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

Raul G. Salinas, Mayor
Mike Garza, District I
Esteban Rangel, District II
Alejandro Pérez, Jr., District III
Juan Narvaez, Mayor Pro Tempore, District IV
Roque Vela, Jr., District V
Charlie San Miguel, District VI
Jorge A. Vera, District VII
Cynthia Liendo, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary
Carlos Villarreal, City Manager
Cynthia Collazo, Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon, Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares, Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso, City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Vera.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of February 4, 2013

Motion to approve the minutes of February 4, 2013.

Moved: Cm. Liendo
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Citizen Comments

Luigi Martinez from La Cruz, Costa Rica, visiting the Laredo Sister Cities Youth Exchange Program, expressed his thanks to City Secretary Gustavo Guevara, Jr. and Deputy City Secretary IV Angela Cardenas for making their visit possible. He mentioned that life gives us opportunities to grow but also to make life better through our acts. He concluded that exchange programs helped revitalize our communities and made participants fearless, passionate and connected.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

a. Appointment by Mayor Raul G. Salinas of Mr. Omeciamo “Onyx” Benavidez, Jr., to the Board of Adjustment.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Omeciamo “Onyx” Benavidez, Jr. to the Board of Adjustment.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

b. Appointment by Council Member Esteban Rangel of Mr. Hector “Tito” Garcia to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Hector “Tito” Garcia to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

c. Appointment by Council Member Esteban Rangel of Mr. Victor Garcia to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Victor Garcia to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

d. Appointment by Council Member Esteban Rangel of Mr. Christobal Rodriguez to the Board of Adjustment.
Motion to confirm the nomination of Christobal Rodriguez to the Board of Adjustment.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7                  Against: 0           Abstain: 0

e. Appointment by Council Member Esteban Rangel of Mr. Mercurio Martinez III to the Ethics Commission.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Mercurio Martinez III to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 7                  Against: 0           Abstain: 0

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Part II, Chapter 18A—regulation and licensing of sexual oriented business, Article III—Offenses, Section 18A-45(b) by increasing the minimum distance requirement from a church; a public or private elementary or secondary school; a boundary of any residential district; a public park; a boundary of any district zoned AG, R-S, R-1, R-1A, R-1-MH, RSM, R-2, R-3, R-O, B-1, B-1R, CBD, B-3, B-4, MXD; and providing for severability, publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7                  Against: 0           Abstain: 0

Jose Botello, representing Citizens for a Better Neighborhood, mentioned specific language regarding this item. He stated that he had visited with the school board which would be requesting for them to consider the 1,000 feet as mandatory for public schools. He added that he had also met with several private schools which did not have a means to petition the city. He concluded that he had met with Richard Raymond regarding changing the state law so that it would be uniform.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7                  Against: 0           Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council
2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance repealing Article I, section 24-1.4 of Chapter 24, “Building Standards Board” and Article IV of Chapter 16, “Substandard Building,” adopting new ordinances entitled “Building Standards Commission” and “Substandard and Dangerous Buildings;” establishing minimum standards for all buildings and structures; providing for the declaration of substandard and dangerous buildings as a public nuisance; providing for notice to property owners, occupants, mortgagees, and lienholders of substandard and dangerous buildings; providing for a public hearing on substandard and dangerous buildings; providing for the abatement of nuisances; providing for the recovery of costs; providing a penalty clause; providing for judicial review; repealing all conflicting ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing for publication of the caption thereof; and providing for an effective date. (Upon approval, these proposed changes will be consistent with State Law) (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Vela
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the issuance of the City of Laredo, Texas Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Refunding Bonds, New Series 2013, in the estimated amount of $17,200,000.00 for the purpose of refunding Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds, approving an official statement, authorizing the execution of a purchase contract and the execution of an escrow agreement, and making provisions for the security thereof, delegating authority to the City Manager to select outstanding bonds to be refunded and approved all final terms of the bonds, and authorizing amendment to the City’s budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and ordaining other matters relating to the subject.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Vela
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0
Financial Advisor Adrian Galvan with Estrada-Hinojosa reported that they tracked the City of Laredo’s debt for any refunding opportunities or to refinance for savings. He explained that they were presenting an opportunity because of interest coming down for water and sewer systems.

Refunding Options Summary
The City can refund its Waterworks & Sewer System Revenue Bonds, Series 2004A, Series 2005, and Series 2006 for savings. This plan of finance assumes that the debt is refunded on an open market basis, with ‘A1’/’AA-’/’AA-’ non-bank qualified interest rates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refunding Summary</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delivered:</td>
<td>4/24/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Par Amount of Refunding Bonds:</td>
<td>$18,860,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Par Amount of Refunded Bonds:</td>
<td>$17,400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPV Savings:</td>
<td>$1,223,527</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Savings of Refunded Bonds:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avg. Coupon of Refunded Bonds:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>True Interest Cost (TIC):</td>
<td>2.409%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rates as of:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Arbitrage:</td>
<td>$596,274</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion to proceed on the calendar.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo’s FY 2013 budget by appropriating a drawdown in the amount of $3,070,000.00 from the Sports and Community Venue Fund for building improvements, future land purchases and equipment. Funding is available in the Sports and Community Fund Balance.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Liendo
Second: Cm. Vela
Armando Cisneros asked if the sports and community venue fund were the same as the sports venue tax. He also asked if it were allowed without going to the voters to approve.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal replied that it was the same and that it was allowed.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a tutoring center on Lots 1 and 2, Block 1950, Eastern Division, located at 2217 N. India Avenue; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the request. District II

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Liendo

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vela
Second: Cm. San Miguel

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

Cm. Vera arrived at 6:13 pm.

6. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning the south 197.63 feet of Lot 3, Block 1, San Isidro Multi-Family Plat, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit “A”, located at 10710 International Boulevard, from R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.
Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval. District VI

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel
Second: Cm. Vela
For: 8 \hspace{1cm} Against: 0 \hspace{1cm} Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8 \hspace{1cm} Against: 0 \hspace{1cm} Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. San Miguel

7. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 4.99 acres as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit “A”, located at 8419 San Dario Avenue, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District); providing for publication and effective date.

Staff is in support of the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the request. District VII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8 \hspace{1cm} Against: 0 \hspace{1cm} Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Vera
Second: Cm. San Miguel
For: 8 \hspace{1cm} Against: 0 \hspace{1cm} Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider.

Moved: Cm. Vera
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 \hspace{1cm} Against: 0 \hspace{1cm} Abstain: 0
Motion to support staff, close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Vera  
Second: Cm. Garza  
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 6, Del Mar Village Addition, located at 6919 Springfield Avenue, from B-1 (Limited Commercial District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

Staff does not support the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the request. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Vela  
Second: Cm. Liendo  
For: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

Cm. Vela stated that he felt that it would be beneficial to have a minor emergency medical facility in that area. He added that he was very familiar with this application because of having dealt with it when he was a Planning and Zoning Commissioner.

Planning Director Nathan Bratton reported that the issue was that the request was for a medical clinic. He added that a B-1 zone did allow for a medical clinic; however, in the ordinance there was some ambiguity in the definition of a medical clinic. He concluded that the Planning and Zoning Commission was already reviewing those definitions which would include a minor medical clinic, a blood bank or a pharmacy.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Vela  
Second: Cm. San Miguel  
For: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

VII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

9. Authorizing the City Manager to exercise the second option to extend the lease for a five (5) year renewal option for the lease agreement by and between the City of Laredo (the “Landlord”) and Greyhound Lines, Inc. / Valley Transit Company Joint Venture, a Texas Joint Venture (the “Tenant”) for a certain premise of 5,000 square feet of commercial area together with a bus parking area containing approximately
18,000 square feet, located at 1301 Farragut Street, Laredo, Texas, Block Number 49, located in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The term of the lease shall commence July 1, 2012, and end June 30, 2017, with two (2) additional five (5) year renewal option periods remaining. This new lease agreement raises the monthly rate by four percent (4%), from $9,572.16 per month to $9,955.04. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

10. Authorizing the City Manager to exercise the first option to extend the lease for a five (5) year renewal option for the lease agreement by and between the City of Laredo, (a home rule municipality in the County of Webb, State of Texas; hereinafter, called “CITY” or LESSOR”) and QSR Burgers One, L. P., a Texas Limited Partnership; (hereinafter, called “LESSEE”). The term of the lease shall commence on February 23, 2011 and end February 22, 2016, with two (2) additional five (5) year renewal option periods and three (3) successive options to extend the term here of five (5) years each, which shall begin respectively at the expiration of the then-current term, upon the same terms, covenants and conditions. The monthly amount of $3,500.00 of the minimum annual guarantee of forty two thousand dollars ($42,000.00) hereinafter referred to as the Base Rent. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

11. Authorizing the City Manager to exercise the first renewal option to extend the lease for a five (5) year term as part of the lease agreement by and between the City of Laredo, (the “Landlord”) and Sprint Nextel, (the Tenant”), formally known as Nextel WIP Lease Corp, a Delaware Corp., D/B/A Nextel Partners, for space on the rooftop of the Laredo Transit Center located at 1301 Farragut Street, Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The term of the lease shall commence on December 16, 2012 and end December 15, 2017, with two (2) additional five (5) year renewal option periods remaining. The initial annual base rent for this renewal period, effective December 12, 2012 will be $11,288.91, with a three percent (3%) increase each of the following years on the anniversary of the agreement. (Approved by Operations & Finance Committees)

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES


Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Vela
For: 8  Against: 0  Abstain: 0
12. 2013-O-018  Setting the new speed limit on sections of State Loop 20 within the City limits of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, to 45 miles per hour from mile point 8.104 to mile point 7.872 (from the World Trade Bridge to River Bank Drive) and to 60 miles per hour from mile point 8.104 (from River Bank Drive) within the corporate city limits to mile point 9.518; providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate new speed changes in the designated areas and providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-018.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Cm. Vera was not present.

2013-O-019  Authorizing the City Manager to amend the Capital Improvements Fund budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of $54,936.00 in payment from the developer for improvements not completed in Indian Sunset Subdivision, Phase 10 generated through cashier’s checks made for pending improvements.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-019.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Cm. Vera was not present.

2013-O-020  Authorizing the City Manager to amend to Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation FY 2012-2013 annual budget by drawing down and appropriating expenditures in the amount of $80,000.00 from available fund balance for the proposed purchase of land in the downtown area on which affordable elderly rental housing can be constructed.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-020.

Moved: Cm. Garza  
Second: Cm. Rangel  
For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Cm. Vera was not present.

2013-O-021  Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for an Auto body repair/auto
paint shop on Lot 3, Block 1343, Eastern Division, located at 2315 Market Street; providing for publication and effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-021.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7  Against: 0  Abstain: 0

Cm. Vera was not present.

2013-O-022 Authorizing the City Manager to execute an assignment of lease between the City of Laredo, as Lessor and KK Communications, L.P., dba Autophone of Laredo, Inc., as Assignor, for approximately 5,672 square ft. constituting Building 962 located at 1816 Pappas Street at the Laredo International Airport authorized by Ordinance No. 2003-O-114 dated May 05, 2003. Said assignment of lease will be to B and B Communications, LTD., as Assignee. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-022.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7  Against: 0  Abstain: 0

Cm. Vera was not present.

2013-O-023 Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with Laredo Aero Center, Inc., as Lessee and the City of Laredo, as Lessor for Building No. 104, formerly known as the Airport Passenger Terminal consisting of approximately 15,716 square foot and located at 4805 Maher Avenue at the Laredo International Airport. Net usable space is 13,620 square feet. Monthly rent shall be $12,000.00. Providing for CPI annual rent adjustments and by FMV appraisal rent adjustment at the 10th anniversary. The premises are leased in “As Is” condition and Lessee anticipates investing approximately $200,000.00 to make improvements. The lease term is ten (10) years with two (2) consecutive five (5) year extensions at the option of the Lessee, providing for effective date. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-O-023.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
IX. RESOLUTIONS

13. 2013-R-012 Authorizing the City of Laredo to enter into an Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) and authorizing the City Manager to execute the membership agreement. The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate compliance with the State of Texas bidding requirements, to identify qualified vendors of commodities, goods and services, and to realize potential cost savings for the City of Laredo. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2013-R-12.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 7  Against: 0  Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

14. 2013-R-013 Authorizing the City Manager to accept the dedication from N.W. House Inc. of the surface only of a tract of land containing 0.1011 acres more or less, being of out of a 26.9405 acre tract of land granted to N.W. House, Inc. as recorded in Volume 459, Pages 209-216, Official Public Records Webb County, Texas located at the end of Atlanta Drive adjacent to Muller Park and further depicted in the boundary survey attached as Exhibit “A”. The property is being dedicated for the purpose of expanding Muller Park. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve Resolution 2013-R-13.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 7  Against: 0  Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

15. 2013-R-015 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of $20,000.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation to fund the STEP—Impaired Driving Mobilization program. The grant period will begin October 01, 2012 and runs through September 30, 2013. This grant is to pay overtime for Officers in order to increase enforcement to arrest individuals driving under the influence of a controlled substance. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Cm. Vera was not present.
Motion to approve Resolution 2013-R-15.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

16. 2013-R-017 A resolution of the City of Laredo, Texas, approving and authorizing a loan in the amount of $1,710,000.00 from the City of Laredo to Laredo Housing Authority/ River Bank Village, LTD., in order to assist in the development of an affordable housing development to be located in Northwest Laredo at 202 Aquero Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78045.

Motion to approve Resolution 2013-R-017.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

X. MOTIONS

17. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo’s 2012 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan to reprogram a total of $500,000.00 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds previously allocated to Downpayment Assistance (DPA). It is proposed that the funds be reprogrammed for the construction of rental housing for the elderly.

Funds will be derived from DPA in the following amounts:

2010 Downpayment Assistance $446,905.00
2011 Downpayment Assistance $53,095.00
Total funds to be reprogrammed: $500,000.00

It is also proposed that the elderly rental units be managed by the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation (LMHC) and be made available at low HOME rents.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.
18. Approving the selection of W. D. Schock Company, Inc. (Nashville, TN/local representation) to provide plans and specifications and other related services regarding the Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 150 Airport Residential Sound Reduction Program, as part of the overall City of Laredo International Airport Noise Compatibility Program and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a contract for services. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

19. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of January 2013, represent a decrease of $13,883.91. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. San Miguel was not present.

XI (a) MOTIONS

20. Consideration for approval of change order no. 3, an increase of $81,910.00 to the Design/Build contract with Landscape Unlimited, L.L.C., Lincoln, NE, for the Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course to add to the club house cedar strip arbor, decorative wall tile bases, decorative mosaic tile and additional A/E services. Current contract amount with this change order is $8,307,775.00. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund.

21. Consideration to award contract FY13-009 to Sunbelt Air Conditioning, Laredo, Texas, in the amount of $67,800.00 for the replacement and installation of an air
condition system for the Laredo Little Theater building. Funding is available in Airport construction fund.

22. Consideration for approval to reject the sole bid received for the South Laredo Library Project since the bid was over the budget allotted and authorization to the construct the project in-house. The sole bidder was Leyendecker Construction, Inc., Laredo, Texas, with the base bid of $5,887,000.00. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Fund, Community Development, 2008 C.O. and 2009 C.O.

23. Consideration to award contract number FY13-019 to the low bidder, Southern Tire Mart, L.L.C., Dallas, Texas, in the estimated annual amount of $250,000.00 for the purchase of truck tires for all City vehicles. All tires will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance budget.

24. Authorizing the purchase of 620 Santa Rita Avenue legally known as E 23.2’ of the S46.5’ of the N56.5’of Lot 3 and W34’ of the N 56.5’ of Lot 4 and Lot 6 & 7, Block 286, Western Division. The purchase of this property will allow for the construction of elderly housing. The property has been appraised at a market value of $74,500.00. Funding for this project is available through the Laredo Municipal Housing Corporation account no. 555-3930-545-9101.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

25. A. Request by Mayor Raul G. Salinas

1. Update on the proposed Option Adoption Animal Campaign, with possible action.

Health Director Dr. Hector Gonzalez stated that the City Manager had taken a very active role to make sure that the Animal Care Facility was constructed. He reported that Phase II was well underway. He went on to explain that the Option for Adoption Campaign was being rolled out in phases so that they could make sure that they would have the facility ready. He added that 282 pets had been spayed and neutered through the emergency services. He advised that in the last 2 ½ weeks, they had spayed and neutered 27 pets with the goal of adoption. He concluded that that had adopted, to-date, 155 pets.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal recognized State Representative Richard Raymond for his participation.

B. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action to consider soliciting proposals for a public/private partnership for the construction of a swimming amenity at El Eden Recreation Center.
Cm. Garza instructed staff to assign an opportunity for requests for proposals to construct a swimming pool that would be in line with what they charge at their other facilities.

C. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action to assist the Laredo International Fair and Exposition on Friday, March 1st, and Saturday, March 2nd, by providing a trolley and/or bus for transportation to and from the Casa Blanca Ballroom to L.I.F.E. Downs Grounds for an appropriate fee. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Roque Vela, Jr.)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. San Miguel  
Second: Cm. Liendo  
For: 8  Against: 0  Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on options to alleviate traffic problems at San Isidro Parkway Boulevard and International Boulevard including the possibility of placing stop signs or traffic lights.

Traffic Director Roberto Murillo reported that the last study conducted on that intersection was in 2005. He recommended that they conduct another analysis which would take three to four weeks.

D. Request by Council Member Jorge A. Vera

1. Discussion with possible action to convert Los Martinez Drive, in the western division of Laredo, into a north to south, one-way street.

Traffic Director Roberto Murillo stated that they would conduct a study as Cm. Vera requested.

2. Discussion with possible action to amend the existing ordinance that allows for non-commercial street solicitation campaigns to require permitted campaigners to display safety gear similar to that required by Laredo City Ordinance Article XII, “Aggressive Solicitors;” to call for strict enforcement of these ordinances; and, to create an ordinance prohibiting any person from making a donation to street solicitors who are not displaying appropriate safety gear as required by those ordinances.

Armando Cisneros requested clarification on the action being requested.

Cm. Vera explained his intent for this amendment and new ordinance which would protect individuals soliciting funds. He wanted to ensure that no one would get hurt. He also wanted the existing ordinance to be enforced.
City Manager Carlos Villarreal explained that underage solicitors with permits need adult supervision. He added that the purpose for collection of money needed to be made clear.

E. Request by Council Member Cynthia Liendo

1. Status on selection of new police chief, with possible action.

City Manager Carlos Villarreal reported that they had they had gone through several candidates and had examined them to see if they met City Council’s qualifications. He added that they were planning to complete this process by March 18th to bring it to Council.

Cm. Rangel said that local applicants should be given priority consideration.

Mayor Salinas emphasized that they had some very good candidates who had applied; however, he wanted a Chief of Police who would be accessible to the people. He also wished for the Chief of Police to be from Laredo.

Motion to bring the top four candidates before City Council for presentation.

Moved: Cm. Liendo
Second: Cm. Vera
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

26. Update on the finalization of the policy guidelines of the Neighborhood Empowerment Zones (NEZ), with possible action.

Assistant City Manager Jesus Olivares reported that this past Friday, he had met with the Economic Development Advisory Committee along with City Attorney Raul Casso, Airport Marketing Manager Timothy Franciscus-Timm, and Building Director Erasmo Villarreal and they reviewed the application line item by line item. He added that they had discussed investments to be made by homeowners that would qualify them for a ten-year period of a 20% increase on the abatement, and also the multi-family commercial projects. He went on to say that, at 20%, they would like for those investments to be at around $150,000. He advised that every tax abatement would go before Council for approval. He continued saying that fee waiving was being studied by the Building Department. He concluded that the resolution was in its final draft form and was ready to be placed on the next Council agenda.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None
XV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

27. 2013-R-014 Requesting that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) continue as the “Designated Recipient” for funding under the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) for the Laredo, Texas urbanized area. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to request that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) continue as the “Designated Recipient” for funding under the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) for the Laredo, Texas urbanized area.

Moved: Cm. Rangel
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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

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

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Liendo
For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes contained in pages 01 to 24 and they are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Special City Council meeting held on February 4, 2013.

______________________________
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary