

**A M E N D E D**

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2008-R-022  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
NOVEMBER 17, 2008  
5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Mayor Raul G. Salinas called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Raul G. Salinas led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

In attendance:

Raul G. Salinas,  
Mike Garza,  
Michael Landeck,  
Juan Narvaez,  
Johnny Rendon,  
Gene Belmares,  
Jose Valdez, Jr.,  
Cynthia Liendo-Espinoza,  
Carlos Villarreal,  
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,  
Cynthia Collazo,  
Horacio De Leon,  
Jesus Olivares,  
Raul Casso,

Mayor  
Council Member, District I  
Council Member, District III  
Council Member, District IV  
Council Member, District V  
Council Member, District VI  
Mayor Pro Tem, District VII  
Council Member, District VIII  
City Manager  
City Secretary  
Deputy City Manager  
Assistant City Manager  
Assistant City Manager  
City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Garcia.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of July 14, 2008 and August 4, 2008.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

### Recognitions

- a. Recognition of employees that retired from the City of Laredo with 20 or more years of service.

Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, asked that this item be tabled until staff can contact the employees.

- b. Recognition of the employees of the quarter.

The employees recognized by Mayor and City Council were:

Juan G. Rodriguez, Leopoldo Salas, Jesus Gongora, Oscar Gutierrez, and Roberto Vidales.

### Communiqués

Invitation to the H.E.B. Feast of Sharing by Bertha Mena and Victor Garcia scheduled for Sunday, November 23, 2008.

Ms. Bertha Mena, Co-Chair, publicly invited everyone to their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast of Sharing.

Mayor Salinas recognized all the Veterans that were present at the City Council meeting. He also stated that he will be in a “Kiss the Pig Contest” to raise monies for the American Diabetes Association.

Cm. Garza invited everyone to attend a function provided by the Laredo Commission for Women. The Commission and will be distributing fruit baskets for less fortunate families. In addition to the fruit baskets other elected officials will be distributing turkeys and food.

Cm. Narvaez announced that Judge Juan Caballero would not be in attendance because a family member was in the hospital. He went on to say that he and Constable Rudy Rodriguez would be distributing turkeys to District IV for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

Cm. Rendon stated that customer service is very important in Laredo. He noted that he had witnessed hundreds of Mexican Shoppers entering into Laredo. He emphasized the importance of hosting the shoppers with open arms because the City needs their support.

Cm. Belmares congratulated the Alexander Bulldogs football team and the United Longhorns on the completion of this year’s football season. He also congratulated the motorcycle group composed of police officers called the “Blue Knights” for raising monies and pet supplies for the animal shelter. He specifically thanked Roberto Trevino and his wife Krissy for agreeing to supply the animal shelter with pet food for all pets for as long as they need it.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza congratulated the Gonzalez Family of La Reynera Bakery for being in business for 80 years.

**Citizen comments**

Charles Wolf, Walgreens Manager, announced the opening of five stores in Laredo.

Any Jenne, Rudy's General Manager, announced the opening of Rudy's Country Store on Thursday of last week.

Valentin Jorge Cuellar, disable Vietnam Veterans, commended the Veterans Committee and their support for the two items on the agenda dealing with Veterans.

**VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

- a. Appointment by Council Member Mike Garza of Jose Escalera to the Vehicles for Hire Ad Hoc Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Council Member Johnny Rendon of David Cardwell to the City Charter Review Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointments by Council Member Gene Belmares of:

Ignacio Gutierrez to the City Charter Review Commission.

Marco Ramos to the Vehicles for Hire Ad Hoc Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- d. Appointment by Mayor Pro Tempore Jose A. Valdez, Jr. of Jose Gamez to the City Charter Review Commission.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Bridge System Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Bridge Annual Budget by appropriating \$784,950.00 from the Bridge System Construction Fund opening balance to the Improvements Other than Buildings, Improvements to Buildings, and Machinery and Equipment Account. Funding will be used for Bridge related projects.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Health Department Fiscal Year 2008-2009 annual budget by appropriating revenues and expenses in the amount of \$45,000.00 from the Serving Children and Adolescents in Need (SCAN), Inc., to continue the partnership for services provided by the Department's HIV Program of HIV outreach, HIV testing, pre and post test counseling and pre-treatment services for the term from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Administration; Article I, Section 2-3 (b) Fees for City Services, by realigning the current charges for health department records illustrated in items 10, 11, and 12 to reflect the fees charged in accordance with the Texas Administrative Code, Title I, Part 3, Chapter 70. As mandated by the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 191.0045, local registrars may charge an additional \$1.00 for preservation of

vital records; therefore, we are amending Chapter 2, Administration, Article I, Section 2-3(b) Fees for City Services (b) Health Department of the City Code of Ordinances increasing the fee for certified birth certificates from \$22.00 to \$23.00; and requesting approximately \$5,000.00 in additional revenues be appropriated to expense account 226-2912; and providing for effective date and publication.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance accepting a grant from the Target Corporation for the Laredo Police Department Community Relations Unit in the amount of \$1,000.00 and amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2008-2009 General Fund Annual Budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$1,000.00. The Target Corporation will contribute the full grant amount of \$1,000.00 with no match obligated to the City of Laredo. The Laredo Police Department will use this grant to purchase promotional supplies. Grant period will be from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez was chairing the meeting.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction:

5. Individual public hearings for the voluntary annexation of four (4) tracts of land:
  5. Tract 1: El Portal Industrial Park Tract – 183.26 acres, more or less, located adjacent to El Portal Industrial Park Units 6 and 7 to the west and IH-35 to the east. Petitioner: Hurd Urban Development, Ltd.;

Motion to open the public hearing for Tract 1.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Tract 2: Las Ventanas Tract – 0.03 acres, more or less, located adjacent to the southwest corner of Las Ventanas Subdivision, Phase 1. Petitioner: Laredo Hills, Ltd.;

Motion to open the public hearing for Tract 2.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Tract 3: N. D. Hachar Tract – 80.00 acres, more or less, located west of IH-35, west of the Unitec Industrial Park. Petitioner: N. D. Hachar Trust;

Motion to open the public hearing for Tract 3.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Tract 4: Killam Quiote Tract – 101.06 acres, more or less, located east of Bob Bullock Loop 20 and north of Casa Verde Rd. (extension of Del Mar Blvd.). Petitioner: Killam Ranch Properties, Ltd.;

Motion to open the public hearing for Tract 4.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

for a total of 364.35 acres, more or less, as described in the attached tract summaries, as required by Section 43.063 of the Texas Local Government Code.

6. Public hearing concerning an appeal of the denial order issued on September 18, 2008, by the Historic District/Landmark Board regarding the facade alteration:  
Location: South 53.1' of 5 Ex-Trapezoidal Strip on East Side, Block 41, Western Division Commonly known as: 1110 Lincoln St. Petitioner: Wolf Hofman  
Old Mercado Historic District

Motion to postpone.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 8.08 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at the southwest corner of St. Luke Boulevard and St. David Lane, from R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. The proposed use is for commercial purposes. District I

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Rendon

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by issuing a Conditional Use Permit for an equipment yard on Lots 1, 2, & 3, Block 1998, Eastern Division, located at 3203 Kearney Street. The Planning and Zoning Committee has recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit. The proposed use is an equipment yard. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the west two-thirds of Lots 1 and 8, Block 1816, Eastern Division, located at 2901 Saunders Street, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the zone change. The proposed use is for a billboard sign. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



Cm. Garza was not present.

Ordinance Introduction: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

10. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2006-O-246 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a photo shop/studio office on the east 120 feet of Lot 6 and the east 120 feet of the south ½ of Lot 4, Block 1650, Eastern Division, located at 1910 N. Arkansas Avenue, by amending the narrative to reflect additional employees and longer hours of operation, and amending the site plan. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the amendments. The proposed use is for a photo shop/studio office. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Introduction Ordinance: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

11. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2005-O-271 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a bar on Lot 1, Block 1, Rancho Verde Subdivision, located at 9652 McPherson Road, Suite #1, by amending the provisions to reflect an additional owner and to extend the expiration date of the Conditional Use Permit for three (3) years. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the amendments. The proposed use is a bar. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Joe Gutierrez, Jr., from Average Joe's asked for the same three year period extension.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Belmares

12. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2006-O-264 authorizing the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit for a bus terminal on Lots 6-7, Block 176, Western Division, located at 1020 Santa Ursula Avenue, by amending the provisions to extend the expiration date for the Conditional Use Permit for one (1) year. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the amendment. The proposed use is a bus terminal. District VIII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and approve for three years.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

13. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an Office on Lot 25, Block 10, Los Presidentes II, located at 1924 Avenida Durango. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended denial of the Conditional Use Permit. The proposed use is for an office. District I

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cynthia Vasquez, owner, stated that she is the owner of Precious Primary Care which is a home health agency. She noted that they are working the business out of the said property which was her first home.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce with six months to move, and override Planning and Zoning Commission.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

## VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

14. Authoring the City Manager to execute a lease amendment to the lease agreement dated October 23, 2000 and authorized by Ordinance No. 2000-O-259 between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Barker Aeromotive, as Lessee, for approximately 10,500 square feet of land located at 4015 North Jarvis Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Said amendment will (a) reduce the leased area from approximately 10,500 square feet of land to 2,529 square feet of land, (b) adjust the monthly rent obligation to \$268.07 and (c) amend Lessee's insurance requirements effective December 1, 2008. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

15. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Laredo Aero Center, Inc., for approximately 7,882 square feet of land located at the Airport Westside Fuel Farm at the Laredo International Airport. Lease term is for eleven (11) years and eight (8) months commencing on December 1, 2008 and ending on July 31, 2020 and may be extended for two (2) terms of five (5) years each ending July 31, 2025 and July 31, 2030. Monthly rent shall be \$835.49 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index and further rent adjustments shall be made by Fair Market Value appraisal on the 10th and 20th anniversaries; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

16. An ordinance electing for the City to make current service and prior service contributions to the City's account in the Municipal Accumulation Fund of the Texas Municipal Retirement System at the actuarially determined rate of total employee contribution.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances #

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. 2008-O-220 Amending Article XII, Chapter 19, Division 2, Section 19-562 (c) of the Code of Ordinances to include and implement a new downtown trolley service route free of charge to the public for the purpose of promoting the historical downtown area; providing for an effective date and publication.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-220.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-221 Amending the City of Laredo 2008-2009 Special Police Annual Budget by reducing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$119,657.00. The Office of Justice Programs is contributing the full grant amount of \$40,343.00 with no match amount obligated by the City of Laredo. The City of Laredo and Webb County will each receive \$20,171.50. The City of Laredo will utilize this funding for the purchase of equipment for Homeland Security purposes by the Laredo Police Department for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2011.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-221.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2008-O-222 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a Direct Aid Grant from the Texas Library Loan Star Libraries Program in the amount of \$30,709.00 for new public computers and replacement hardware and amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2008-2009 annual budget revenues and expenditures by decreasing the amount by \$19,921.00

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-222.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2008-O-223 Authorizing the City Manager to amend the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Transit Capital Grants Budget in the amount of \$850,164.00 by appropriating Capital funds from the Federal Transit Administration, Section 5309 E-2006-BUSP-972, in the amount of \$680,130.00 in Federal match and \$170,034.00 in Local match by increasing the sales tax match. The sales tax match expenditures will increase from \$194,000.00 to \$364,034.00 and reserve appropriation will decrease from \$841,218.00 to \$671,184.00.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-223.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2008-O-224 Amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-16, "Departments of the City" which sets forth the departments of the City, by restructuring the Economic Development Department whereby the Convention and Visitors Bureau Division will become the Convention & Visitors Bureau Department and providing for severability and an effective date.

Cm. Landeck reminded City Council that they had agreed to follow the

consultants recommendations regarding the creation of sole City Departments. He voiced that City Council is acting contrary to the intentions of the consultants. He said that the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau should be placed under the Economic Development Department. He added that the sole department will create more expenditures which is not needed.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-224.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. Landeck

2008-O-225 Authorizing the City Manager to execute Supplemental Lease Agreement No. 3 to Lease No. GS-07B-15259 approved by Ordinance No. 2002-O-325 dated December 16, 2002, amended by Ordinance No. 2005-O-112 dated May 16, 2005, and further amended by Ordinance No. 2008-O-090 dated May 5, 2008, with General Services Administration for approximately 1,313 square feet constituting office space occupied by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) located at 5210 Bob Bullock Loop at the Laredo International Airport. Said Supplemental Lease Agreement No. 3 extends the lease term five (5) years until November 17, 2013, with two (2) years firm and 30-day termination rights. The monthly rent amount is increased to \$4,376.67 and shall be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. All other terms and conditions of lease remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-225.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-226 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) Operations Agreement approved on March 27, 2006, by Ordinance No. 2006-O-057 by and on behalf of the City of Laredo, Grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94 and Bruni International Inc., as Zone Site Operator. Said Amendment will change the FTZ Operator name from Bruni International, Inc. to NYK Logistics (Americas) Inc. All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-226.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-227 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with the Washington's Birthday Celebration Association, Inc., (W.B.C.A.) for approximately ten (10.0) acres of concrete ramp located on the West General Aviation parking ramp of the Air Operations Area to include City owned vacant non-aeronautical use land located at the Laredo International Airport for the purpose of hosting the 2009 W.B.C.A. Air Show. Lease term is for two (2) days commencing on February 14, 2009 and ending on February 15, 2009. City Council finds and declares that a valid public purpose would be served in setting the daily rental fee at \$1.00; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-227.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2008-O-228 Authorizing the City Manager to convey to Gerardo G. Salinas and Frances Salinas, the following two tracts of land:  
Lot 24, block 2 (of 0.0547 of an acre), Hilltop Subdivision, Phase II, as described in Exhibit "A", & Lot 7, Block 4, (of 0.2631 of an acre), Hilltop Subdivision, Phase II, as described in Exhibit "B," in exchange for the following from Gerardo and Frances Salinas:  
(1) conveyance to the City of Lot 1, block 5, (of 0.0382 acre), Hilltop Subdivision, Phase II, as described in Exhibit "C" and  
(2) payment to the City of \$6,962.00.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2008-O-228.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## X. RESOLUTIONS

18. 2008-R-131 Confirming the appointment/reappointment for a member of the Fire Fighters' & Police Officers' Civil Service Commission of the City of Laredo to serve a three (3) year period effective November 17, 2008 to November 17, 2011.

Carlos Villarreal confirmed the appointment of Rogelio Rios.

Motion to approve Resolution 2008-R-131.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. 2008-R-133 Amend Resolution 2007-R-072 for the grant agreement between the City of Laredo and the Texas Water Development Board - Contract No. G13500/13600/1546/1547- Amendment No. 7 for the City of Laredo, Mines Road/State Highway 359 Project No. 10045. This amendment reflects the transfer from different funding accounts under the Texas Water Development Board Grant that allows the City to adjust balances in the current Colonia projects subject to approval from the Texas Water Development Board.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-133.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. 2008-R-134 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a supplemental grant application to the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority in the estimated amount of \$40,000.00 to fund the Laredo Auto Theft Task Force for the period of February 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009. This supplemental application will be for equipment and will not require a match by the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-134.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. 2008-R-135 Canvassing the returns of the Special City Election held on November 4, 2008 for the Improving and Maintaining Venue Project originally voted on August 12, 2000.

City Secretary, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., public read the following numbers:

The votes in favor were 22, 388 61.32%

The votes against were 14, 122 38.68%

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-135.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. 2008-R-136 Accepting the donation of a utility easement from Plantation Townhomes Owners' Association, Inc., in order to install and maintain one (1) or more water utility lines including a fire hydrant out of a fifteen feet (15') wide easement. Said easement consisting of 0.0684 acre, more or less, being out of Lot 2C, Block 10, Bermuda Dunes Subdivision, Unit 1 Plat City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; and described by metes and bounds and survey attached as Exhibits A and B.

Motion to approve # 2008-R-136.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. 2008-R-138 Accepting the donation of a utility easement from CAB-GAR, Ltd., a Texas Limited Partnership, in order to install and maintain an eight inch (8") water line out of a twenty foot (20') easement. Said easement consisting of 0.064 acres, more or less, being out of Lot 14, Block 9, Unitec Industrial Center, Phase 8, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, and described by metes and bounds and survey attached as Exhibits A and B.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-138.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. 2008-R-139 Accepting the donation of a 15 foot wide utility easement from Cerrito Prieto, Ltd. Said Utility Easement consisting of 0.03357 acres, more or less, tract of land, situated in Survey 1023, Abstract 380, Webb County, Texas, and being within Lot 2, Block 16, Sanchez Ranchito Acreage Trust Subdivision, as recorded in Volume 9, Page 23 of the Plat records of Webb County, Texas, and described by metes and bounds and survey, attached as Exhibits 1 and 2 of Exhibit A.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-139.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. 2008-R-140 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) and the Laredo Police Department for the purpose of granting a revocable license to use the City of Laredo 800 MHz Trunked Voice Radio System.

Motion to approve Resolution # 2008-R-140.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **XI. MOTIONS**

26. Consideration for approval of Change Order No. 1 an increase of \$40,653.60 for



additional environmental improvements and to add sixty (60) calendar days to the construction contract with Jimmy Closner & Sons Construction Company, Laredo, Texas, for the Upper Zacate Creek Multipurpose Detention Pond Project-Phase A. Current construction contract amount is \$1,426,126.10. Funding is available in the Environmental Services 2007 Contractual Obligation Bond Proceeds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Consideration for approval of change order no. 1 an increase of \$57,017.50 to add traffic control and a change in the pavement design to the construction contract with Amberland Development, Ltd., Laredo, Texas, for the Del Mar Boulevard Widening on the North side along Plantation Subdivision. Current construction contract amount is \$444,824.90. Funding is available in the 2006 Contractual Obligation Bond Proceeds.

Motion to approve as corrected from \$57,017.50 to 51,090.40 and from \$444,824.90 to 438,897.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with the Laredo Development Foundation in the amount of \$473,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Funding is available in the General Fund in the amount of \$425,000.00 and the Bridge Fund in the amount of \$48,000.00.

Cm. Landeck stated that he has been reviewing a list of programs of services provided and not all of them are funded by the Laredo Development Foundation.

Roger Creery, Laredo Development Foundation Manager, reported that he submitted a list of programs to demonstrate the full range of services that are available to the City from the Laredo Development Foundation.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month October 2008, represent a decrease of \$74,050.77. These adjustments are determined by Webb County Appraisal District and court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

30. Authorizing the City Manager to hire an Engineer to provide basic engineering and surveying services required to update the plans and specifications for Old Milwaukee West Road located south of SH359 including the acquisition of right-of-way and easements necessary for the construction of the water distribution and wastewater collection systems.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Ratifying the City Manager's emergency authorization to Holloman Corporation in the completed amount of \$394,462.61 for the replacement of the 36" discharge line at the Mary Help of Christians Booster Station addressing the critical need for major construction services in the identifying, planning, and repair of the critical line without significant service interruption. Funding is available in the 2007 Utility Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Awarding a construction contract to the lowest bidder Sendero Industries, LLC, Houston Texas in the amount of \$471,026.00 for the construction of two sewer crossings on Loop 20 Embarcadero Subdivision. This project consists of two separate sanitary sewer bores crossing Loop 20 to include a steel casing, HDPE sanitary sewer pipe, and the installation of fiberglass manholes. The construction time is 45 calendar days. Funding is available in the 2007 Utility Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Consideration for approval of change order #3 to QRO-MEX Construction Co., Inc., Granite Shoals, Texas in the amount of \$51,166.16 for the 24 inch Water Transmission Main along Del Mar from McPherson north of Del Mar and at the existing stub-out at Loop 20 and Del Mar. This change order is to match in place quantities and adjustments to match into the project. The construction contract time has been extended to sixty (60) days. The revised contract amount is \$3,014,675.88. The new construction time including this change order will be 450 calendar days. Funding for change is available in the 2006 Utility Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Confirming the nomination by Municipal Court Judge Alfonso H. Ornelas Jr. of the reappointment of Edward F. Maddox as Associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Laredo for a (2) two year term to begin on November 17, 2008, and end on November 17, 2010; as per Article V, Section 5.02 of the Charter of the City of Laredo.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Confirming the nomination by Carlos Villarreal, City Manager, of the reappointment of Juan B. Caballero as Associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Laredo for a (2) two year term to begin on November 17, 2008, and end on November 17, 2010; as per Article V, Section 5.02 of the Charter of the City of Laredo.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest bidder Closner Construction Company, L.C., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$273,446.50 for the Airport Truck Route Improvements. Contract time is seventy (70) working days. Funding is available in the 2007 Utility Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

37. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into contracts and award 2008 Emergency Shelter Grant Funds (ESG) made available by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the total amounts of (1) \$56,316.00 to the Bethany House for operation of the Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Resource Center, and (2) \$41,106.00 to Bethany House to provide Essential Services, (3) \$25,000.00 to Casa de Misericordia (Casa) for operation for their shelter, and (4) \$35,000.00 to Bethany House for Homeless Prevention Assistance.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

38. Consideration for approval authorizing the City Manager to submit a Request for Qualifications from engineering/architectural firms for surveys, design, and preparation of plans and specifications for a professional baseball facility to be located on a 39.72 acre site in the vicinity of the Laredo Entertainment Center.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## **XII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

39. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Directing the City Manager to coordinate a Welcome Home event for the arrival of the soldiers with the 436th Chemical Company returning from duty in Afghanistan, with possible action.

Mayor Raul Salinas said that the reason that they did this is that they went to North Carolina to say goodbye to our troops. He added that there were many men and women who had left their families behind and made great sacrifices to serve the country. He felt that it would be appropriate that City Council would say “thank you” in a big way.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal stated that he had a meeting to discuss the items that the mayor had put on the agenda. He and Blasita Lopez, Convention and Visitors Bureau Interim Manager, tried to coordinate when the date might be. It was his understanding that they would arrive from the 20<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup> and possibly be in Laredo around the 29<sup>th</sup> of November. They were going to plan an event once they knew the exact date. He suggested a kind of “pass through welcome” as the troops would be anxious to see their families. Then they could make sure as to the site and place and indicate what the program might be.

2. Status report with possible action on the traffic light at the Airport.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that they had not been able to get approval from TxDOT. They had already purchased the equipment, but until actual volumes were met, they could not activate the light. He added that there was still pending funding for the installation.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that he thought that the problem was that TxDOT would never approve a light there unless they had a town center being constructed across the street. This was because of the proximity to another intersection, although it was grade-separated.

3. Discussion with possible action regarding travel to our City by Paisanos during the holidays by facilitating their travel and avoiding congestion.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they had been having meetings with the US/Mexico Consulate and representatives from Nuevo Laredo, Nuevo Leon and Customs Directors about the matter.

Blasita Lopez, Convention and Visitors Bureau Interim Manager, reported that they had the tent/rest stop for the 11<sup>th</sup> year at mile marker 13. The traditional agencies – the Consulado and CVB would staff that continuously starting December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon through 12 noon on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

4. Discussion with possible action on assisting the JJAEP Alternative School Program. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Mike Garza)

Cm. Garza mentioned that they had it as part of their county/city intergovernmental agenda. They were trying to look at other city-owned property and other sites to work out some long-term lease agreements to help them operationally.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that one of the concerns was that there was supposed to be some movement, so they could agree to an additional 18 months while they looked at other alternatives.

Cm. Landeck asked that City Council support the organization and asked that City Manager would find the \$30,000 to do it.

Motion to place a moratorium to place the rent at the present rate and do an extension.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

City Manager Carlos Villarreal responded that he would like to find out and come back with a report based on how much money is in the fund balance of the JJAEP.

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Presentation by staff on the Citizen Survey conducted previously and discussion to consider the hiring of a firm to conduct a survey to improve customer service in the City of Laredo, with possible action.

Martin Aleman, Budget Director, reported that he had submitted a copy of the survey conducted in the summer of 2006. The survey consisted of 500 telephone surveys randomly selected from each district. The cost of the survey then was \$16,000. The same survey could now be done between \$15-18,000 in order to have follow-up.

Cm. Garza said that one of the things he would like to see would be where they rated as of 2006, whether they had improved or decreased. Anywhere where they transacted with individuals, he was interested in knowing how the individuals felt about their customer service. He wished to know if they could be creative in looking at the alternatives so as to fulfill the commitment. That was his intent.

Motion to come up with a comprehensive program and make a customer service plan and survey.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on the possibility of standardizing requirements for the various zoning classifications.

Cm. Garza mentioned that he had left it open-ended. He said that they had recently had the issue of the industrial building in a residential area. They had discussed the possibility of having a disclosure or some kind of a deal where they could have disclosure with their realtors. He had a big concern about maybe in one industry having a certain standard, but within the same zone there may be different requirements for a particular business. He wished to look at a comprehensive evaluation and have staff look at a recommendation if needed to standardize the whole process. He wished also to look at a disclosure ordinance.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that in the cases where they have had problems, the person intentionally had misled the other person. He added that a penalty would be needed.

Cm. Garza said that his goal was to make sure that they had a fair process.

3. Motion to instruct the City Manager to appropriate interest earnings in order to hire an engineer to design Ejido from the 2007 Contractual Obligation Bond Proceeds. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Hector Garcia)

Motion to instruct the City Manager to go forward on an RFQ on these designs.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

#### C. Request by Council Member Hector J. Garcia

1. Discussion with possible action to appropriate \$60,000.00 from District II Discretionary Funds for the purchase of portable bleachers.

Cm. Garza said that he would reduce District II by \$20,000 and put himself in for \$20,000.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to join with Webb County Drainage District for channel improvements in Concord Hills Subdivision in the estimated amount of \$30,000.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that what the County already had a drainage district. What they needed to do was make sure that they got the group together to make the award, something in the range of \$87,000. There was no need for them to do anything because they had already been collecting money to do this project. He believed that such action will be taking place soon.

Motion to approve as a contingency in case it would be needed as amended.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Approving a one-time holiday for Friday, December 26, 2008. (Co-sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Jose A. Valdez, Jr.)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

Second: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

#### D. Request by Council Member Johnny Rendon

1. Discussion with possible action to provide free parking meter parking for disabled veterans. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza)

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, reported that as long as there was a veteran license plate properly identified, they should be able to park for free, as it was state law.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza said that all they wanted to make sure was that the parking enforcement officers were educated on this law and not ticketing disabled veterans.

2. Status report on the Upper Zacate Creek Detention Pond by the Airport property.

Riazul Mia, Environmental Services Director, reported that the project itself, the retention pond, should be finished by January 9<sup>th</sup>. They were also putting the sprinkler system on the side, mulch, and fencing of the pond as well as the channel design. They were hoping to bid sometime in January.

3. Status report on the traffic light at the intersection of Loop 20 and Lakeside, with possible action.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Department, said that they already had a consultant working on the project. They had requested a progression analysis between the two intersections, Jacaman and the proposed locations. They had submitted a report to

TxDOT and were waiting for some comments from them. They were awaiting their approval.

E. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion with possible action on including the following streets to the District VI Recycling Program: Shiloh (from Navajo to International), Fox Lane, Alameda and Cross Country North.

Cm. Belmares said that it some corrections were needed: Ozark from Navajo to Fox Lane, Fox Lane from Shiloh north to Ozark, and then Cross Way north from Shiloh to Bull Elk, Crossfield Circle, Jessica Lane from Cross Way to International, and Bull Elk from Cross Way to International and White Tail from Cross Way to International. These needed to come from District VI discretionary funds. He added that Windrock from Winfield Parkway all the way back the circle would be recycled in the next few days.

Motion to add the program to above streets by taking \$35,000 from District VI discretionary funds.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on incorporating raised crosswalks traffic calming devices.

Cm. Belmares said that he brought the item to Council because he had certain areas where he had a concern that the residents were rolling through stop signs. One particular area was Curly Lane over by Troutman Middle School. He mentioned that the location had a four-way stop. The other was form Forest Loop as it comes into the school where the traffic goes north and south on Curly Lane. He went on to say that if they incorporated a raised crosswalk, the traffic could no longer roll but would have to make a full stop. He added that the other calming device was already being used at the corner of Kimberly Lane and Country Club where the intersection was raised so that it became a speed hump, requiring everyone to stop.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, said that was made part of the subdivision when it was extended. Normally they would install those type of devices on lower classifications.

Motion to instruct City Manager to instruct staff to incorporate other alternatives besides just speed humps.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



3. Discussion with possible action authorizing the City Manager to negotiate the acquisition of a drainage channel in fee simple from Monoco Development, plus \$6,000.00 in parking improvements.

Cm. Belmares said that first of all, the acquisition was for a public use area, not a drainage channel, and park improvements, not parking improvements. He was leaving the negotiation to them. He felt that \$6,000 would accomplish getting trees and irrigation. He felt that if the rest needed to be matched with discretionary funds, then so be it.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that he felt that if they were given the privilege to be able to negotiate with them, they would need more than \$6,000.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to invoke the fifteen-minute extension rule.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

F. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Jose A. Valdez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to amend the land development code as it relates to parking lots in industrial parks.

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez said that there has been an issue throughout the years with the older industrial parks. They were required by ordinances to have complete paved yards. There had been an effort by the city to give citations, because many of the yards were simply dirt and grass. He wanted to see if they could look at changing the parking requirements that would be more feasible so that people could abide by the ordinance. He also wanted to consider creating a tax incentive or some sort of incentive to encourage the companies to come in and do this, and for those who had recently complied to receive an abatement for what they had done.

Erasmus Villarreal, Building Director, reported that they did a survey of the Mines Road area of industrial parks, visiting 236 businesses. Almost 70%, 139, did not meet the requirements of the ordinance. He added that it was cheaper for the property owners to pay the citation than to meet ordinance requirements because of the cost of paving.

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez said that what he would suggest looking at an incentive or abatement program.

Motion to look at an incentive or abatement program.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

G. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo Espinoza

1. Discussion with possible action on designating 2 parking spaces specifically for disabled veterans in front of the Veterans Services Office located at 1110 Washington. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Johnny Rendon)

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director, said that they had already identified the two spaces. Their plan was to go ahead and issue a placard to the office to make sure that the veterans were able to park there.

2. Status report, with discussion and possible action on the City's participation with Webb County in reference to funding for the Veterans Museum.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they had already gotten direction from Council and were looking at the funding source. This would give them enough time to be able to find out if they would rehabilitate the building or not.

3. Discussion with possible action on entering into an agreement with St. Augustine Elementary School to add cushioned walking surface to the 8 block perimeter of the school and an outdoor basketball court with access to the public and to the school by using Discretionary Funds. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck)

City Manager Carlos Villarreal said that they needed to get the dimensions to be able to come up with a better cost estimate. He agreed that in some areas, the sidewalk was not very wide. He said they would come back with a cost estimate and at that time they could inform him as to how the discretionary funds would be divided.

Motion to start an agreement with San Augustin School not to exceed (\$50,000 from District VIII; \$50,000 from District III; \$50,000 from District IV) \$150,000.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to extend the meeting another 15 minutes.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Discussion with possible action on reopening public restrooms in the downtown area.

Cm. Liendo Espinoza said that the reason she placed this item on the agenda was because they were trying to promote the downtown shopping and eating, and public

restrooms were not available. She wished to instruct City Manager to look into different options for either reopening the restrooms or coming up with an alternative to have something accessible to the public.

Motion to instruct staff to look at different options regarding public restrooms.

Moved: Cm. Liendo Espinoza

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **XIII. STAFF REPORTS**

40. A. Presentation by Scott Joslove, President and CEO of the Texas Hotel and Lodging Association, regarding the hotel occupancy tax (venue tax) funding mechanism for a proposed convention center.

Mr. Joslove reported that having a venue district was an option for Laredo if they chose to have one. They could use it for their proposed convention center. The steps were to get the comptroller's office approval, and then hold the election on the venue project in May or November. He said that the hotel occupancy tax could be in 1/8 % increments up to 2%. The hotel tax would become effective after the election upon the passage of the ordinance.

- B. Discussion with possible action regarding requests for reimbursements for costs and/or expenses submitted by individual Council Members and a clarification of the scope of Laredo City Council Ordinance 2007-O-097.

Motion to table.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

Second: Mayor Pro Tem Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

41. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to discuss the purchase of Lots 3B and 3C, Block 1, William Bejerano Replat, located at 3504 East Saunders, City of Laredo, Texas; and return to open session.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to discuss the purchase of Lots 3B and 3C, Block 1, William Bejerano Replat, located at 3504 East Saunders, City of Laredo, Texas; and return to open session.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

After Executive Session the Mayor announced that no formal action was taken.

42. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (2) by City Attorney to discuss the contractual relationship with Arena Ventures, L.L.C., relating to the Laredo Entertainment Center; and return to open session for possible action.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**XV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD**

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

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Motion to waive bus fare collection on shuttle for special event “Navidad Festival” from the Civic Center grounds to the San Agustin Plaza on Saturday, December 6, 2008 as participation to the City of Laredo’s “Navidad Festival” annual tree lighting event. The shuttle will begin at the Civic Center parking lot west of the City of Laredo’s Telecommunication Center, to and from the San Agustin Plaza form 4:00 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**XVI. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AND ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL**

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0