

**CITY OF LAREDO
RECOGNITION AND COMMUNICATION NOTICE
M2018-R-02
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
February 5, 2018
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor will be presenting the following:

1. Recognizing the Trautmann Middle School Cheerleaders for winning National Champions in the Intermediate Middle School/Jr. High Division at the NCA Nationals this past weekend in Dallas, TX.

Mayor Saenz congratulated the cheerleaders for their achievement. Olivia Cardenas, coach, recognized her assistant coach, Megan Ruiz. Coach Cardenas reported that the cheerleaders have won first place in all of their competitions this year, noting that their victories have not been without some injury or close calls. She thanked the City for its recognition.

Mayor Saenz presented Coach Cardenas with a certificate of recognition.

2. Presentation by Olivia Varela, Executive Director, Laredo Economic Development Corporation on the 1st annual Bi-national Hack-a-thon starting February 23 - 25, 2018. This event will connect community members with programmers to solve city and social issues with technology.

Olivia Varela, Laredo Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, introduced MileOne Marketing Manager Roger Garcia. She announced that the organization underwent a rebranding event, changing their name from the Laredo Development Foundation to the Laredo Economic Development Corporation for its immediate recognition of the role they play in the community when the group travels out of town. She reported that the MileOne International Business Center was opened in December 2017 to serve as a business incubator for the community. Ms. Varela reported that businesses have an 80% better chance of success if they go through an incubator program. The center serves as a place to work, network, and diversify. The First Binational Technology Hack-a-thon will be held February 23-25, 2018, with Nuevo Laredo. It will be promoted at the state and national level as a chance to revisit the Viva Laredo Plan.

Roger Garcia presented a video explaining the Hack-a-thon event, inviting interested parties to participate in the discussions surrounding the community's challenges and issues. He explained that a hack-a-thon is a think tank for citizens, community leaders, coders, and engineers to collaborate and provide the ideas and skills necessary to create technological solutions. The event will focus on issues identified in the Viva Laredo Strategic Plan, such as health, housing, education, culture and arts.

The panelist program will be held Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at MileOne, in order for participants to get acquainted with the community issues at hand and to have a Q&A session with subject matter experts. Final registration will be Friday, February 23, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at MileOne, where individuals can sign up for issues

of interests and create teams. Teams can collaborate and participate in workshops from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24. On Sunday, February 25, final presentations will be submitted from 8:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m., and finalist presentation, winner announcements, and community technology expositions will be exhibited until 5:00 p.m. Mr. Garcia reported that the first three places will receive cash prizes and incubator programs. He referenced MileOne’s website for more information: www.mileoneinc.com.

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M2018-R-02
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
February 5, 2018
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pete Saenz led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Pete Saenz led in a moment of silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Alejandro “Alex” Perez, Jr.	Mayor Pro-Tempore, District III
Alberto Torres Jr.	District IV
Norma “Nelly” Vielma	District V
Charlie San Miguel	District VI
George J. Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.	City Secretary
Horacio De Leon	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	City Attorney

Cm. San Miguel joined at 5:36 p.m.

Motion to excuse Cm. San Miguel until his arrival.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of January 8, 2018 and January 24, 2018

Motion to approve the January 8 and January 24, 2018 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

Citizen comments

Maria Garcia, animal welfare activist, spoke on behalf of the animal in the Laredo Animal Care Facility. She reminded Council that they received a petition signed by more than 46,000 people that asks for changes at the facility. The shelter continues to fail to make sufficient effort to inform the public of animals in the premises. Requests for photos of animals taken in continue to be ignored, and many animals brought in never leave. Animals are not given a fair chance to be seen and recovered by owners, adopted, or tagged for rescue in homes or no-kill shelters outside of Laredo. The LACS does not respect the animals' wait time and use the term "not available" instead of killed. Ms. Garcia noted that the facility is not grateful or receptive to the help offered by volunteers or activists. She reported that this past week, 5 cats were tagged for rescue by an outside shelter, but over the weekend, they were listed as "unavailable" on the LACS website, meaning they were not in the shelter anymore. She asked why horror stories surrounding the shelter continue to spread and why the recordkeeping is still so poor among the shelter staff.

Gabriel Lopez, veteran advocate, reported that he received a phone call from a veteran who lives in Nuevo Laredo because he has not been able to get help in Laredo, and he receives mail in Downtown Laredo. He cannot access the federal post office building because its wheelchair ramp is now fenced and locked. Mr. Lopez stated that it is not right for the City to prevent accessibility from its consumers, and he added that video footage shows employees treating this veteran poorly and inconsistently. The City of Laredo is not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. He reminded that this issue has been brought before Council before, but nothing has been done. It is law that public buildings need accessible accommodations.

Juan Avila referred to an item on the agenda for reducing the City's overall current debt. He stated that the City Manager just had construction performed in the City Hall parking lot to accommodate his pick-up truck, noting that he could have used that money to provide an accessible wheelchair ramp at the post office. He also noted that elderly citizens are very slow, and that two free hours of parking at the Outlet Shoppes is not enough time for elderly shoppers. He encouraged the City Manager to prioritize the needs of the City. He stated that the City is not spending its money wisely or correctly.

Jacklyn Garcia voiced her agreement with Maria Garcia's comments, noting that she has

volunteered for animals in Laredo for many years. She has noticed that incidents occurring at LACS are deplorable, noting that she means no disrespect but makes her comments with the best of intentions to rectify the situation. She reiterated that a petition is circulating world-wide, with signatures from informed people in other countries. She reminded Council that staff was directed to upload photographs of new animals. Since that direction, staff has only uploaded albums twice, and only dog photos were uploaded. Cats were not given attention at all.

Gerry Schwebel shared that many members of the community have been in discussion regarding changes to the North American Free Trade Agreement as well as US-Mexico border and trade issues. He offered his services and expertise to the City as a member of the US/Mexico Economic Business Council and has been able to participate in the negotiation rounds during these discussions. Locally, the City has a high stake in the trade services industry, and the decision-makers of the City should be well-informed of the issues as well. Trucking and customs and trade facilitation are two high priorities in Laredo.

VI. VETERAN RECOGNITION

- a. Honoring Mr. Agustin Gamez, Vietnam Veteran, for his service as a member of the Army and recognizing his distinguished service to our Country.

Gabriel Lopez, veteran advocate, informed Council that Mr. Gamez was born and raised in Laredo, Texas. He is a graduate of Martin High School and an Army veteran, drafted in August 1966 as an Armored Carrier Personnel. Mr. Gamez left the service in 1968 and returned to Laredo. He is a Purple Heart recipient from wounds to the face by shrapnel in Vietnam. Mr. Gamez shared that the Vietnam War changed his life and will stay with him for the rest of his life. He became an educator upon his return, teaching for over 40 years.

Mr. Lopez led a standing ovation for Mr. Gamez in appreciation for his service.

Mr. Agustin Gamez thanked Council and the City for this honor and noted that he left college to serve his country. He added that he has loved teaching and learning. He stated that veterans of war never forget the things that they have seen or lost, but he would do it again for his country. He recognized the prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action.

Mayor Saenz presented Mr. Gamez with a certificate as a small token of appreciation for his service in the armed forces as well as an educator.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Announcement by the Fine Arts and Culture Commission regarding the Mural Arts Grants Program Request for Proposals and advising local artists to submit proposals for consideration by the Commission.

Gale Aker Rodriguez, Fine Arts & Culture Commission Chair, reported that the commission works to cultivate civic pride and encourage economic development through the arts. She informed Council that Cm. Gonzalez still has a vacancy in this Commission, which she hoped he would fill soon. She publicized the commission's request for the submission of proposals for the murals arts grant program, of which

the rules and procedures have been outlined and will be followed by the commission. The deadline has been set for 3:30 p.m. on March 26, 2018. She confirmed that the City has given the commission its requirements for mural locations and properties. Artists will have to specify what wall they would paint a mural on as well as its location and ownership. The Commission does not provide the space for the mural. Property owners can contact an artist to provide the wall space if they so wish.

Joe Arciniega, Commission Member, voiced his confidence in the number of mural artists who have expressed interest in painting a mural for the City. Ms. Rodriguez added that applications can be submitted by anyone in Laredo, but students will need an adult sponsor for their applications. The application will be available on the City's website and is already publicized in the Laredo Morning Times. The City has allocated a certain amount of funds to the commission, who will decide how to disburse the funds to the artists. There is also some hotel/motel funding available.

- b. Presentation by Mr. Gabriel Lopez, Texas Veteran Leadership Program recognizing Ms. Monica C. Flores and Ms. Carolina Thurkettle, on the Red, White & You Job Fair.

Gabriel Lopez, veteran advocate, explained that the Texas Veteran Leadership Program is a statewide program that helps veterans return from war and find employment as civilians. The Red, White & You Job Fair is held throughout Texas and was initiated by the Office of the Governor Greg Abbot and the Texas Workforce Commission. He reported that eight veterans were hired by the City at the Red, White & You Job Fair this year. He thanked Monica C. Flores and Carolina Thurkettle for their commitment to employing veterans.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- 1. Appointment by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez of Jennifer Roby to the Drug & Alcohol Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jennifer Roby to the Drug & Alcohol Commission.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2. Appointment by Mayor and City Council Members of Rosie Cavazos to the Animal Care Facility Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rosie Cavazos to the Animal Care Facility Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Motion to open public hearing #1.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Altgelt

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending Chapter 28, Article IX Public Right of Way Management; Amending Section 28-165, Definitions; Amending Section 28-174, Permit Required; Clarifying Section 28-215, Fees; Providing for a Repealing Clause; providing for publication, severability, and effective date.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez, Cm. San Miguel, and Cm. Balli were not present.

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez, Cm. San Miguel, and Cm. Balli were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Subdivision Ordinance Handbook of the City of Laredo by revising Chapter III, Subdivision Design Standards, Section 3-2 Streets and Alleys (R) Pavement Standards, Pavement Specifications for Public and Private Streets; providing for publication, severability, and effective date.

Hector Carrillo of Carrillo & Associates Engineering, explained that he was hired by the City as a consultant to review a traffic study conducted by Civil Engineering Consultants several months prior. Mr. Carrillo was asked to compare CEC's results with the current City ordinance. He explained that for local streets, CEC calculated 50,000 ESALs, including annual growth, but that they dropped a design standard from 100,000 to 50,000 ESALs, which will save the City money. He clarified that this reduced standard does not reduce the lifetime of the street, but it accomplishes the same structural integrity for less money. This is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Carrillo explained that the pavement structural number dropped 0.25% in the street comparison, which equates to about two inches of flexible base, which will save developers about \$2.00 per square yard. During the collector comparison, the structural number was reduced by 0.6%, which equates to a savings of about \$5.00 per square yard. The traffic study resulted in 47,000 ESALs compared to the City's ordinance requiring 100,000 ESALs.

Mr. Carrillo explained that reducing the structural number, as proposed at the last Council meeting, will reduce the lifetime of the road drastically, to about two or four years compared to the previous 20 years. This is the same for local streets and local collector streets. He cautioned that using the subgrade as part of the structural number is not advisable. He also clarified that not every street section is made with the same thickness, as Council may believe from the current ordinance.

The main driving measurements to determine structural number is a soil strength analysis and the amount of traffic ESALs on a street. Mr. Carrillo recommended Council accept the ESAL count that the traffic study calculated. He voiced his opinion that the City ordinance should not have a minimum or maximum structural number; it should be based on the ESALs determined.

Mayor Saenz voiced his opinion that the standard should be to use the materials and measurements that will give the road a lifeline of 20 years. Cm. Altgelt countered that as long as residents saturate their lawns with water and that water leaches under the pavement, it is going to damage the substructure of roads and they will not last their expected lifetime.

Mr. Carrillo confirmed that he has seen some street failures as a result of improper paving. He sees similar issues in San Antonio, but comparing Laredo's streets to San Antonio's is illogical because they are not comparable. He reported some design analyses figures for local streets as follows:

<u>CBR</u>	<u>Mr, psi</u>	<u>ESALS</u>	<u>Pavement Life (years)</u>
3	4,500	6,000	2.4
4	6,000	11,000	4.4
5	7,500	18,000	7.2
6	9,000	28,000	11.2

Mr. Carrillo reiterated his recommendation to perform soil tests and calculate the structural numbers rather than adopting blanket values.

Cm. San Miguel emphasized the need to perform quality control for soils that are not substandard for quality roads. In addition to the recommendations being made now, he stated that the City should be ensuring quality materials to build the subgrade so that the roads being built are not doomed from the start.

Ramon Chavez, Executive Director of Public Services, confirmed that the City does not currently test materials, but it is a staff recommendation to Council moving forward.

Jesus Ruiz of the Technical Review Board stated understanding of Mr. Carrillo's recommendation to Council is to not set a minimum structural number but to instead let the soil dictate that. The minimum structural number recommended by the TRB is simply a threshold, below which the pavers would not go. However, Mr. Carrillo's suggestion to not have a minimum is a preferable option.

Ricardo Villarreal, assistant to the TRB after the CEC report was released, noted that he took several soil samples from different areas. He reported that the Villas San Agustin have ideal soil conditions for residential roads, which is sandstone. He

confirmed that the minimum structural number is arbitrary. Lowering the ESAL count without lowering the structural number will not result in any savings.

Mr. Ruiz asked Council to adopt the ordinance as recommended by the TRB and the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mr. Carrillo noted that Mr. Villarreal's estimates do not include annual growth. Cm. San Miguel countered that considering residential areas, there will not be much annual growth unless the area is converted to multi-family.

Cm. Vielma voiced her concern that while the City wants to offer the best price and value possible, she wants to see recommendations in terms of ratios that will show a 20-year road lifetime. Cm. Altgelt countered that this was already done.

Mr. Chavez explained that the City went out for RFQs for a pavement management system. Proposals have been submitted, and the department is currently reviewing them for a recommendation to Council. The lifespan of a road will be greatly affected by the maintenance of the road.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, clarified that roads should be designed and built for a 20-year lifespan, which is not currently being done under the City's ordinance. If the City utilizes these recommendations, developers will be able to design and build their roads to last longer.

Mr. Villarreal reminded Council that once the base of a road is damaged, it can not be repaired by resurfacing; the road needs reconstruction.

Mr. Chavez reminded Council that the staff recommendation, based on Mr. Carrillo's study comparison, is not to adopt a range of measurements but to design and build every roadway moving forward based on the site's specific soil tests.

Armando Cisneros asked how the City can assure that the savings will be passed on to the homeowner. That hasn't been proven.

Danny Juarez stated that thanks to Council's action on R-1B, higher density, and rear lot drainage, developers are now able to deliver \$125,000 homes with bigger backyards.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce, accepting the recommendations of the Technical Review Board along with the Planning & Zoning Commission and putting the ESAL counts that were generated by the City's expert into the street design standards and allowing the developer to retain ownership of the streets for two years rather than one year and directing staff to track the cost savings to the end user so that if it is not present Council readdress the issue, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Altgelt

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez

Cm. Vielma

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. San Miguel
Cm. Balli

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez, Cm. San Miguel, and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to ratify and execute a contract from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), amending the FY 2017-2018 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$250,000.00 and amending the FY 2017-2018 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Health Educator Supervisor, R38 for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Obesity Prevention Program for the term of February 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. San Miguel, and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

4. Motion to open public hearing #4.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to ratify and execute a contract from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), amending the FY 2017-2018 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$224,584.00 and amending the FY 2017-2018 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Health Educator I, R29 position and one (1) Caseworker, R34 position and six (6) contract employees for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Zika Health Care Women's Health Prevention Services in our target area for the term of January 18, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

5. Motion to open public hearing #5.

Moved: Cm. Balli
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo 2017-2018 Special Police Fund budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$182,174.40 to fund the Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant Project and to accept said grant award in the amount of \$182,174.40 from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division. The funds will be used to equip 480 officers at risk of shootings with bullet-resistant personal body armor compliant with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) standard for rifle protection. The Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant performance period is from January 01, 2018 through December 31, 2018 and may not exceed 12 months. No local match is required. Funding available in Special Police Fund.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

6. Motion to open public hearing #6.

Moved: Cm. Balli
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY 2018 annual budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$124,952.07 in the General Fund. The revenues are from forfeiture cases involving abandoned and unclaimed money from the Laredo Police Department Property and Evidence Section. Funding will be used for PD buildings that are in dire need of repairs and improvements. Funding is available in General Fund and will be utilized as approved by City Manager.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

7. Motion to open public hearing #7.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to allow the City of Laredo Utilities Department to sell sanitary sewer capacity in the amount of \$617.00 per gallon per minute (GPM) to the development community that are required to participate in the construction of the Eastern Chacon Creek 36" Interceptor Project due to the lack of capacity of the existing sanitary sewer system; allowing the development community to do the improvements in lieu of payment of the sanitary sewer capacity; amending the wastewater annual budget 2017-2018 by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$100,000.00; and providing for an effective date. This interceptor will provide extra capacity to the Eastern Chacon Creek Watershed Service area and will start from the Vaquillas lift station to the siphon at the intersection of Gates and India. The sale of the sanitary sewer capacity will be enforced to the development community during the recordation of the platting process that includes the interest from the bond. Properties requesting an increase of sanitary sewer capacity beyond those designated in the original plat will be subjected to the additional payment of the extra sanitary sewer capacity. The estimated cost of the improvements including the interest will be \$7,088,153.00. Utilities Department recommends increasing the cost per GPM by 2% on October 1st of every year. Fees collected will be set aside in the sanitary sewer capacity projects account.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

X. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

8. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 14, , Article II., Section 14-9, of the code or ordinances by amending section 14-9 (m) to eliminate the brush pick up fee in its entirety for city residents paying garbage fees and waiving the bulky item and debris fees for residents who claim illegal dumping has

affected their property/residence and who provide a signed affidavit attesting to the fact and specifying bulky items may be collected at no charge during schedule semi-annual and special collection events; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. An Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-16, "Departments of the City," of the Code of Ordinances by creating the Economic Development Department; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2018-O-010, 2018-O-011, 2018-O-012, 2018-O-013, 2018-O-014, 2018-O-015, 2018-O-016, 2018-O-017, 2018-O-018, 2018-O-019, 2018-O-020, 2018-O-021, 2018-O-022, 2018-O-023, 2018-O-024, 2018-O-025, 2018-O-026, 2018-O-027, 2018-O-028, 2018-O-029, and 2018-O-030.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

10. 2018-O-010 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute a contract from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) and amending the FY 2017-2018 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$231,319.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) TACKLE HIV/HCV (Hepatitis C) for high risk persons through early intervention, enhanced health care and treatment and improving the continuum of care for people co-infected with HIV/HCV for the term from September 30, 2017 through September 29, 2018.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-010.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

11. 2018-O-011 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately .084 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at north of Pita Mangana Rd., and east of Cuatro Vientos Rd., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-16-2018 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-011.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

12. 2018-O-012 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately .084 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at South of Lomas del Sur Blvd., and West of Cuatro Vientos Rd., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-18-2018 District I

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-012.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

13. 2018-O-013 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately .957 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at North of KCS Railroad, South of Andy Ramos Rd, and West of Bob Bullock Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-17-2018 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-013.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

14. 2018-O-014 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for a Restaurant Serving Alcohol, on Lots 2 through 7, Block 1015, Eastern Division, located at 2720 S US Highway 83; providing for publication and effective date. ZC-21-2018 District III

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-014.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

15. 2018-O-015 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1 Axis Hospitality Plat, located at 4820 San Bernardo Ave., from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-20-2018 District VII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-015.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

16. 2018-O-016 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by repealing Ordinance No. 2008-O-207, which authorized a Conditional Use Permit for a Parking Lot on Lot 3, Block 766, Western Division, located at 2808 San Bernardo Ave. ZC-19-2018 District VIII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-016.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

17. 2018-O-017 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Townhouses on Lot 1, Block 1, Hilltop Subdivision, Phase 1, located at 7406 Hilltop Rd. ZC-40-2017 District VII

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-017.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

18. 2018-O-018 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for Townhouses on approximately 5.92 acres out of Abstract 241, Porcion 28, Eugenio Martinez, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located North of U.S. Highway 59 and West of Escondido Dr. ZC-34-2017 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-018.

Moved: Cm. Balli

(fees) by implementing new account connection fees for same business day service (from \$35 to \$75 based on the need for meter setup); amending section 138.1.2 (service charges) by adding fees for installation of tee-connections, reducing the water tap fee for irrigation meters, amending the cost for 2” waterline extensions for service connections if needed, deleting the meter and meter installation fee for 5/8” meter, and reducing the security deposits for new customers who are 65 years or older and veterans; creating section of 31-138.4 (refund security deposits); amending section 31-141(b) by reducing the connection fees for residential services to a flat rate, adding a water connection fee for residential services to the Colonias, and reducing the connection fees for 8” commercial meter, amending section 31-141(f) by including the water demand fees; deleting section 31-141.1.1 (security deposits); providing for severability; providing this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-026.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

27. 2018-O-027 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 23 “Parks and Leisure Services” by repealing section 23-8 “Prohibition regarding child sex offender in child safety zone” and replacing with a new section “Prohibition regarding sex offender in safety zone;” amending section 23-9 “Enforcement procedures” to restrict the activities of registered sex offenders who have committed crimes against children as well as adults; and providing for the following: findings of fact, penalty for violation, savings, severability, repealer, publication, and an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-027.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

28. 2018-O-028 Amending Ordinance 2017-O-108 by reinstating the original terms of the agreement between the City of Laredo and the United States Postal Service (USPS) for the rental of office space at 1300 Matamoros. The emergency abatement, remediation, and reconstruction was satisfactorily completed on October 25, 2017, and the facility was released to the United States Postal Service for the continuation of their normal business operations. The United States Postal Service will provide a retroactive payment from October 26, 2017 to December 31, 2017 with the normal monthly

rate of \$8,000.00 dollars.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-028.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

29. 2018-O-029 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 19, Article VIII, Section 19-360 (parking meters) by adding subsection (d) and amending section 19-362 by adding subsection (f) to authorize the City Manager to waive or reduce parking fees for parking meters and city-owned parking lots for special events on a case-by-case basis when deemed in the best interest of the city; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-029.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

30. 2018-O-030 Amending Chapter 31 (Utilities), Article II, (SEWER AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL), Division 1 (GENERALLY) section 31-16 (Definitions) by adding new and revised definitions; and by deleting DIVISION 5 Sections 31-97 through 31-101; creating DIVISION 6 (Industrial and High Strength Waste) Sections 31-106 through 31-112; moving contents of Sections 31-97 (Industrial waste cost recovery charges—payment and agreement required.) to 31-106, 31-98 (Same – Agreements) to 31-107, 31-99 (Same – Schedule of charges.) to 31-108, 31-100 (Same – Adjustment of charges) to 31-109, and 31-101 (Revenues; disposition.) to 31-110; amending Sections 31-106 (Industrial and High Strength Waste Surcharge) by adding the purpose and application; and amending Section 31-108 (Schedule of Charges) by correcting the surcharge formula for excessive Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) loading, amending sampling and billing procedures; deleting the contents of 31-101 (Revenues; disposition.); providing for severability; providing for repeal law in conflict clause; providing for publication; providing for an effective date. This Ordinance will be effective on October 1, 2018.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-O-030.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items #31 through #38.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Balli
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items #39 through #56.

Moved: Cm. Balli
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 1
 Cm. Rodriguez Cm. Perez
 Cm. Torres
 Cm. Vielma
 Cm. San Miguel
 Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

XII (a) RESOLUTIONS

- 31. 2018-R-016 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to K9s4COPs for the donation of a canine to be trained and used by the Laredo Police Department for law enforcement purposes. The canine is strictly a donation and will be at no cost to the City of Laredo Police Department.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-016.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Balli
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

- 32. 2018-R-017 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute 84 cooperative working agreements/mutual assistance agreements/memorandums of understanding between the City of Laredo Police Department and various federal, state and local agencies, including but not limited to: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), SCAN, et al., a comprehensive list is attached hereto as "Exhibit A". The Police Department's participation is part of the community service provided to our citizens, with no cost to the City of Laredo.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-017.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

33. 2018-R-018 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement and accept reimbursement from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol FY 18 Treasury Forfeiture Fund up to \$100,000.00 for joint operations overtime expenses. The City of Laredo required match will be \$32,930.00 for a total amount of \$132,930.00. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-018.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

34. 2018-R-019 Authorizing City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$145,163.04 from the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of Comprehensive-Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2018 and runs through September 30, 2019. This grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24% of total funds. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-019.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

35. 2018-R-020 Authorizing City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$118,761.72 from the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of Commercial Motor Vehicle Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2018 and runs through September 30, 2019. This grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24% of total funds. Funding is available in Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-020.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

36. 2018-R-022 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services through the South Texas Development Council (STDC) for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department's Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids Project (HOPWA) to assist with housing and utilities in the amount of \$79,339.00 for the term of February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-022.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

37. 2018-R-023 Authorizing the City Manager to ratify and execute a contract from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the amount of \$66,188.00, for a total award amount of \$201,228.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Tuberculosis Prevention & Control/Federal Program to continue Tuberculosis control, prevention, treatment and surveillance for early detection for the term of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-023.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

38. 2018-R-025 Accepting the dedication, by Residencial Santa Rita, Inc., of 0.3857 acres, more or less, as a public street easement. The proposed street easement is a fifty foot wide easement that has a median. It intersects the north side of Prada Machin Dr. and is located approximately 200 ft. west of the intersection of U.S. 83 and Prada Machin Dr.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-025.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

XII (b) MOTIONS

39. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest bidder Romo Contractors, LLC., Laredo, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$133,500.00 for the Transitional Housing Located at 1517 Washington Street with a construction contract time of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for June 2018. Funding is available in the CDBG 40th Action Year.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

40. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder, ALC Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$160,000.00 for the CDBG El Eden Park Basketball Court Metal Shade Structure – District I with a construction contract time of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for June 2018. Funding is available in the Community Development 42 nd Action Year/2016 Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

41. Consideration for approval of award of construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder, Romo Contractors, LLC., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$246,500.00 (Base Bid and Additive Alternate) for the Century City Park Basketball Metal Shade Structure – District I with a construction contract time of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Completion date for the project is scheduled for June 2018. Funding is available in the 2016 and 2017 CO Issues.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

42. Consideration for approval to reject the bids received for the North Central Park Restrooms Project – District VI and authorization to re-design and re-bid the project. Funding is available in the 2016 CO District VI Priority Funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

43. Consideration for approval of the Slaughter Park Exercise Station Shade Structure as complete, release of retainage, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$4,790.00 to Romo Contractors, LLC., Laredo, Texas. Funding is available in the CDBG 2016 Action Year Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

44. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the lease agreement between the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) and Webb County in the amount of \$125,000.00 for off premise parking for use by the Community Action Center (Fernando Salinas Community Center) and allowing use of these funds for construction and paving of

the parking lots at the Cedar Complex to improve safety and maintenance. Funds from Webb County are to be released in lump sum to begin the paving.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

45. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with Alice Management Company, LLC to allow the City of Laredo to operate on the property located at 2041 East Main Street, Suite 500 in Alice, Texas 78332 for the City of Laredo Health Department Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Health Promotion programs. The term of the agreement will commence on or before February 28, 2018, upon completion of repairs as specified in the contract and shall be for five (5) years contingent on funding availability. Lease is being paid from WIC grant funds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

46. Consideration to authorize the purchase of ammunition for the Police Department in the amount of \$79,917.37 from GT Distributors, Inc. through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program's Contract No. 524-17. Funding is available in the Laredo Police Department General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

47. Consideration to authorize a professional service contract with Bexar County Forensic Science Center, San Antonio, TX, in the estimated annual amount of \$140,000.00 for criminal investigation laboratory services for the Police Department. All services are requested on an as needed basis. Services include examination of evidence involving: arson, controlled substances, DNA, firearms, tool marks, toxicology, serology, and other services required for criminal investigations. This agreement will continue annually unless written notice from either party to discontinue the services is submitted. Funding is available in the Police Department General Fund budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

48. Consideration to award a contract to purchase 50 Sig Sauer guns and 40 Sig Sauer rifles directly through the Sig Sauer Manufacturer at a total cost of \$54,566.70. The cost to purchase the guns is \$21,449.50 and the cost to purchase rifles is \$33,117.20. These weapons will be assigned to newly hired police officer cadets upon completing the police academy. Funding is available in the City of Laredo Police Department General Fund Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

49. Consideration to authorize the purchase of a fully equipped bomb vehicle from Holiday Chevrolet DBA: Johnson Grayson Automotive, Inc in the amount of \$72,483.00 through State of Texas Contract #070A/071-A1 for Law Enforcement Vehicles. The purchase of this unit is being funded by the Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Program-Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA). The unit will be essential and necessary in the prevention of terrorism events. Funding is available in the 2017 State Homeland Security Grant.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

50. Consideration to authorize the purchase of forty-seven (47) patrol units from Cowboy Dodge, Silsbee, Texas in the amount of \$1,398,799.25. The purchase of these vehicles shall be made utilizing the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program. Funding is available in the 2017 Certificate of Obligation Issue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

51. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with RZ Communications, the only authorized dealer for the acquisition of forty-seven (47) Zebra Mobile Printers, Stalker Radars, and the purchase of forty-seven (47) Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT'S) through contract No. DIR-TSO-2520 for the new Police Department patrol vehicles for a total amount of \$626,858.50. Funding is available in the 2017 Certificate of Obligation Issue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

52. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source provider, Utility Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$451,200.00 for the purchase of forty-seven (47) In-Car and Body Worn Video Camera Systems for the new Police Department patrol vehicles. Funding is available in the 2017 Certificate of Obligation Issue.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

53. Consideration to award contract FY18-025 Safety Footwear for City of Laredo Employees, to the following vendors:

- Mike's Western Wear - Laredo, TX in the estimated annual amount of \$83,000.00
- Gateway Uniforms - Laredo, TX in the estimated annual amount of \$56,000.00

The term of this contract shall be for two (2) years, subject to future appropriations; this contract maybe extended two additional one (1) year periods, upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding for this contract is available in the respective City departments' operational budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Vielma

Cm. San Miguel

Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

54. Consideration to renew contract FY14-038 to Industrial Disposal Supply, San Antonio, Texas, in an amount up to \$75,000.00 for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts/service for the City's street sweepers. All parts and services will be secured on an as needed basis. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution. This is the last extension period for this contract. There will be no price increase during this extension period. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Balli
Second: Cm. Torres
For: 5 Against: 0 Abstain: 1
 Cm. Rodriguez Cm. Perez
 Cm. Torres
 Cm. Vielma
 Cm. San Miguel
 Cm. Balli

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

57. Discussion with possible action on ongoing audits and/or irregularities identified by the Internal Auditor including the potential assignment of other and/or additional auditing duties; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to approve the Internal Auditor's report as presented in Council's Friday packet.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Rodriguez
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

58. Discussion with possible action to consider a third request for an extension of Injury Leave with pay in accordance with 143.073 (b) of the Texas Local Government Code for Patrol Officer Roberto Vedia.

Motion to approve the extension of Injury Leave with Pay for Patrol Officer Roberto Vedia.

Moved: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Balli
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XV. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

59.
A. **Request by Mayor Pete Saenz**

1. Discussion with possible action on how to best manage, reduce and/or liquidate the City's overall current debt, and any other related matters thereto.

Mayor Saenz reported that interest rates are increasing, therefore the cost of borrowing money is going up.

Noe Hinojosa of Estrada, Hinojosa, & Company, explained that the City's interest rates on bonds are fixed rates, so there is no debt exposed to variable rates. The City's overall current debt is about \$300 million. When loans are deducted from the property tax base, the City owes about \$166 million, of which there is interest costs associated. He added that every year, the City is paying off interest and principal balances. For the purposes of rating and presenting this debt to lenders, EHC only accounts for the principal outstanding. He assured Council that the City has AA-2 credit, and the highest credit rating is AAA.

Mr. Hinojosa reported that most of the City's debt is from its water and sewer systems, for which the City has borrowed revenue bonds.

Cm. Altgelt stated that this item helps the City put its priorities into perspective. The City must diversify its portfolio for long-term survivability. However, Laredo does not have much economic incentives to offer businesses, and its credit is pretty extended.

Mr. Hinojosa reminded Council that during their upcoming strategic planning workshop, there will be some discussion on the sales tax. There are some legal hurdles to overcome before realizing its economic priorities, but the City is well-positioned to overcome them.

Cm. Altgelt explained that the Comprehensive Plan recommends that the City avoid urban sprawl and instead pursue urban density. This allows the City to be environmentally and economically sustainable.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, informed Council that the strategic planning workshop agenda will be posted later in the evening. Topics of discussion will include the Capital Improvement Plan and project prioritization.

Mayor Saenz commented that once Council sets its priorities, they should adhere to them, as opposed to changing priorities in the past. Mr. De Leon added that the economic advisor who worked on the Comprehensive Plan will also present to Council at the workshop to help with priorities and incentive opportunities.

Armando Cisneros recommended that Council review the water rates, which were voted on in 2006, at the strategic planning workshop. These rates are worth revisiting.

Lakshmana "Vish" Viswanath voiced his concern of the City continuing to borrow on lines of credit rather than prioritizing debt repayment. He stated that the City of McAllen does not have any debt at all, and the City has \$1 billion in debt. He suggested that the City operate within its means because it spends money wastefully on projects with cut corners that end up malfunctioning.

Mr. De Leon clarified that the sales tax debt for \$26 million is the sports venue tax.

Gerry Schwebel stated that just because an individual has a credit card, that does not mean that he or she has to use it. Over the course of owning a credit card, circumstances may change, and one's spending habits can determine if that individual is responsibly utilizing that credit card. As elected officials, Council has the fiduciary responsibility to manage the City's funds in a prudent way. He voiced his concern that Laredo will continue to change in a way that will adversely affect the City's finances. The City's revenue sources will continue to be bridge tolls, ad valorem taxes, and sales tax receipts. If the City is to attract more business and industry, it needs a great credit rating and ability to borrow and repay that debt. He cautioned Council to pay close attention at the strategic planning workshop and the budgetary workshops to gain guidance for fiscally responsible decisions for Laredo. While Council Members have term limits, the citizens and businesses will live with Council's financial decisions for eternity. As someone who works to keep Laredo economically viable, Mr. Schwebel challenged Council to use the best resources available as guidance in their financial decisions.

Mayor Saenz stated that the What Works Cities program may be able to provide key insight for Council consideration. He requested that staff look into this opportunity. He reported that the most common request he receives from constituents looking for help is lower their taxes and fees.

No action taken.

B. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to initiate a donation fund and allow utility customers to donate to fund various local social service agencies providing assistance to individuals struggling to pay their utility bill due to illness, disability, and/or emergency, including veterans and the elderly, and any other matters incident thereto. Eligible local social services agencies and allocation of funds to be recommended by the Third Party Funding Committee through the Third Party Funding application process. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr., Council Member Vidal Rodriguez, and Council Member Roberto Balli)

Cm. San Miguel reported several calls in the past from constituents struggling with their water bill asking for assistance programs to help. This item is a voluntary donation program that will go into a fund to help residents who need help with their bills. He added that the expenditures people most often struggle with are rent and utilities.

Martin Aleman, Executive Director of Finance & Technology, confirmed that staff reached out to the City Attorney's Office and determined that this proposal is allowable. The Utilities Department can reformat their bills to provide space for donation. However, he asked for some time to research other cities offering the same or similar services so that staff can properly implement this system.

Motion to direct staff to create an ordinance and bring it to Council for discussion in 30 days.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action to direct staff to research the possibility of an ordinance requiring businesses that collect donations to partner with local non-profit and charitable organizations, establish donation programs for the benefit of these organizations, and direct funds collected locally to local organizations, and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr., Council Member Vidal Rodriguez, and Council Member Roberto Balli)

Cm. San Miguel voiced his desire to see the funds raised from this idea stay local to help the citizens of Laredo.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, explained that staff reviewed this item and cited a Supreme Court case stating that the City cannot outright regulate other businesses or dictate where they can partner or with whom they can partner. However, there are alternatives available to the City, such as incentives and recommendations rather than an ordinance or resolution.

Cm. San Miguel requested staff to research the legality and possibilities for donation program incentives that would help keep donations local and to bring those ideas to Council in 30 days.

No action taken.

3. Discussion with possible action on naming the dog park at North Central Park "Duko's Dog Park" after Border Patrol K9 who was the first law enforcement canine in the City of Laredo, contingent on approval by the Facility and Naming Recognition Commission, and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro "Alex" Perez, Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr., and Council Member George Altgelt)

Cm. San Miguel reported that the dog park in North Central Park is almost finished, and names have been suggested. The Laredo Animal Care Services Advisory Committee suggested Duko as the namesake, which Cm. San Miguel greatly appreciated. He explained that Duko is one of the first law enforcement canines in the country in the 1980s and became so famous that he inspired law enforcement around the country to implement K9 divisions.

Motion to direct the Facility Naming & Recognition Commission consider the nomination of naming the dog park at North Central Park as the "Duko's Dog Park."

Moved: Cm. San Miguel

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council Member Roberto Balli

1. Discussion with possible action on financing update on real Time Crime Center and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.)

Claudio Treviño, Laredo Police Chief, reported that the department has identified some possible areas of cost savings to put toward the real time crime center. However, in reviewing the previous proposal, he saw that there are other options to provide savings. He proposed that Council go out for RFPs to see other crime center vendors and services. Even though this purchase can be made through BuyBoard, that doesn't necessarily mean that the City will be getting the best deal through the previously proposed vendor.

Motion to go out for RFPs for the equipment needed for the real time crime center.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez, Cm. San Miguel, and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action implementation of a Downtown Parking Plan that considers daytime and night time and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Balli explained that Downtown seems to be evolving into a nighttime area with heavy traffic. Issues arise on Saturday nights in which cars are staying at parking meters overnight and all day on Sunday because there is no parking enforcement at night and on Sunday. As Downtown becomes more of an entertainment district on the weekends and at night, parking has become an issue that needs to be addressed. He voiced his opinion that if people become frustrated with the lack of parking spaces Downtown, the restaurants and bars that are opening will lose momentum, and Downtown will not grow like the community wants it to. He said that it would be better to have a small parking fee during these hours to address this problem.

Robert Eads, Traffic Director, confirmed that staff is in agreement with Cm. Balli to implement parking fees for after-hours parking. He clarified that staff would have to make accommodations for manning the parking meters should Council direct staff to implement parking fees.

Cm. Balli added that in walking Downtown, there are many unidentified areas of free parking. There are also some no-parking zones that could very well be converted into parking spaces. It is a responsible business practice for the City to make use of its parking spaces on nights and weekends. The City should perform a study and make use of professional advice to maximum parking meter profits while also enabling surrounding businesses.

Horacio De Leon, City Manager, stated that the City is in the fortunate position to look for opportunities to make money. He suggested that Council utilize funds from the Parking Division; the City can go out for RFQs for consultants. Staff can provide ideas, but an outside, experienced consultant

can provide specific expertise.

Mayor Saenz suggested that during part of this process, staff should include the Diocese of Laredo, as they have expressed interest in expanding their parking as well.

Jimmy Yeroushlami reported that last year, Cynthia Collazo, Roberto Murillo, and he walked all over Downtown and found space available for up to 200 parking meters. Since that determination, the process of adding the parking meters stopped, and the parking fees ending at 6:00 p.m. has turned into a significant problem. On Sundays, he cannot find a single space to park on the street. The church parking lot remained empty. He witnessed many people driving into Laredo from Mexico and parking along the streets and leaving their cars parked overnight. He reported that over the past two years, he has lost three tenants just because parking was not available near their businesses. He asked Council to provide Downtown Laredo these opportunities.

Motion to hire an outside consultant to bring a Downtown parking plan to Council that considers daytime, nighttime, and all available locations for parking, using Parking Division funds, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Vielma, and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

3. Discussion with possible action on the possibility of the City of Laredo participating in litigation against pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors that market and distribute opioids and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Balli reminded Council that they heard a proposal by Mr. Luis Vera at the last Council meeting, but the City Attorney's Office needed more time to review the mitigating factors of his presentation.

Paul Saenz, attorney in partnership with Mr. Vera, asked Council to review the information packet provided to them by Mr. Vera and consider retaining their services to represent the City in this litigation. He noted that it is uncertain at this time whether the City is subject to receive any settlement fees; that depends on how much money the City has spent on combatting the opioid epidemic. It would require the assistance of the City Departments to review expenditures; if any opioid-related expenses are noted, the City may be entitled to settlement fees. Mr. Saenz confirmed that his law offices are on Washington Street, so he would be local counsel.

Mr. Saenz confirmed that the legal representation is on a contingency, which is 25% of any settlement fees released to the City. He noted that his research shows most attorneys' contingency fees for this type of litigation is around 30-40%. Therefore, there is no expense to the City for this representation.

Kristina L. Hale, City Attorney, confirmed that other class action lawsuit contingency fees are around 25-30%. The City does not have to go out for RFQ or RFP for any type of attorney services except bond counsel, so there is no need to go out for RFQ for this service. She voiced her opinion that the firm of Napoli & Spulnic is well-qualified in this type of litigation and did not see the need to request proposals or qualifications from other firms.

Cm. Altgelt asked Council to consider ensuring that the contingency fee would not be set at more than 25%. Mr. Saenz clarified that the agreement would need to be approved by the Texas State Comptroller. The contracts that have been approved by the Comptroller provides for an hourly rate and a percentage, whatever is less. That format is required by the state. He confirmed that there is no out-of-pocket expense to the City, so the City takes on no risk. If there is no settlement or award to the City, then the law firm will not collect any fees. He added that the lawyers cannot settle a case with the defendants without the consent of the City.

Motion to accept the proposal and services of Napoli & Spulnic and enter into an agreement with them for representation in this litigation and that the attorney's collection be no more than 25% of the awarded amount as required by the Texas Comptroller, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Balli

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez was not present.

D. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct and authorize staff to install speed humps at the following locations, under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps, instead of a speed cushion, which is currently required under the policy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District II Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- 3100 block of Jarvis Ave.
- 5200 block of Westchester Dr.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on the creation of a Public Safety Advisory Committee to include four members of the City Council, the Police Chief, and the City Manager whose charge will be to advise and make recommendations to the Council on issues related to safety in the community, and any other matter related thereto.

Cm. Rodriguez clarified that this item is to form an internal committee for Council Members to stay informed on the safety matters occurring in their districts.

Motion to create the committee as presented.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

Cm. Torres asked who will serve on this committee.

Cm. Rodriguez volunteered himself.

Motion to nominate Cm. Rodriguez, Cm. San Miguel, Cm. Torres, and Cm. Vielma be appointed to the committee.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Balli

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Gonzalez and Cm. Altgelt were not present.

E. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alejandro "Alex" Perez

1. Discussion with possible action on donating non working, abandoned, and broken playground equipment to the City of Rio Bravo and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Perez noted that the City of Rio Bravo is in need of exercise and playground equipment, of which the City has excess.

Deborah Serrano, City Commissioner for the City of Rio Bravo, and Javier De Anda, public officer, thanked Council for the opportunity to make their request. Ms. Serrano explained that Rio Bravo only has one park, installed by Webb County, and they would like to install a second one along with a water park to give the community children a summer activity. She asked the City to donate their unused equipment for Rio Bravo to utilize.

Motion to direct staff to donate exercise unused or abandoned equipment to the City of Rio Bravo.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

F. Request by Council Member Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct and authorize staff to install speed

humps at the following locations, under the Special Provision of the Speed Hump Installation Policy, and to authorize the use of asphalt type speed humps, instead of a speed cushion, which is currently required under the policy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District IV Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- Frost Street, between New York Avenue and Canada Avenue
- Frost Street, between Canada Avenue and India Avenue
- Frost Street, between India Avenue and Smith Avenue
- N. Mendiola Avenue, between Reynolds Street and Okane Street

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XVI. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Perez was not present.

I, Jose A. Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 through 37 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on February 5, 2018.

Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary