

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2020-R-17**

**LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
October 19, 2020
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

MPT Alberto Torres called the meeting into order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CM George Altgelt led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

MPT Alberto Torres led in a moment of Silence.

IV. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Mercurio "Merc" Martinez, III	District III
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV, Mayor Pro Tempore
Norma Nelly Vielma	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
George Altgelt	District VII
Roberto Balli	District VIII
Jose A. Valdez, Jr.	City Secretary
Robert Eads	City Manager
Rosario Cabello	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Assistant City Manager
Riazul Mia	Assistant City Manager
Rene Benavides	City Attorney

Citizen comments

Citizens are required to fill out an online participation form and select one of four options below, to assure all precautionary measures are taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Participation forms can be found at <https://www.cityoflaredo.com/comments/>. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Speakers may not pass their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to City business and delivered in a professional manner. No derogatory remarks will be permitted. Citizen comments

• **Written Comments:**

Submit comments to above link by 5:45 p.m. the day of meeting

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- **Video Participation:**

Submit contact information on above link no later than 12:00 noon the day of meeting

- **Telephone Participation:**

Submit contact information on above link no later than 12:00 noon same day of meeting and stand-by for callback between 5:30 p.m. and 11 :00 p.m. the day of meeting .

- **In-Person Participation:**

Submit Health Department Questionnaire by 12:00 noon same day of meeting; Pre-Clearance must be approved in order to provide in person Citizen Public Comment prior to meeting. If pre-clearance is denied, other above options are available.

Public comment is for Item 69.H.2

Motion to Bring up Items C.1 and A. 1

Moved: Cm. George Altgelt

Second: Cm. Nelly Vielma

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez requested that someone other than the Deputy City Manager escort the in person public speaker.

Cm. Mercurio Martinez expressed his happiness that it was good to see a citizen come before city council to make public comments.

Motion to bring up agenda item 69 H.2

Moved: Cm George Altgelt

Second: Cm Nelly Vielma

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

MPT Alberto Torres asked if Mr. Ricardo Quijano should be sworn in as a witness. The MPT decided to allow Mr. Quijano three minutes for public comment and then an additional three minutes if city council has any questions.

Mr. Ricardo Quijano, stated that he had a concern with food distribution and politics comingling. He stated that a family member was given food in exchange for placing a political sign of a candidate. He also stated that he wanted to presented some affidavits of unnamed citizens; he had collected, referencing the agenda item. Mr. Quijano was asked to submit the affidavits to the City Secretary for the record or the City Attorney so he can look into these allegations. He refused to, stating that he need to redact the documents and that he would submit them at a later date.

Mr. Ricardo Quijano read sections of an affidavit and then mentioned that food banks where providing list of people that needed help to the fire fighters union. At that point, MPT Torres asked Mr. Quijano to clarify which food banks were the ones he was talking about he clarified that it was the Laredo Regional Food Bank.

MPT Alberto Torres asked City Attorney Rene Benavides if this was an open investigation and if it is, did Mr. Ricardo Quijano need to be sworn-in. Mr. Benavides stated that the

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City Council has the right to call witnesses but he had a concern that the item may not have been noticed correctly.

Cm. George Altgelt asked the City Attorney to classify if the investigation was done and what were the results. The City Attorney stated the investigation has reached it's conclusion based on the limited information and tools at hand. He had spoken to the executive directors of the Laredo Regional and the South Texas Food Banks. He also read a report from the Laredo Morning Time; spoke to the Fire Chief and the Chief Financial Officer of the fire department. Cm. Altgelt also brought up the issue of the Fire Union PAC using association business leave and the issue of backfilling by the City of Laredo during their leave.

City Attorney Rene Benavides stated that with his initial investigation, he did not see any conclusive evidence that there was a violation at this point with reference to the CARES Act monies.

Motion to bring up agenda item 69 C.2

Moved: Cm Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6 Against: 2 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez Cm. George Altgelt

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III

MPT Alberto Torres, Jr.

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Roberto Balli

Cm. Rodriguez stated the August was the last food drive donation by the city and made a motion to start another food drive donation by the city and to utilizing city employees, as to avoid any problems, under the discretion of the City Manager.

Cm. George Altgelt offered up an amendment that was rejected by Cm. Rodriguez. Then Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma offered up an amendment that was rejected by Cm. Rodriguez. Mayor Pete Saenz expressed concerns with the city employees being involved. City Manager Robert Eads also expressed concerns with the use of city employees for the distribution of food for fear of them catching the COVID-19 virus. He also stated that the city does not have enough employees to help.

Cm. Roberto Balli agreed with management and he wants to avoid the politics of the whole thing. He shared a couple of items with the city council. First, an online newspaper article by an individual that made the complaint and was featured in the newspaper. Secondly, the campaign finance report of one of his opponents showing that the same person referenced in the article was an employee of his opponent at the time of the complaint. He encouraged management to distance themselves from any food distribution involvement as much as possible.

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City Manager Eads stated that there is only \$125,000.00 left that can only be used for food distribution up until December 31, 2020.

Motion to help the both food banks and the pantry with \$125,000 equally distributed between the three organizations (only for food purchase). The organizations must also sign off that they are going comply with no political activity with any of the funds provided by the City of Laredo. If the organizations request the use of a forklift and forklift operator, the approval will be at the City Manager's discretion.

Moved: Cm Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Altgelt expressed concerns as to how the city management was going to control Fire Pac association business leave.

Fire Chief Guillermo Heard explained the Fire PAC association business leave process as to the collective bargaining contract. City Manager Robert Eads explained his concerns and how he wanted to establish clear-cut definitions for approval of the association business leave process.

Cm. George Altgelt questioned whether the fire department had to backfill positions due to the Food drive distributions and if so, how much did it cost? Chief Heard said yes, the department had to backfill but he did not have the cost available at this time. He will provide that information as soon as possible.

Cm. Roberto Balli expressed concerns that City Council should allow management to their job and that the City Council should remove themselves from this in the future for political reasons.

Motion to have City Management, Fire Chief and the City Attorney continue with their investigation as it relates to the actual cost to the city to backfill these shifts as well as to the allegations that Mr. Quijano brought up to see if there is any merit to that information and whether there is any misappropriation of CARES Act funds through the monetary contributions to the food banks that then outsourced the food distribution through the Fire Pac. In the interim, that the City Charter be enforced by all city employees and that City Management and the Fire Chief enforce the City Charter to make sure that no politicking is done by any fire union employee consistent with no politicking by any other city employee.

Moved: Cm George Altgelt

Second: Cm Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 5 Against: 3 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. Roberto Balli

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

MPT Alberto Torres, Jr. Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

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Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma
Cm. George Altgelt

MPT Torres mentioned for the record that CBA preempts the City Charter.

General Citizen Comments continued:

- Mr. Jose Flores commented on item #14; supported parklets used and supported smoking.
- Mr. Drew Lynn commented on item#15; preferred no more public murals on streets.
- Mr. Drew Lynn commented on item #30; has major concerns with this item because of the lack of details pertaining to the item.
- Mr. Sal Cortez commented on item #14; supported parklets.
- Mr. Henry Hereford requested that Mr. Rene Benavides investigate an open meeting violation that occurred with the Ethics Commission.
- Mrs. Mellie Hereford expressed her desire to have the Texas Rangers come in and investigate the Food Bank distribution.
- Ms. Norma De La Fuente commented on item #69 C.1., supported opening up water aerobics.
- Ms. Priscilla Iglesias commented on item #14; I am the executive director of the Laredo Main Street, along with our board of directors, we support this item.
- Mr. Ramiro Ibarra commented on item #9; supported approval as per P&Z recommendation.
- Ms. Cynthia Vasquez commented on item #30; had concerns on the amount of money being spent on this project.
- Ms. Alyssa Cigarroa commented on item #28; wanted community input before making renovations on Bruni Plaza.
- Mr. Christin Gallardo commented on item #69 C.1.; supports the reopening of organized league play.
- Ms. Salome Cutin commented on item #14; supports the creation of the parklets.
- Ms. Amber Avis-Hinojosa commented on item #28; requested that the item be tabled until after the elections.
- Ms. Viviana Frank commented on item #14; supported the item.
- Ms. Maria Rodriguez commented on item #69 C.1.; supports opening up the pools.

VI. RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing El Metro on their El Metro Agency Safety Plan certification in accordance with the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP). El Metro's Plan is the Fourth Public Transportation Agency Plan to get certified from the entire State of Texas.

The recognition was not presented and will be brought back for the next City Council meeting.

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2. Recognizing Aileen Ramos, Convention and Visitors Bureau Director for being appointed to the Texas Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus (TACVB) Board of Directors, which will allow for Laredo and South Texas to have better representation within the state association, and for also receiving the Texas Destination Marketer (TOM) designation. The TOM program offers education and training in 12 disciplines with emphasis on best practices in the tourism and hospitality industry.

A recognition was presented to Aileen Ramos for being appointed to the Texas Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus (TACVB) Board of Directors.

VII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open public hearings #1 through #11

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez III

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

1. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo FY2021 Airport Construction Budget to accept and appropriate the Federal Aviation Administration Grant No. 3-48-0136-090-2020 in the amount of \$10,485,466.00. The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for the rehabilitation of Cargo Apron Phase 14 at the Laredo International Airport. No local match is required; 100% funded by FAA. Total project cost is approximately \$10,485,466.00.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #1

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo FY2021 Airport Construction Budget to accept and appropriate the Federal Aviation Administration Grant No. 3-48-0136-092-2020 in the amount of \$5,393,884.00. The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for the rehabilitation of Cargo Apron Phase 15 at the Laredo International Airport. The city's local match in the amount of \$599,321.00 is available in the Airport Construction Fund. Total project cost is approximately \$5,993,205.00.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #2

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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3. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance ratifying the execution of a contract from The Meadows Foundation in the amount of \$150,000.00 to be used as a match for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Community Mental Health Grant Program and amending the FY2020-2021 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Medical Office Assistant II, R30 position and one (1) Health Educator I, R29 position for the term period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. No grant match required.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #3

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

4. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the FY2020-2021 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Medical Office Assistant II, R30 position for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Women's Health Preventive Health Services and Family Planning Program. Funding is available through the Health Department Budget through grant funds from Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #4

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

5. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a contract with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), amending the FY 2020-2021 budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$82,440.00 with a match of \$27,480.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Breast and Cervical Cancer Services Program for the term period from November 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #5

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

6. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance accepting The Biennium Grant from the Commission on State Emergency Communications for FY2020-2021 and amending the FY2021 9-1-1 Regional Administration Grant budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$583,784.00 to provide surcharge for the next generation 9-1-1 project for Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb and

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Zapata Counties for the period beginning September 1, 2020 and ending August 31, 2021.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #6

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

7. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept a supplemental grant and amend the Financial Task Force fund budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$65,000.00. This grant is funded by the Executive Office of the President, Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) at no cost to the City. Funding will be used to pay overtime, fringe benefits, and operational expenses from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 for the Laredo Police Department HIDTA Task Force.

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #7

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 11, Block 44, Eastern Division, located at 503 Corpus Christi St. from B-1 (Limited Business District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District); providing for publication and effective date.
ZC-054-2020
District III

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #8

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

9. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 5, Block 2, San Isidro Business Park, located at 317 Crossroads St. from B-4 (Highway Commercial District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.
ZC-055-2020
District VII

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #9

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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10. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning of approximate 20.09 acres out of 32.8117-acre tract conveyed to Robert Muller, LTD, situated in Porcion 18, Jose de Bustamante Original, Abstract 21, and Porcion 2143, Abel Morgan Original, Abstract 591, located at Southwest of Enterprise St., from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.
ZC-056-2020
District VII

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #10

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

11. Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning at approximate 179.04 acres out of Porcion 15, Jose Prudencio Garcia, Abstract 53, located at South of FM 1472 Rd. and West of Wood Duck Dr., from AG (Agricultural District) and R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District); providing for publication and effective date.

The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application.

ZC-29-2020

District VII

Motion to close and introduce public hearing #11

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

(Recess)

(Press Availability)

IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

12. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with the City of Laredo Police Department for building No. 374 consisting of approximately 22,776 square feet located upon a tract of land consisting of approximately 138,359 square feet out of Block 3 located on 712 Maher Ave. The lease agreement shall be for a period of five (5) years commencing on October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2025 with two (2) one (1) year options to extend lease ending on October 1, 2026 and October 1, 2027. Lessor agrees to abate the first 7 months of rent from October 1,

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2020 to April 30, 2021 not to exceed \$64,200.00 for basic repairs needed at building No. 37 4. Monthly rent shall be \$9,400.00 starting May 1, 2021 and will be adjusted annually according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Airport will be providing upfront repairs in the total amount of \$54,200.00.

City Council to introduce

13. Closing and vacating as a public easement, a section of 1200 Buena Vista Avenue Right-of-Way, in District III, South of Boulanger Street and North of Bismark Street, legally described as an undeveloped tract of land containing 18,521 sq. ft. (0.4252 Acre) tract of land, more or less, situated within the limits of the City of Laredo and Webb County, Texas, being out and part of Buena Vista, Right-Of-Way (South of Boulanger St. and North Bismark St. southerly right-of-way line) in the City of Laredo, Eastern Division, as recorded in Volume 7, Page 15 of the Webb County Plat Records. The City of Laredo reserves any and all apparent and visible easements recorded or not recorded; hereof, closed as a public easement and providing for an effective date.

City Council to introduce

14. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances by adding Article VIII to establish a temporary parklet pilot program; providing for procedures and criteria for the granting of a temporary, revocable, parklet permit; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

City Council to introduce

Public Comment by Julian Rotnofsky supporting Introductory Ordinance 14.

15. Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances Chapter 28, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places by adding Article X "Street Painting Policy" consisting on Sections 28-254 through 28-258, regarding the street painting permit process for the City of Laredo.

City Council to introduce

Motion to revisit item #15

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Roberto Balli expressed concerns about continuing with street murals and to allow the murals to fadeout and not to allow any future street murals.

Motion not to introduce ordinance #15

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Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

X. FIRST AND FINAL READING

16. **2020-O-135** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, pursuant to Section 2.11 of the City Charter, amending the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Ordinance by extending the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster for an additional month, through November 16, 2020; providing for severability; and, providing for an effective date.

Motion to accept and wave the final reading

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

17. **2020-O-130** An ordinance amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances to allow for annexations to occur on a set schedule, twice per year; eliminating Section 2. 7 "Filling Fee"; amending Section 24.62.8 "Zoning of Newly Annexed Areas".

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

18. **2020-O-131** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, to include a voluntary drug testing process for elected officials of the City of Laredo; approving the voluntary drug testing form; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

19. **2020-O-132** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, Amending Chapter 14, Article I, Section 14-3 of the Code of Ordinances to provide requirements for multifamily dwellings regarding garbage accumulation and collection, requiring multifamily dwellings to require an enclosure of garbage container and requiring certain multifamily dwellings to install cameras to monitor illegal dumping; providing a severability clause; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

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Cm. Mercurio Martinez brought up concerns about the lack of trash bin space for the enclosure area. He also had a concern with the wording of the ordinance.

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma had questions related to enforcement.

Motion to Table for next meeting

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: MPT Alberto Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. **2020-O-133** Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with the Laredo Film Society for the use of office space located at 510 San Agustin Avenue, Suite B, Laredo, Texas 78040, for a term of three (3) years at an annual rate of one (\$1) dollar, contingent on satisfaction of City insurance requirements, providing that the Laredo Film Society shall be responsible for all costs related to maintenance, utilities, and property taxes associated with the leased premises, and providing for an effective date.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. **2020-O-134** An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 21, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article V, Alarm Systems of the Code of Ordinances providing a waiver of false burglary alarm notification fees for nonprofit organizations; waiver of previously assessed false burglary alarm notification fees for nonprofit organizations; containing a savings clause; containing a severability clause; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

All of the following items may be acted upon by one motion. No separate discussion or action on any of the items is necessary unless desired by a Council Member.

AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE JEFFREY J. MILLER, AIRPORT DIRECTOR

22. **2020-R-161** Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a memorandum of agreement between the Laredo International Airport and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to reimburse CBP in the amount not to exceed \$57,334.40. Reimbursement shall be for information technology (IT) equipment and services to

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include all equipment, connectivity cost, installation, maintenance, and recurring cost in leased premises located at 4719 Maher Ave. Funding is available in the Airport Operations Fund.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: MPT Alberto Torres

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

23. Consideration for approval of selection and to negotiate with Facilities Company Management, LLC (AFCO) and 270 Development Group, LLC to lease, develop and/or manage various parcels at the Laredo International Airport. Six (6) firms responded to the request for proposal on August 14, 2020 and were reviewed/evaluated by an independent selection committee. There is no cost involved in this part of the selection and negotiation process.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. George Altgelt was not present.

Airport Director Jeffrey Miller introduced Mr. Chuck Stitancic of Aviation Facilities who in turn introduced former Mayor of San Antonio, Former Secretary Henry Cisneros. Mr. Cisneros expressed how glad he was to be working on this project. Mr. Cisneros introduced Ms. Joesy Uma with the 270 development group. She also expressed how happy she was to work on said project.

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma and Cm. Mercurio Martinez expressed the excitement of getting this project started.

City Manager Robert Eads stated that this airport project is equivalent to building the first bridge in the City of Laredo. It will be very transformational for the City of Laredo.

24. Consideration for approval of award for a professional services contract to Hubpoint Strategic Advisors, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$124,000.00 for professional consulting services to conduct the Air Cargo Development Phase 2 for the Laredo International Airport. The term of this contract shall be for one (1) year. Funding is available in the Airport Operations Fund.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Second: MPT Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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BRIDGE: STAFF SOURCE YVETTE LIMON, BRIDGE DIRECTOR

25. Consideration to authorize the purchase of a backup appliance for the Bridge System Toll and Customer Service applications as required for data backup and protection from Sequel Data System, Inc. from Austin, Texas through the State of Texas DIR Cooperative Purchase Contracts DIR-TSO-3763 and DIR-TSO-4167 in the amount of \$236,688.08. The appliance has a five year support for software and maintenance. Funding is available in the Laredo Bridge System Fund and the 2014 Series Revenue Bond.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: MPT Alberto Torres

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

BUILDING: STAFF SOURCE ARTURO GARCIA, BUILDING DIRECTOR

26. 2020-R-144 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Cohort Investments, LLC for a proposed project located at 3020 Santa Barbara street, lot 7; block 1883; eastern division that consists of a duplex, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a five (5) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$146,260.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$927.29 and estimated total fee waivers of \$1,931.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: MPT Alberto Torres

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

CITY ATTORNEY: STAFF SOURCE RENE C. BENAVIDES, CITY ATTORNEY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

27. Consideration to award contract FY20-085 to lowest bidder Ruby's Air Conditioning, Inc. for the purchase and installation of complete central air conditioning and heating units at 3220 E. Frost and 3019 E. Ash apartments in the total amount of \$132,373.00. Funding is available in the Municipal Housing Fund - AEP Texas Central Target Low Income Weatherization Program Grant.

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Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: MPT Alberto Torres

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER

- 28. Consideration for approval of the selection of consultant for RFQ FY20-ENG-007 City of Laredo Bruni Plaza and Bruni Plaza Branch Library Renovation/Reconstruction; and authorization to negotiate a professional services contract. A total of nine (9) firms responded to the request for qualifications and the top four (4) consultants made presentations before the evaluation committee on September 23, 2020 via teleconference. The committee recommends to select JHS Architect & Munoz, Laredo, TX. There is no financial impact at this time.

Motion to Table

Moved: Cm. George Altgelt

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 2 Against: 6 Abstain: 0

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma Cm. Rudy Gonzalez
Cm. George Altgelt Cm. Vidal Rodriguez
 Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III
 MPT Alberto Torres, Jr.
 Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez
 Cm. Roberto Balli

Motion dies for a lack of majority.

Cm. Roberto Balli stated how the this project is very important for District 8 and the city as a whole.

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma and Cm. George Altgelt expressed their concern about being more fiscally responsible.

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez and Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez clarified their support of the project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 6 Against: 2 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma
Cm. Vidal Rodriguez Cm. George Altgelt
Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III
MPT Alberto Torres, Jr.
Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez
Cm. Roberto Balli

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29. Consideration for approval to award a professional services contract to Howland Engineering and Surveying Co., Laredo, Texas, in the amount of \$98,700.00 to provide laboratory, sampling and testing services of materials for quality assurance for the City of Laredo Tennis Complex at TAMU. Contract time is for the duration of the project. Completion date is scheduled for February 2022. Funding is available in the Sports and Community Venue Fund.

Motion to Approve

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 7 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. George Altgelt

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III

MPT Alberto Torres, Jr.

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Roberto Balli

ENVIRONMENTAL: STAFF SOURCE JOHN PORTER, ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

30. 2020-R-157 Authorizing the City Manager of the City of Laredo to submit a non-urban outdoor grant application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) under the local park grant program for \$600,000.00, with a 50% required match contribution of \$300,000.00 and a grant request of \$300,000.00. This grant will allow the construction of a recreational wetland boardwalk at Chacon Lake.

Motion to extend the meeting until 11:00 pm.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to renew contract FY18-069 with ROMO Contractors, Laredo, Texas, in the annual amount of \$103,000.00. This is a service contract to provide mowing and maintenance of the Zacate Creek area (from Canal St. through the mouth of the Rio Grande River). The term of this contract is for a one-year period (12 months), subject to future appropriations, with the option to extend contract one (1) additional twelve (12) month period upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

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Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

32. Consideration to award contract RFP FY20-092 Disposal / Recycling of Electronic Waste-Scrap contract to bidder Tech Remove, LLC, Saint Louis, MO for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 annually. Service contract includes periodic pickup of the city previously stacked, palletized, and wrapped electronics. The term of this contract shall be for a two-year period; contract is subject to future budget appropriations. Contract has an option to renew for an additional two-year term, upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding for this contract is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

FINANCE: STAFF SOURCE JOSE F. CASTILLO, ACTING FINANCE DIRECTOR

33. Consideration to amend contract FY20-030 with Task Force Security, Laredo, Texas, by 25% for an amount increase of \$212,500.00 and a new contract with an annual total amount of \$1,062,500.00 for providing city wide security guard services at various municipal buildings/locations. The contract amendment is due to an increase in usage during COVID-19 pandemic. The term of this contract shall expire on February 18, 2022. The term of this contract is currently for a period of two (2) years, subject to future appropriations, beginning as of the date of its execution. Funding is available in the respective departmental budgets.

City Manager Robert Eads is recommending approval of the item do to the increase because of Covid-19. Mayor Seanz recommended utilizing CARES Act monies and management said that they would were ever it qualifies.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR

34. Consideration to renew contract FY19-024 for the purchase of Ford Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) automotive parts for the City's Fleet vehicles with Sames Motor Company, Laredo, Texas in an amount up to \$150,000.00. All parts

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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 and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This is the second of three extension periods. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

35. Consideration to renew contract FY19-040 with 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 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 and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. This is the second of three extension-option periods. There was no price increase during the last extension period. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

36. Consideration to renew the existing annual service contract FY19-003 for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts/service for the City's Caterpillar heavy equipment currently awarded to Holt CAT, Laredo, Texas, in an amount up to \$350,000.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. There was no price increase during the last extension period. This is the second of four extension periods. All parts will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR

37. 2020-R-162 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a contract with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in the amount of \$191,736.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Healthy Texas Women (HTW) program for the term period from November 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. No grant match required.

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Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

38. 2020-R-160 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a contract with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in the amount of \$191,350.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Women's Health Preventive Health Services and Family Planning program for the term period from November 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. No grant match required.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

39. Consideration to approve the purchase of testing materials and supplies from sole source Fisher Healthcare in the amount of \$206,480.00 for COVI D-19 testing for the City of Laredo Health Department Biosafety Level III Laboratory. Funding available in the General Fund COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

40. Consideration to authorize City Manager to negotiate and execute a consulting services contract with MD Media LLC, as the sole source provider, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000.00 to obtain consulting services necessary to open and operate a drug and rehabilitation detox center. The term of the consulting agreement will commence upon execution of this Agreement and shall continue for seven (7) months or one (1) month after the Detox Facility is opened, whichever is later.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

41. Consideration to approve the creation of a Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee to explore the feasibility of establishing and addressing the medical needs and its medical bed capacity of the community; and any other matters incident thereto.

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This item was brought up during XIII. STAFF REPORTS, item #62.

INFORMATION SERVICES & TELECOMMUNICATION: STAFF SOURCE HOMERO VAZQUEZ-GARCIA, 1ST DIRECTOR

42. **2020-R-158** Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute an Interlocal agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A, between Webb County Appraisal District ("District") and the City of Laredo ("City"), to jointly contract with, and share the cost for, a qualified vendor to provide a digital Geo-referenced aerial imagery, GIS data, and associated tools and technology for the urban area located around the City of Laredo and Webb County. GIS Data will also be used by City Departments with GIS applications.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

43. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a contract between Pictometry International, an Eagleview Technologies company, and the City of Laredo in the amount of \$477,687.00 (\$159,229.00 per flight) to provide digital aerial imagery around the City of Laredo and within Webb County. The cost for these flights will be cost shared with the Webb County Appraisal District. The contract includes three (3) flights (one every two years). The aerial images will be used by Regional 9-1-1 database and mapping personnel and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP's) or call centers to update the existing level of service. Funding is available in the Regional 9-1-1 Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

44. Consideration to renew contract FY17-010 to Best & Krieger LP for consulting services on any related telecommunication services in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 a year. The term of this contract shall be for a one year period upon mutual agreement of the parties. This is the third of four extension periods. Funding is available in the Information Services and Telecommunication Department.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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45. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a one-year service agreement with Central Square Superior Public Sector, Lake Mary FL, for \$195,217.50. The service agreement is for software enhancements and maintenance on the financial applications residing on the City's IBM iSeries computer system for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Funding is available in the Information Technology Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

46. Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA"), attached hereto as exhibit A, between the South Texas Development Council ("STDC") and the City of Laredo for the Management of the South Texas Regional Radio System ("STRRS") and the Advance System Key ("ASK"). Term is for one (1) year beginning October 1, 2020 at an annual fee of \$40,000.00; payable quarterly in four (4) equal payments of \$10,000.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

LAREDO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES: STAFF SOURCE HEBERTO L. RAMIREZ, LACS DIRECTOR

47. Authorizing the City Manager to extend a contract for professional services with Sandra Leyendecker, DVM for veterinary services to include general health and welfare of the shelter pets, spay and neuter surgeries, vaccinations, emergency animal health care, and any other related matters at the Animal Care Services from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, in the amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year. This is the first of two (2) one-year term renewals, contingent on funding availability. Funding is available in the Animal Care Services Budget.

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma felt that the salary for Dr. Leyendecker was too high for not being a full time Veterinarian. Staff clarified that the contract is a professional services contract, which include more than veterinarian services.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Cm. George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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PARKS & RECREATION: STAFF SOURCE JUAN J. GOMEZ, JR., PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

48. Discussion with possible action to issue a Parkland Site Reliance Approval for the proposed park shown in the Southern Development Master Plan.

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez wanted some clarification and had concerns with flooding in this subdivision.

City Manager described the process and reason why it would improve. City Engineer Ramon Chavez showed the latest master site plan.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE

49. **2020-R-153** Authorizing the City Manager to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Laredo Police Department and the U.S. Border Patrol Laredo Sector for the purpose of establishing radio interoperability within the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). The Police Department's participation is part of the combined law enforcement efforts for a better and safer community for the citizens with no cost to the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

50. **2020-R-156** Authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$24,999.75 from the Texas Department of Transportation for the enforcement of Vehicle Occupant Protection during the "Click It or Ticket" (CIOT) Campaign. The City of Laredo will match \$7,749.92 for a total project amount of \$32,749.67. The traditional CIOT mobilization enforcement period has been rescheduled to Thanksgiving, November 16-29, 2020 due to COVID-19. This grant is to pay overtime salaries and fringe benefits for officers to conduct intense occupant protection enforcement in order to increase occupant restraint use in all passenger vehicles and trucks. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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51. Consideration to award contract FY20-080 to the lowest bidder RCC Roofing and Construction, Laredo, TX, to provide building repairs to Building No.374 located at 712 Maher Avenue, previously known as the Sanchez Oil and Gas Building, in the amount of \$69,400.00. This contract will include basic repairs and roof repairs needed at Building No. 374 in order to relocate Police Department personnel currently assigned to the LPD Annex, Building 60. Funding is available in the Laredo Police Department General Fund Budget and Airport Operating Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

PUBLIC WORKS: STAFF SOURCE JOHN ORFILA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

52. Consideration to award contract FY20-093 to CMC Commercial Metals, Laredo, Texas as the Primary Vendor in an annual amount up to \$300,000.00 and Beaver's Source LLC, Laredo Texas as the Secondary Vendor in an annual amount up to \$100,000.00 related to materials purchased on an as needed basis by Public Works for construction and repair projects. This contract is for one (1) year with the option to renew two (2) one (1) year terms to purchase various construction related items (lumber, tools for concrete/construction, steel, rebar wire and mesh). Funding is available in the Public Works Department General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

SOLID WASTE: STAFF SOURCE OSCAR R. HINOJOSA, ACTING SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

53. Motion to execute a second amendment the professional services contract with Arredondo, Zepeda, & Brunz, LLC, (AZB) to provide additional services related to the permitting and transition of ownership from the Ponderosa Landfill to the City of Laredo in accordance with the rates specified on the terms of the original agreement in an amount not to exceed \$80,300.00. Total amount of the contract will be \$299,280.00. The original agreement was for \$148,980.00 and was subsequently amended to provide for additional services related to negotiations for the purchase of the Ponderosa Landfill in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.00. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Fund.

Mr. Mike Carlton representing Arredondo, Zepeda, & Brunz, LLC, he described the scope of work for this contract.

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Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

TRAFFIC SAFETY: STAFF SOURCE DANNY MAGEE, TRAFFIC DIRECTOR

54. Consideration to award contract FY20-091 to the low bidder PATMO Services LLC., Laredo, Texas in an annual amount of up to \$400,000.00. The vendor will provide electrical services necessary for installation and maintenance including materials, machinery, equipment, labor, and all other services necessary for the maintenance of street lights (not maintained by AEP) and traffic signal lights throughout the City of Laredo. The term of this contract shall be for a period of two (2) years beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. This contract may be extended for three additional one (1) year periods. Funding is available in the General Fund - Traffic Safety Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

UTILITIES: STAFF SOURCE ART GARCIA, P.E., UTILITIES DIRECTOR

55. Authorizing the City Manager to approve Amendment No. 6 to the professional engineering services contract in the amount of \$45,900.00 to LNV, INC., Laredo for additional project management services required due to extended construction time for the 2.5MG San Isidro Elevated Storage Tank (EST) project. With this amendment, the total new contract amount is \$597,157.00. Funding is available in the 2016 Water Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

56. Consideration to amend annual supply contract number FY14-084 by 25% with the following vendors:
1. Chemrite, Inc., Buford, Georgia
 2. Brenntag Southwest, Houston, Texas
 3. Chemtrade Chemicals, Parsippany, New Jersey
 4. Polydyne, Inc., Riceboro, Georgia

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for an amount increase of \$500,000.00 and a new contract with a total amount of \$2,500,000.00 for the purchase of water and wastewater treatment chemicals for the Utilities Department. The term of this contract shall expire on December 3, 2020. Contract amendment is due to an increase in usage and to cover outstanding invoices and future expenditures until a new contract is awarded on November 2, 2020. Funding is available in the Water and Wastewater Treatment Division's Operating Budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

57. Consideration to approve Change Order No. 1 with a credit of (\$20,000.00) to the City for a revised total contract sum of \$189,380.00, acceptance of the completion of the project and release of final payment amounting to \$189,380.00 to Cactus Environmental Services of Dallas, Texas for the removal of wet sludge sewer debris from the aeration tank located at the Zacate Wastewater Treatment Plant. Funding is available in the Sewer System 2017 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

58. Authorizing the City Manager to award a construction contract to the lowest responsible bidder, AZAR Services, LLC, Laredo, Texas in the amount of \$4,361,657.20 for the Eastern Chacon Creek Interceptor and Drainage Improvements Project. The contract time is three hundred and thirty (330) working days. Funding is available in the Sewer System 2019 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

59. Authorizing the City Manager to award \$330,973.47 to Precision Pump Systems, Edinburg, Texas, for the labor and parts to repair a Patterson 24 RHC 2-Stage 10 MGD pump and a 600 HP motor for raw pump #1 at El Pico Water Treatment Plant Utilizing Buy Board Contract #589-19 for the Utilities Department. The scope of repairs is included in the background as determined by project engineer, Garver Engineering. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Water Works Construction Fund.

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Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

60. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to agreement between the City of Laredo and Square E Services, LLC relating to salvage wire at the El Pico Water Treatment Plant. Estimated net value of the salvage wire is between \$130,000.00 and \$150,000.00. Amendment provides that Square E will receive 70% of the net proceeds and City of Laredo will receive 30%. The City portion of the proceeds will be accounted for in the Water System Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XIII. STAFF REPORTS

61. 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.

62. Status update on current COVI D-19 information as presented by Local Health Authority and Health Director; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to bring up agenda item 69 A.1.

Moved: Mayor Pete Saenz

Second: Cm Nelly Vielma

For: 9 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Dr. Victor Trevino updated the City Council of the current status of beds available in hospitals, number of doctor seeing patients and the concern he has of Laredo being medically underserved. He requested that the City Council make a big effort to bring doctors to Laredo.

Mayor Pete Saenz spoke about the urgency to of addressing these concerns. Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez brought up the issue of creating a municipal hospital authority.

Motion to bring up agenda item 41.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm George Altgelt

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

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Motion to approve the Municipal Hospital Ad-Hoc Committee, to include stakeholders; The County, The State (Health and Human Services), The City (The Health Authority, Health Director and two Council Members), someone from management, and physicians. To also include, the private hospitals, Gateway Community and the major clinics and for each two Council Members to appoint a physician and for the Mayor to appoint his own (total of five physicians). That would and collaborate to figure out our deficiencies and figure out the best steps going forward.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to create a resolution to ask the County of Webb for the potential for a Hospital District.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. George Altgelt was not present.

63. Presentation by HUBpoint Strategic Advisors, LLC on the Air Cargo Development Study for the Laredo International Airport.

The item was brought up during item #23.

Mr. Doug Manez with HUBPoint Strategic Advisors, LLC gave a quick presentation on the Air Cargo Development study.

No action was taken.

64. Status report on ReCode Laredo, the proposed Active Transportation Plan, and other future long range plans as presented by the Planning Director /Laredo & Webb County Area MPO Director.

65. Status update on the 2021 State Legislative Agenda for the 87th Texas Legislative Session; and any other matters incident thereto.

66. Discussion with possible action of city finances and operations due to COVID-19 in addition to preliminary and unofficial ending General Fund Balance; and any other matters incident thereto.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any posted agenda item when authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about

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Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and/or 551.086 (Economic Development). Following closed session, the open meeting will reconvene at which time action, if any, may be taken.

67. Attorney consultation pursuant to Section 551.071 (2) of the Texas Government Code, to provide legal advice and counsel in connection with the City's rights, duties, privileges, and obligations under Chapters 143 and 174 of the Texas Local Government Code with respect to the ongoing collective bargaining process with the Laredo Police Officer's Association.
68. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 (1) (A) and 551.071 (2) to consult with attorney on potential litigation involving TransCore, LP. and/or on matters in which it is the duty of the attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct as it pertains to the Bridge System Toll Collection System Maintenance Service Contract entered into on April 6, 2020; and return to open session for possible action.

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

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

69. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Request by Mayor Pete Saenz

1. Discussion with possible action in formulating a local and/or regional medical health plan to address the underserved short and long-term health care service needs; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Dr. Marte Martinez)

This item was brought up during XIII. STAFF REPORTS, item #62.

B. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to 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 speed cushions which is currently required under the policy and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District I Priority Funds will be used for this project.

- Speed Hump on 3700 Los Presidentes Avenue near United South Middle School
- Speed Hump on Chacota Street between Cuatro Vientos and S. Ejido

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•Speed Hump on Earthaven

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rudy Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. George Altgelt were not present.

2. Discussion with possible action on allocating \$27,600.00 of District I Discretionary funds for bleachers to be purchased through a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club to be placed at the main, south, and north west Boys and Girls Club; and any other matter incident thereto.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rudy Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. George Altgelt were not present.

C. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez

1. Discussion with possible action to consider to start the re-opening of all outdoor events and City parks; and any other matters incident thereto.

Several council members shared their desire to reopen all the parks and the Health Department Director Richard Chamberlin and the Health authority Dr. Trevino expressed their concern with reopening.

Motion to open all playground / playscapes

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 7 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

Cm. George Altgelt

Motion to have Dr. Trevino review and open at his discretion any of the items from the Amenities not available list as presented by staff, excluding playground / playscapes.

Moved: Cm. George Altgelt

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 3 Against: 4 Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, III Cm. Rudy Gonzalez
Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma Cm. Vidal Rodriguez
Cm. George Altgelt Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

**THESE ARE PRELIMINARY MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT AN
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Cm. Roberto Balli

Motion to allow sports leagues, including soccer, baseball and softball to begin play assuming they get approval through the regular process and with the additional condition that they be responsible for cleaning the park before and after they leave. Also to include guidelines on how they need to open.

Moved: Cm. Roberto Balli

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 7 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. George Altgelt

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez

MPT Alberto Torres

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Roberto Balli

Motion to open up outdoor basketball courts only two rims per court and outdoor volleyball courts.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action to assist all food banks with distribution throughout the City of Laredo; and any other matters incident thereto.

This item was brought up during Public Comments.

3. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to 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 speed cushions 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.
 - Speed Hump on 200 Mauro Sandoval
 - Speed Hump on 2800 San Luis

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III

**THESE ARE PRELIMINARY MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT AN
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1. Status report with possible action on utilities and sewer line upgrades along Corpus Christi Street, and any other matters incident thereto.

E. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr.

1. Discussion with possible action regarding delinquent utilities bills, and developing a plan of action to assist those families facing possible water shut off through the COVID Relief Fund; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to 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 speed cushions 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.
 - Speed Hump on 3600 Sanders Ave. between E. San Jose St and E. Travis St.
 - Speed Hump on 612 Ryan
 - Speed Hump on 2600 N. Seymour Ave.
 - Speed Hump on 4400 Seymour
 - Speed Hump on 3400 Ash
 - Speed Hump on 3000 Texas

Motion to approve.

Moved: MPT Alberto Torres

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action to have a District 4 district wide clean up; and any other matters incident thereto.

F. Request by Council Member Nelly Vielma

1. Discussion with possible action to establish Campaign Reform requirements and thresholds, periods for fundraising and limits in contributions and revise our Ethics, Lobbying and relevant ordinances accordingly; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action to instruct City Manager to 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 speed cushions which is currently required under the policy; and any other matters incident thereto. City Council District V Priority Funds will be used for this project.
 - Speed Hump on 215 Colorado
 - Speed Hump on 604 Martens
 - Speed Hump on Cherry Hill between Aspen and Holly

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•Speed Hump on 2632 Monterrey Loop

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action to continue negotiations on secondary water sources request for bids in light of the civil unrest in Mexico due to the water debt deficits and environmental impact on the tributaries; and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Jose Diaz de Leon, gave a public commented on a Texas A&M study regarding a mega drought that is coming. He asked the City Council to take a serious look for a secondary water source.

Mayor Saenz asked about the status of the secondary water source and the water master plan. Assistant City manager Riazul Mia stated that there would be a report on the status of the water master plan for the next council meeting. Cm. Mercurio Martinez mentioned a study from 2006 or 2007 on secondary water source. Cm. George Altgelt also expressed the urgency of a secondary water.

Motion to create a special council meeting workshop on secondary water source that includes public input; reach out to the public and engage them and let them know why their participation his is important.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. George Altgelt

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Cm. Vidal Rodriguez wanted the committee members to be part of the workshop.

G. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez

1. Discussion with possible action on improving the planning process for the City's Capital Improvement Plans; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez explained how the big cities prepare and execute their capital improvement plans.

Motion to organize and create an Ad-Hoc committee of one or two councilmember, some directors (management will decide) to formulate recommendations for council on how to improve the planning process going forward. Based on traffic counts, based on population counts, based on thoroughfare usage. To include the Mayors wellness council (Ride, Bike and Walk) to be co-aligned with the MPO and the growth of the city and the vision of CIP.

**THESE ARE PRELIMINARY MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT AN
UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

For: 7 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

Cm. Rudy Gonzalez Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez

MPT Alberto Torres

Cm. Norma Nelly Vielma

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. George Altgelt

Cm. Roberto Balli

2. Discussion with possible action to announce and accept a donation from Trautmann Middle School who has advanced to the RGV FIRST Tech Challenge Regional Robotics Competition for their ADA Playground project and has fundraised a total amount of \$3,274.76 to move forward and take all necessary steps to have the City of Laredo open the first ADA playground in District 6; and any other matters incident thereto.

Council Member Dr. Marte Martinez explained his agenda item and had Ms. Karen R. Lozano representing Trautmann Middle School robotics; she explained all the details on the project.

Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez stated that he would use district priority funds and he would personally donate money for the project. He then challenged council members if they would be willing to help donate district priority funds. Cm. Rudy Gonzalez motioned to donate \$8,000.00 from district priority funds, Cm. Roberto Balli agreed to donate \$5,000.00 from district priority funds; Cm. Vidal Rodriguez agreed to donate \$10,000.00 from district priority funds; MPT. Alberto Torres agreed to donate \$2,500.00 from district priority funds; and Cm. George Altgelt agreed to donate \$5,000.00 from district priority funds. Total amount equaling \$30,500.00.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Vidal Rodriguez

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

3. Discussion with possible action on the passage of an ordinance that would prohibit multifamily or commercial customers from potentially violating state and federal laws by charging tenants a monthly storm water utility fee in an amount that exceeds their equitable portion of the actual costs of service charged by the City of Laredo; and any other matter incident thereto.

H. Request by Council Member George Altgelt

**THESE ARE PRELIMINARY MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT AN
UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

1. Discussion with possible action regarding an update on the abandoned building ordinance and the xeriscape ordinance; and any other matters incident thereto.
2. Discussion with possible action regarding an update on the status of City Manager's investigation as to the use of City, State, and federal funds (Cares Acts) monies for the South Texas Regional and Laredo Food Banks for the purchase of food to be distributed to the indigent and elderly and whether the Fire PAC/alias "La Union" misappropriated any of the said donations/food for their own benefit and/or the benefit of certain elected officials; and any matters incident thereto.

Refer to Public comments section.

3. Discussion with possible action regarding the polygraphing of all council members and the mayor to submit to monthly polygraphs to determine whether they've ever used their official capacity or exchanged their vote for anything of personal value (whether direct or indirect) in return; and any other matters incident thereto.

XVII. ADJOURN

This notice was posted at the Municipal Government Offices, 1110 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted on Friday, October 16, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Jose A. Valdez Jr.
City Secretary