado read a letter from a constituent hearing on the Mines Road in reference to La Bota entrance as follows:  
“Due to the construction of Mines Road we have had numerous accidents recently in front of La Bota entrance, the latest being last night.

The problem is entering La Bota from the northbound lane crossing in front of the southbound traffic. The traffic going southbound is bumper to bumper; there will be some considerate drivers stopping to allow cars to cross to enter La Bota, while both drivers are stopped in the second lane row. We have inconsiderate drivers using the shoulder as a third lane recklessly and speeding with no thought of any one but themselves. We are requesting that until the lights are installed to have either a road barrier or a shoulder near by La Bota entrance so that the truck drivers can use it as a third lane or have a traffic officer manage this intersection.

We would also like to remind you that we have a new school and that school opened today, which will increase the traffic at this intersection.”

End of letter.

## Invitations

None

#### Recognitions

- a.) Recognizing Janice Weber for being named Library Director of the Year by Texas Municipal Library Directors Association.
- b.) Recognizing the City of Laredo by Communities in Schools (CIS) in support of their participation in volunteerism.

Joe Gutierrez, Director for Communities in Schools, made the presentation adding that in 1996-1997 they started the President's Summit for America's future. This October he received a communication from the Governor's office stating that the City of Laredo had been recognized for being one of the cities of promise and presented a banner and a nice little wagon that recognized the City of Laredo.

He brought the following students from Martin High School: Maggie Vasquez (Junior), Belinda Diaz (Junior), Priscilla Sandoval (Freshman), as well as Robert Sanchez Assistant Director, and Ana Salinas, a caseworker. They are working closely to continue the effort of the volunteers and the community service in Laredo.

- c.) Recognizing the City of Laredo Finance Department for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Mayor Flores congratulated Rosario Cabello, Finance Director; Beto Ramirez, Budget Department; and their staff for a job well done.

- d.) Recognizing the City of Laredo Budget Department in receiving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

#### VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSION, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

None

#### VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 2. Public hearing approving a budget revision in the amount of \$12,754 and transferring this amount from the FY 99 fund balance to the current FY 2000 budget, for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period September 1, 1999 through August 31, 2000.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving a budget revision in the amount of \$12,754 and transferring this amount from the FY 99 fund balance to the current FY

2000 budget, for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period September 1, 1999 through August 31, 2000.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing approving a contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget in the amount of \$183,186 for the Tuberculosis Prevention/Control Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning January 1, 2000, though December 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned budget number 226-6017.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance approving a contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget in the amount of \$183,186 for the Tuberculosis Prevention/Control Project of the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning January 1, 2000, through December 31, 2000. The funding source for this project is the Texas Department of Health and it has been assigned budget number 226-6017.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing amending the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget for the Neural Tube Defects Project of the City of Laredo Health Department; changing the term to begin October 1, 1999, through August 31, 2000, and revising the budget amount of \$148,097.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the contract with the Texas Department of Health and budget for the Neural Tube Defects Project of the City of Laredo Health Department; changing the term to begin October 1, 1999, through August 31, 2000, and revising the budget amount of \$148,097.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing concerning an application by Liling Huang, authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a bar/night club in the Old Mercado Historic District, on the east 54.05 feet of Lot 8, west 14.68 ft. of Lot 7, north 20 feet of Lot 3, north 20 feet of the west 6.8 feet of Lot 4, Block 40, Western Division, located at 1209 Hidalgo Street.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a bar/night club in the Old Mercado Historic District, on the east 54.05 feet of Lot 8, west 14.68 ft. of Lot 7, north 20 feet of Lot 3, north 20 feet of the west 6.8 feet of Lot 4, Block 40, Western Division, located at 1209 Hidalgo Street.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. Presentation by Montgomery Watson Americas, Inc., on the City of Laredo Utilities Department compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Air Act requirements. The local implications of a compressed gas Risk Management Program will be discussed. The program assesses and evaluates the risks associated with the use of compressed gases such as chlorine and ammonia, which are stored at the treatment plants.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, introduced Mr. Wayne Hunter, from Montgomery Watson Americas, who presented the Risk Management Plan.

#### Risk Management Plan Regulatory Background

- 1990 U.S. Congress approved Clean Air Acts Amendments requiring EPA's development of Accidental Release Prevention Program
- 1996 EPA issued ARPP Risk Management Plan regulations

#### Risk Management Plan Regulatory Overview

- Effective for 130 toxic or flammable chemicals
- Required Risk Management Plans be submitted by June 21, 1999
- Established intent to make Risk Management Plans available to the public

#### Risk Management Plan Effects to City of Laredo

- Risk Management Plans required for chlorine and ammonia
- City of Laredo uses these chemicals:
 

Chlorine	Disinfection of Potable Water
Chlorine	Disinfection of Wastewater
Ammonia	Disinfection of Potable Water

#### Risk Management Plan Five Steps to Preparing Plans

Step One: Assign responsible charge for use of the chemical through a Management System.

Step Two: Hazard assessment to define chemical offsite consequences from an accidental chemical release:

- Worst Case
- More Likely Case

Step Three: Prevention program to establish an EPA standard approach for chemical accident prevention.

Step Four: Emergency response plan for addressing notification and coordination with emergency responders in the event of an accident.

Step Five: Submission of Risk Management Plan through electronic means.

Risk Management Plan – Laredo Plan of Action

- Laredo Water and Wastewater Facilities evaluated by Montgomery Watson
- Twelve facilities with chlorine
- Four facilities with ammonia

Risk Management Plan – Emergency Response

- Emergency response to a chemical release requires Hazard Material Technician level training. Laredo's Fire Department has this type of training at several fire stations.
- The Laredo Fire Department was able to demonstrate the capability to respond to an accidental release of a chemical between 3 and 15 minutes.

Risk Management Plans – Actions by the City

- The City needs to complete design of some chemical neutralization in several locations.
- The City needs to continue to support training of both Utility and Fire Department personnel in Emergency Response.
- The City has already taken actions to reduce some volumes of chlorine in order to reduce risk.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 7. A. Request by Council member John C. Galo

1. Staff update on city wide First Time Homebuyer Down payment Assistance Program, with possible action.

This item was discussed with item #38.

Motion to move up item #38 for discussion at this time.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Status report of vacant properties owned by the City of Laredo.

Erasmus Villarreal, CD Director, reported that they have identified 40 individual lots that are buildable. They also did a study that identified the City of Laredo as the trustee for some of the properties; out of that list they have identified 7 additional lots that are buildable. They also contacted L.I.S.D. and they have available 3 lots that could be utilized as buildable properties.

Cm. Galo requested a written list of the City properties.

Mr. Villarreal stated that he would submit a written report of all the properties available along with a map identifying their exact location.

B. Request by Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.

1. Status report on paving of Ryan Street between Springfield Avenue and Marcella Avenue.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported that they do have it assigned to a project. They have a design of the street, however, it is among the other list of the streets that remain unfunded. At one time it was going to be used for development as part of a half block the city owns.

Cm. Valdez asked on the portion of Ryan Street from East San Francisco to Monterrey.

Mr. Rivera stated that they are still on a project assigned and a list was submitted of a breaking of the projects of the blocks that remain unpaved into three categories. They are recommending for that area to be closed and use it for a development together with a park.

Cm. Valdez requested for it to be closed and be part of the development of that park.

2. Request with possible action on the Express Bus from El Metro Center to Mall Del Norte.

Peter Behrman, Metro Manager, reported that express service is considered a premium service so that way they can get a little bit more of revenue. They are placing a Christmas Shopper; that bus will start about a week and a half before Christmas and run every day up to Christmas with two buses on the weekend. By the next Council meeting he should get some total amounts on the money they will be losing since the Shopper will only be .25.

3. Request for status report on street light West of Alma Pierce Elementary.

Cm. Valdez asked to be tabled because it was already taken care of.

4. Request for information on City's Appeals and Grievance Committee on how many cases have been before the committee these past 2 years – what was resolved, what action was taken



and what action does the city take on allegations made by exiting employees. Also, requesting information on makeup of committee (what governs or dictates the makeup of committee) with possible action on changing the makeup of committee if it needs to be balanced out.

Cm. Valdez stated that the reason he put it on the agenda was because council members receive calls from employees that are on the urge of getting fired or are suppose to go before the committee or have been before the committee, and they give all kinds of different stories. He was concerned because some of those stories are disturbing at times. Some employees start making allegations and whether they are true or not, he feels they should be looked into especially when it pertains to personnel matters, purchasing procedures, or auditing concerns.

Cm. Valdez requested that the City's Appeals and Grievance Committee be reviewed by Council and he wants the employees to feel that their hearings are going to be objective, that they are not going to be intimidated, and that they are going to get a fair chance of being reinstated or if they need to be reconsidered for reemployment, if they haven't already been fired. He is concerned if the committee has anybody with the experience in labor laws.

Dan Migura, Administrative Services, reported that there is a rotation every 2 years and at that time they have an election. There was an election recently in which the employees elected two city employees to represent them, the City Manager also is responsible to appoint two new individuals, and the Mayor can choose to appoint another citizen.

Election held in November with Thelma Acosta (City Manager's Office) and Ricardo Martinez (Health Department) as the chosen employees, they are also pending two appointees of the City Manager, and the acknowledgement from the Mayor whether to continue or not with current appointment for our citizen or if there will be a change.

Cm. Valdez asked who gets to sit in on these hearings other than the committee members.

Mr. Migura stated that by ordinance there is a representative from the City Attorney's office as well as himself, to answer any questions that have to do with legal or with human resources.

He stated that it is not a public meeting but that it is open to the public.

- C. Request by Council member Joe A. Guerra
- 1. Presentation by Hector Farias on Environmental and Health Issues.

Motion to table.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council member Mario G. Alvarado

1. Presentation by Ricardo Lucio regarding the clean up of brush areas along the river with possible action.

Cm. Alvarado stated that the concern is the drug trafficking movement and illegal crossing of people along the border.

Mayor Flores stated that they would need to bring back a presentation to Council because of the need to identify the property that is privately owned and the property that may be City owned, and get some recommendation on how to proceed.

Larry Dovalina, Assistant City Manager, stated that they are starting to identify all the properties along the river and at some point they are going to put together an entire program that deals with the entire riverfront.

Cm. Alvarado requested a status report for the next meeting.

2. Update from the Laredo Police Department on traffic enforcement efforts on the Mines Road area with possible action.

Fructoso San Miguel, Assistant Police Chief, reported that they will increase the patrols on Mines Road. As of last week, they had six (6) motorcycle officers on Mines Road, but circumstances occurred on the Unitec area that they had to send a couple of officers to that area. Their plan is to have four (4) traffic motorcycle officers as a permanent solution and one (1) patrol officer from this district on Mines Road.

Luis Landin, Traffic Director, reported that he met with DPS Sgt. Mario Salinas, Lt. Torres from the Police Department, and the construction foreman of H.B. Zachry, to develop a task force, which has been organized already and will meet every Friday to discuss the problems that exist during that specific week on Mines Road.

Mrs. Cookie Muller and Greg Jones from La Bota Subdivision spoke on this subject.

Pepe Treviño, Chairman of the Transportation and Traffic Safety Committee, commented on this issue.

3. Presentation from Texas Department of Transportation staff on the ongoing construction work on FM1472 with possible action.

Mr. Carlos Rodriguez from TxDot, reported that there are several projects that are occurring in the vicinity of 1472, one is the approach roadway to International Bridge IV, neighboring that will be the one on

Milo Interchange that is also a relief to the 1472. The other one would be between the approach roadway and Columbia Bridge. The contractor is still on schedule for the proposed completion date of March 15.

Cm. Moreno requested a study report from the City Manager on the River Road.

4. Discussion with possible action, on a joint resolution, with the Nuevo Laredo City Council to promote a public awareness campaign and the enforcement of each country's respective laws that will address underage drinking and the safety concerns of all citizens along the border.

Cm. Alvarado requested to conduct a joint effort with Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas. This effort will focus on a public awareness campaign to address the problem of drug usage, under-age drinking, and drunk driving along the border area. Secondly, to increase efforts to enforce the laws pertinent to each country, understanding that there are differences in the legal age for consuming alcoholic beverages and thirdly developing a special program that will address this issue. These special efforts will be conducted by each individual city in accordance with the respective laws of each country.

Motion to instruct staff to draft the resolution.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Recess)

(Press Availability)

Time of Recess: 10 minutes

## IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

8. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Airport Land Marketing Policy which said Policy will allow Real Estate Brokerage participation in the leasing of land at the Laredo International Airport while the City retains and reserves the right to solicit and acquire tenants through internal capabilities.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease amendment to the lease agreement approved by Ordinance No. 90-0-019 dated February 5, 1990 between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Laredo Development Foundation, as Lessee, regarding Building No. 1007 located at 616 Leal

Street. The purpose of the lease amendment is to extend the lease term an additional 15 years until February 28, 2020, amend the option to extend until February 28, 2030 and amend paragraph 1.05 rent adjustment during extension terms effective date to March 1, 2020. Lessee agrees to improve the leased premises by constructing an approximate 1,500 square foot building addition costing approximately \$75,000.00. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

10. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Texas Migrant Council (CCMS) for approximately 5,723 square feet of office space constituting Suites 1, 3, 4, and 5 of Building No. 134 located at 4603 Maher Avenue. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing on December 1, 1999 and ending on November 30, 2000 and may be extended for two (2) terms of one (1) year each ending on November 30, 2001 and November 30, 2002. Monthly rent shall be \$5,200.00 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease. Previous monthly rent was \$5,194.38.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey fee simple title to the "Surface Only" at its combined market value of \$37,093.24 of certain property described as

TRACT 1 – a 9,500.76 sq. ft., more or less, parcel of land, consisting of the east 171' x 55.56' of Coke Street between Santa Rita and Vidaurri Avenues and,

TRACT 2 – an 11,695.38 sq. ft., more or less, parcel of land, being the east 171' x 55.56 and the north half of the west 79' x 27.78' of Benavides Street between Santa Rita and Vidaurri Avenues to the Union Pacific Railroad Company and to Francisco J. Lerma and the "Surface Only" of certain property described as

TRACT 3 – a 4,389.24 sq. ft., more or less, parcel of land, being the west 79' x 55.56' of Coke Street between Santa Rita and Vidaurri Avenues and,

TRACT 4 – a 2,194.62 sq. ft., more or less, parcel of land, being the south half of the west 79' x 27.78' section of Benavides Street between Santa Rita and Vidaurri Avenues at its combined market value of \$11,521.75. Said tracts being situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas being described on the City Plat, and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

12. Authorizing the designation of a zoning and subdivision enforcement

officer and appointing the City Building Official and/or his authorized representative(s) as the zoning, and subdivision enforcement officers, and empowering said zoning and subdivision enforcement officer to issue citations for any subdivision enforcement ordinance, zoning ordinance, southern building code, plumbing code, electrical code, land development code, and/or any City of Laredo Code of Ordinance violation(s), set forth therein.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## X. FINAL READINGS OF ORDINANCES

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

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #99-O-341, #99-O-342, #99-O-343, #99-O-344, #99-O-345, #99-O-346, #99-O-347, #99-O-348, #99-O-349, #99-O-350, #99-O-351, #99-O-352, #99-O-353, #99-O-354, #99-O-355, #99-O-356, #99-O-357, #99-O-358, and #99-O-359.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. 99-O-341 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.7645 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located west of Cheyenne Dr. and north of Hwy 359, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District). (Alfredo Agredano)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-341.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-342 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.736 acres, as further described by metes and bounds. located at 1720 Hillside Rd., from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) to B-3 (Community Business District). (Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-342.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-343 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 2.126 acres, as further described by metes and bounds, located on the east



Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-346.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-347 Ordinance altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo, annexing additional territory of 125.026 acres, located in Porciones 35 and 36 as further described by metes and bounds specifically the Wormser Ranch II Tract, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of R-1 MH (Single Family District). (Alfredo Agredano)

Keith Selman, Planning Department, reported that the initial zoning should be R-1MH.

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-347 with correction.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-348 Ordinance altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo, annexing additional territory of 5.314 acres, located in Porcion 20 as further described by metes and bounds specifically the Bridge IV Tract, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of B-4 (Highway Commercial District). (Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-348.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-349 Ordinance altering and extending the boundary limits of the City of Laredo, annexing additional territory of 9.709 acres, located in Porcion 20 as further described by metes and bounds specifically the INS Facility Tract, providing for the effective date of the ordinance, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract adopting a service plan for the annexed territory, and establishing the initial zoning of M-1 (Light Manufacturing District). (Joe A. Guerra)







City Manager to implement said budget. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-356.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-357 Ordinance to amend the City of Laredo's annual budget by increasing the revenue and expenditure appropriations in the amount of \$583,989.53 for the lease purchase of 175 portable units for the Laredo Police Department. The portable units will be purchased from the Police Trust Fund. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-357.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-358 Ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 1999-2000 Annual Budget in the amount of \$7,000 for a grant from the University of Texas Health Science Center – South Texas/Border Region Health Professional Education Initiative, for library materials and equipment, providing for an effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-358.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-359 Ordinance appointing Alfonso H. Ornelas, Jr., as associate municipal court judge for the City of Laredo for a limit of two (2) years; providing for effective date and severability. (Eliseo Valdez Jr.)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-359.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## XI. RESOLUTIONS

14. 99-R-167 Adopting a Municipal Annexation Plan as required by Section 43.052 of the Local Government Code specifically identifying annexations that may occur beginning on the third anniversary of the date the annexation plan is adopted.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-167.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## XII. MOTIONS

15. Consideration to award contract to LOW BIDDER MEETING SPECIFICATIONS: Traffic Parts, Inc., Spring, Texas, in the amount of \$16,506.40 for the purchase of Traffic Signal Lamps Bulbs.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Consideration to award contract number FY00-019, a five year service agreement to the SOLE BIDDER, Montgomery KONE, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in the total amount of \$46,296.00, for providing monthly escalator maintenance at the Laredo International Airport Terminal. This contract will provide for monthly and emergency maintenance on the two escalators operating at this location. These escalators were previously maintained by the general contractor under the one year building maintenance warranty. The contract is contingent upon continued appropriation of funds in the future fiscal years.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Consideration to award a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, Big D Lining Systems Company, Midland, Texas, in the amount of \$532,554.58 for the liner installation of Cell 13/14 for the City of Laredo Landfill. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Consideration to authorize the purchase of one hundred and seventy five (175), portable radios for the Police Department through the Houston Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC) - Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the principal amount of \$582,989.53. These voice secure digital radios will be purchased through the cooperative purchasing contract vendor Motorola. Delivery of these radios is expected within sixty days. These radios will be secured through Motorola Customer Financing on a three year, lease purchase agreement at an interest rate of 6.25%. Funding will be secured from the Police Trust Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Consideration to award contract number FY00-021 to the Sole Bidder, OUTDOOR SYSTEMS MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V., Monterrey, N.L., for outdoor billboard advertising in Mexico, in the total cost of \$102,196.44 and authorizing the City Manager to sign any and all contract documents. The term of the contract will be for one year with an option to renew for two, additional one year terms. Billboards are contracted for the following cities: Monterrey (7), Guadalajara (4), Monclova (2), Torreon (1), San Luis Potosi (1), and Saltillo (2). Funding is available in the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau billboard advertising account.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to reject the sole bid received (contract number FY00-020) from TransCore, Houston, Texas, for the provision of a wireless line-of-site system (microwave) to provide voice, data, and video communication service from Bridge 3 (Columbia) to Bridge 4 and authorize the new bids be solicited. The bid received from TransCore exceeds the City's budget for this project. The bid specifications will be modified to allow for several alternates, which will reduce the cost of this project. Funding for this project has been allocated in the Bridge Fund.

Motion to approve to reject the bid.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to award contract number FY00-035 for the provision of an infrastructure required for underground construction to install and extend a fiber optic network from Bridge 4 to Fire Station No. 9. The contract vendor will be required to trench from the bridge facilities to the Fire Station and install and connect a fiber optic cable. This connection will allow Bridge 3 and Bridge 4 to be part of the City's fiber optic communication network. The firm selected will be announced at the City Council meeting. Funding for this project has been allocated in the Bridge Fund.

Mayor Flores announced that the low bidder was Austec Services, Inc. in the amount of \$47,150.00.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Consideration to award contract number FY00-027, to the SOLE BIDDER, CPS Inc., Grand Prairie, Texas, in the amount of \$64,719.00, for the replacement of the three Civic Center meeting room wall partitions. The contract vendor will be required to remove the existing partitions and install the new sets within a two week period. No events have been booked from February 28 to March 9, 2000, to allow renovations to these meeting rooms. Funding is available in the Civic Center Fund.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration to award contract number FY00-026, to the SOLE BIDDER, Norcostco Texas Costume, Dallas, Texas, in the amount of \$34,697.00, for the replacement of the Civic Center auditorium stage drapes. The contract vendor will be required to furnish new drapes and provide all labor needed for the installation of these drapes. The vendor will be required to complete this installation prior to the Washington Birthday celebrations. Funding is available in the Civic Center Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration to award contract number FY00-034, to Atlas Enterprises Inc., Fort Worth, Texas in the amount of \$20,000, for conducting a fireworks presentation, on December 31, as part of the City's Millennium Eve celebration. Funding is available in the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to award a construction contract to the LOWEST BIDDER, Ramos Industries, Inc., Pasadena, Texas, in the amount \$922,274.70 for the Railroad Overpass with Retaining Walls and Approach Road to Unitec Industrial Center Phase 7, EDA Project No. 08-01-03264. Funding is available in the EDA – DPW Unitec Overpass Improvements Other Than Buildings.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Consideration amending annual service contract number 99-015 awarded to Star Operations Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas, in the net amount of \$25,000 for electrical construction work needed at International Bridge IV. This work includes trenching and installation of electrical conduit on the approach roadway of Bridge IV for the installation of Central Power and Light street lights.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration to exercise a six month extension for contract number 99-036 to the LOW BIDDERS, Gateway Uniform Service, Laredo, Texas in the estimated amount of \$49,615.00, for the purchase of uniforms for the Police Department personnel and Skaggs Public Safety Uniforms and Equipment, San Antonio, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$25,790.00 for the purchase of Uniforms for Fire Department personnel. The overall contract pricing is approximately the same as the previous year. The contract document allows for a one time extension of this contract for an additional six month period. Since the bid pricing is the same

as the previous year, staff is recommending this action.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Consideration to ratify a contract with International Newspaper, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for newspaper and radio advertising in Mexico, in the total cost of \$52,084.06. This is for the LCVB Christmas shopping media plan for November and December. The advertising includes newspaper advertisement in Monterrey, Saltillo, Torreon, and San Luis Potosi. The radio advertising campaign includes Monterrey, Saltillo, Monclova, Torreon, San Luis Potosi, and Guadalajara. Funding is available in the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau advertising account.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Lease Agreement between the City of Laredo and Fasken Ltd. for the purpose of allowing the City of Laredo to place a modular building on property located on Atlanta Drive, in the Rancho Viejo Subdivision, at no rental cost, to house the WIC and Health Promotion Programs. The term of the agreement shall be for five years beginning December 1, 1999, through November 30, 2004.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to award a contract to IRD (International Road Dynamics Inc.) for the purchase of 18 treadles (which is the technical equipment used for counting vehicles) to be placed at our four International Bridges at a cost of \$61,448.75. Funding is available in the Construction Fund – Toll Equipment Line Item.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to approve General Fund Aid to Other Agencies

contracts for the Fiscal Year October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 in the amount of \$464,293.

Avance	\$ 15,000
B.E.S.T	14,063
Bethany House	15,000
Border Area Nutrition Council	30,000
Boy's and Girl's Club of Laredo	99,475
Catholic Social Services of Laredo	11,250
Children's International Advocacy	50,000
Communities in Schools	15,000
Del Mar Little League	3,300
Laredo Crime Stoppers	15,000
L.I.S.D. Campus Crime Stoppers	5,000
Laredo Regional Food Bank	18,000
Laredo Webb County Child Welfare	5,780
Laredo Webb County Food Bank	30,550
Laredo Webb NHS, Inc.	15,000
L.I.F.E.	5,000
Literacy Volunteers of America – Laredo	7,500
Mi Laredo	5,000
Paisano Girl Scout Council	10,000
Rio Grande International Studies Center	6,375
Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center	75,000
Sacred Heart Children's Home	2,625
SER – Jobs for Progress	2,250
Webb County American Red Cross	6,675

Motion to approve with correction to the Laredo Webb County Food Bank to \$30,550.

Moved: Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Mondragon stated that he did not like the way Mrs. Sylvia Gutierrez and the staff handled his daughter's sexual abuse case. His daughter still has a lot of problems.

Maria Bueno stated that she was treated bad by Mrs. Sylvia Gutierrez at the Advocacy Center and that a doctor made a diagnose in 10 minutes only and Mrs. Gutierrez was very rude to her.

Miss Cantu stated that she was treated very badly by Mrs. Gutierrez and has not received any apologies. She added that another center should be set up.

Ms. Arellano petitioned the Council to investigate the Advocacy Center headed by Sylvia Gutierrez because of the rudeness and lack of attention by the Center. They never saw any psychologist or psychiatrist. The children are treated wrongly by this center and Mrs. Gutierrez.



Sandra Llanes spoke against the Advocacy Center and asked to look into the allegations.

Cm. Alvarado requested that these allegations be looked at and for Council to hold the funding for this agency until it has been investigated.

Cm. Galo stated he agrees with Cm. Alvarado that those issues need to be addressed, but that he has also heard a lot of good things and the Advocacy Center is the only center in the City licensed by the state to look into sexual abuse. He does not agree on withholding funds for this project.

Motion to leave the \$50,000 to the Advocacy Center until December 20, 1999 Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to approve Hotel/Motel Fund Aid to Other Agencies contracts for the Fiscal Year October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 in the amount of \$391,175.

Border Olympics	\$ 9,000
LULAC Council #12	4,500
LULAC Council #7	2,500
Society of Martha Washington	10,000
Salon de la Fama Latinoamericano del Deporte	4,000
Laredo Children's Museum	40,000
Los Caminos del Rio	15,000
Webb County Heritage Foundation	25,000
WCHF/Republic of the Rio Grande Museum	25,000
Laredo Little Theatre	26,500
Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra	25,000
Laredo Center for the Arts	131,360
Laredo Chamber of Commerce – Cola Blanca	10,000
LCC – Dance Performance Troupe	5,000
LCC – Dance Theatre	2,500
LCC – Civic Symphony	12,600
LCC – Guitar Ensemble	5,215
LCC – Ballet Folklorico	5,000
Princess Pocahontas Council	5,000
TAMIU – Dance Performance Troupe	3,000
Washington's Birthday Celebration Associatio	10,000
RISC – LBV Environmental Science Center	10,000
Club Olympia	5,000

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Moreno



34. Consideration to award contract number FY00-031, to the LOW BIDDERS, United Rentals, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$15,000.00, for the rental of one sheep foot roller for a six month period and Nueces Power Equipment, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$8,100.00, for the rental of one smooth drum roller for a three month period. This equipment will be used at the City landfill for cell construction. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Consideration to award four engineering contracts for the CDBG Sidewalks Project No. 11 (107 Blocks) as follows:  
 Project 11-A to WSBC Civil Engineers, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$21,400  
 Project 11-B to Design Group International, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$18,367  
 Project 11-C to G.G. Salinas Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$19,335.60  
 Project 11-D to Howland Engineering and Surveying Company, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$21,000.  
 Funding is available in the CDBG Sidewalks.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 1  
 Cm. Guerra

36. Consideration to award a professional services contract to Trinity Testing Laboratories, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$28,150 to provide laboratory, sampling and testing services of material for quality control for the Killam Industrial Blvd. Project. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Project Killam Industrial Blvd. Extension.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

37. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to execute a Joint Use Agreement between the City of Laredo, Parks and Recreation Department and the Laredo Independent School District for the use of the Farias Recreational Center and the K. Tarver Recreational

Center to implement an after school program to benefit students of the Laredo Independent School District and the community.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 1  
Cm. Moreno

38. Consideration to amend the HOME Investment Partnership Program Policy and Procedures Manual as it pertains to Down payment Assistance to allow the maximum loan amount provided to households with incomes of 80% of area median family income, to increase from \$3,000 up to \$6,000 with the loan being secured as a 2<sup>nd</sup> lien Deed of Trust with Vendor's Lien Real Estate Note that becomes due upon sale or paid back over a 36 month period after the first lien (30 year mortgage) is paid; and further, that the funds that were originally designated for the Concord Hills Down Payment Assistance Program be reassigned for regular down payment assistance citywide.

Erasmus Villarreal, CD Director, made the presentation before the Council.

He explained the meaning of 'median income', which is a criteria set up by the federal government to qualify people. For example, in Laredo the median income for a family of four (4) at 80% level cannot exceed \$27,100 a year and at 60% level cannot exceed \$20,350 a year.

Cm. Alvarado requested that reports be submitted quarterly to keep track on the amount of monies being used.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. Consideration to accept proposals from Guerra Communications Univision 27 and South Texas Distributors, for promotional support of the Millennium Eve Celebration and having a value of \$16,500 and \$7,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

Motion to approve.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### XIII. STAFF REPORTS

#### 40. Status report on the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (Fourth Bridge).

Cindy Collazo, Assistant City Manager, reported that the U.S. portion of the bridge structure is 100% complete and will bring back to Council on December 20, 1999 for acceptance. The Mexico's portion of the bridge is 95% complete; they only lack the light poles.

The construction status on the U.S. border facilities is as follows:

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Percent Complete</u>
Mobilization	100%
Clear & Grub Site	100%
Site Cut & Fill	93%
Import Dock	69%
Site Utilities	80%
Off-Site Utilities	65%
Retaining Wall	100%
Trucker's Pavilion	79%
Empty Truck Inspection Facility	64%
Exit Control Booths	68%
Import Dock Area Paving	69%
Northbound Comm. Roadway Lanes	58%
South Berm/Wall	84%
Federal Admin./Ped. Proc. Building	55%

As a whole the U.S. border facilities construction is 59% complete.

On November 22, 1999 they visited Nuevo Laredo and they are 12-15% complete.

#### Weigh in Motion Status:

1. Final detail design document describing the technical part of the bridge toll equipment installation has been completed and is now being reviewed for approval by Traffic and Bridge Department.
2. Software for the weigh in motion is approximately 75% complete and will be ready for testing within the next couple of weeks.
3. Installation of test lane equipment at Columbia Bridge will be done by the beginning of next month.
4. By April 15, 2000, weigh in motion lanes will be fully operational. Two (2) weigh in motion lanes at Columbia and four (4) weigh in motion lanes at Bridge IV.
5. By September 15, 2000, the complete bridge toll equipment will be installed and operational.

#### Roadway – TxDot:

Milo Approach:

Project Summary: Total % Complete – 68.97%  
Total Time Used - 43.40%

Total Contract Amount - \$32,842,589.99-  
awarded February 1999.

Embankments on the project are 98%  
complete.  
Concrete Box Culvert #2 (100% complete).  
Concrete Box Culvert #3 (100% complete).  
Concrete Box Culvert #4 (95% complete).

Riverbank Bridge: Concrete columns are 100% complete.  
Large box culvert is 100% complete.  
Concrete paving is 100% complete.  
Retaining walls 98% complete.  
Concrete slab is 100% complete.

FM 1472 Bridge: Columns are 100% complete.  
100% of the retaining walls are complete on  
both sides of the roadway.  
Concrete deck panels are 100% complete.  
Concrete slab is 100% complete.  
Concrete paving is 90% complete.

FM 1472 Roadway: Concrete roadway pavement is 75%  
complete.

FM 1472 Connector: The drill shaft work for the connector is 85%  
complete.  
Concrete columns are 80% complete.  
Concrete beams and deck panels are 60%  
complete.  
Retaining walls are 70% complete.  
Slab for span 19 thru 23 is 100% complete.  
Slab for span 1-4 is 10% complete.

Approach Roadway: Main Lanes (east of FM 1472):  
Hot mix placement is 100% complete.  
Concrete roadway pavement is 95%  
complete.

Frontage Road (east of FM 1472):  
Hot mix placement is 95% complete.  
Concrete roadway pavement is 90%  
complete.

Main Lanes (West of FM 1472):  
Hot mix placement is 100% complete.

Concrete roadway pavement is 100% complete.

Frontage Road (West of FM 1472):  
Hot mix placement is 100% complete.  
Concrete roadway pavement 100% complete.

End of Report.

41. Status report on the Santa Maria Reconstruction Improvements Project.

Rogelio Rivera, City Engineer, reported that the construction startup was on April 26, 1999. The contract amount is approximately \$2.5 million, total contract to date is \$1 million and 37% is complete. In the month of November they completed 25% of their total construction.

The projected completion date is March 2000, however, the contractor submitted a list of legitimate delays. They are negotiating those delays and they feel the contract time will be extended about 40 working days.

### XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

42. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.072 in regards to deliberation on the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, for airport runway protection zone located in the vicinity of the Laredo International Airport and State Highway 59, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person, and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.072 in regards to deliberation on the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, for airport runway protection zone located in the vicinity of the Laredo International Airport and State Highway 59, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person, and return to open session for possible action.

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

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After executive session Mayor Flores announced that no formal action was taken in executive session.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to contract with an Independent Fee Appraiser to conduct, as needed, a fair market value appraisal(s) and to negotiate the acquisition of a portion or the entire tract of land belonging to Mr. Ruben Garibay d/b/a A-1 Auto Shop located within the Airport Runway Protection Zone located in the vicinity of the Laredo International Airport and along State Highway 59 and authorizing the City Manager to issue a Letter of Interest to Mr. Ruben Garibay regarding the proposed acquisition. The City's interest to acquire the subject property is subject to the Federal Aviation Administration approving a grant to the City during FY 2000-2001 authorizing the acquisition of the subject property. Payment to Mr. Ruben Garibay shall not be due and payable until after October 1, 2000 and subject to funding.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(A)(B) to discuss settlement offer for pending litigation regarding the City of Laredo vs. Laredo Distribution Center, Inc., a Texas Corporation, Cause No. 99CVQ00005-C1, and return to open session for possible action to hire trial counsel Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever and McDaniel, L.L.P.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(A)(B) to discuss settlement offer for pending litigation regarding the City of Laredo vs. Laredo Distribution Center, Inc., a Texas Corporation, Cause No. 99CVQ00005-C1, and return to open session for possible action to hire trial counsel Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Kever and McDaniel, L.L.P.

Moved: Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After executive session Mayor Flores announced that no formal action was taken.

44. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074(a)(1) to evaluate the performance of City Manager Florencio Peña III, and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074(a)(1) to evaluate the performance of City Manager Florencio Peña III, and return to open session for possible action.

Moved: Cm. Guerra

Second: Cm. Moreno

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



After Executive Session Mayor Flores announced that no formal action was taken in executive session.

Motion, pursuant to Section 3.03 of the City Charter, to terminate effective today, December 6, 1999, the City Manager's Contract with the City of Laredo, Mr. Florencio Peña for his services as City Manager of the City of Laredo, and to authorize the payment to Mr. Florencio Peña, of the severance pay and other benefits provided for in such contract.

Moved: Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 5

Cm. Bruni

Cm. Galo

Cm. Moreno

Mayor Pro Tempore Montalvo

Mayor Flores

Against: 4 Abstain: 0

Cm. Alvarado

Cm. Agredano

Cm. Valdez

Cm. Guerra

Motion, Pursuant to Section 3.04 of the City Charter, to appoint Mr. Larry Dovalina and Mrs. Cynthia Collazo as Acting City Managers effective immediately, each serving with the full authority, power and responsibility of the office of the City Manager as authorized by Section 3.05 of the City Charter.

Further, that Mr. Dovalina and Mrs. Collazo evaluate the departments not currently overseen by either one of them, and reassign the responsibility over those departments under one or the other Acting City Manager, and advise the City Council of their decisions at the next Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 1 Abstain: 0

Cm. Guerra

Mayor Flores announced the following statement:

"The City Council has met twice this month to deliberate on the performance of the City Manager and the need for different leadership as Laredo goes into the new millennium. We have gone into our individual personal thoughts for weeks now, and we have deliberated together, and we have tonight agreed to change the leadership of this city. I would like to say that we appreciate the work that Mr. Florencio Peña has done to bring us this far, but I have said before the Council Members that I intend to go boldly into the new millennium and do so in a collective opinion means a new beginning with new leadership, stronger, determined, compassionate, and visionary leadership. A new kind of leadership for our city.

Tonight we have appointed Mrs. Cynthia Collazo and Mr. Larry Dovalina as Acting City Managers to occupy the respective position until we hire a new experienced City Manager. We ask that they each continue to lead the departments they are now leading, as you have heard in the motion,

and that they come up with a plan of action to lead the departments now under the present City Manager.

We intend to proceed immediately, although it would take four (4) to six (6) months to ensure that we find the person that will bring to Laredo the leadership that the City needs to provide the vision, the skills, and the ability to plan, to prepare, to meet Laredo's future growth, and development."

End of statement.

S U P P L E M E N T A L   A G E N D A

VIII.    G E N E R A L   C O U N C I L   D I S C U S S I O N S   A N D   P R E S E N T A T I O N S

Discussion with possible action on approving a joint petition for the Public Utilities Commission for the implementation of a border free telecommunications extended area service. (Mayor and City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Montalvo  
Second: Cm. Bruni  
For:    8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XV.    A D J O U R N M E N T

Motion to adjourn.


Adjournment time: 10:15 p.m.

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

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 City Council Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 1999.



Gustavo Guevara, Jr.  
City Secretary