

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2021-R-01  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
January 19, 2021  
5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pete Saenz called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pete Saenz led in the pledge of allegiance.

**III. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Pete Saenz led in a moment of silence, remembering the lives lost and impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly City employee Enrique Tomas “Tom” Alvarado.

**IV. ROLL CALL**

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.	District I, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Vidal Rodriguez	District II
Mercurio “Merc” Martinez, III	District III
Alberto Torres, Jr.	District IV
Ruben Gutierrez, Jr.	District V
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI
Vanessa Perez	District VII
Alyssa Cigarroa	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

**V. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of December 7, 2020 and December 22, 2020.

Motion to approve the December 7, 2020, and December 22, 2020 minutes.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **Citizen comments**

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Invitation to watch the annual State of the City Address on KGNS and Telemundo, Wednesday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m., as well as on the City of Laredo's Public Access Channels and Facebook Page.

Mayor Saenz invited the public to watch the State of the City Address on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

## **VII. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

1. Appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Eugenio Belmares to the Ethics Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Eugenio Belmares to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Appointment by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez of Eduardo Ochoa to the City Utilities Advisory Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Eduardo Ochoa to the City Utilities Advisory Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Jose D. Gonzalez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jose D. Gonzalez to the Airport Advisory Board.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

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

4. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Michelle M. Romani to the Cemetery Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Michelle M. Romani to the Cemetery Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

5. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Joann Otero to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Joann Otero to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

6. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Maria Antonieta Garcia to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Maria Antonieta Garcia to the Animal Care Services Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

7. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of David Montes to the Board of Adjustment.

Motion to approve the nomination of David Montes to the Board of Adjustment.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

8. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Rolando Lopez to the City Utilities Advisory Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rolando Lopez to the City Utilities Advisory Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

9. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Salo Otero to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Salo Otero to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

10. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of George Altgelt to the Ethics Commission.

Cm. Rodriguez voiced his concern that former Council Member George Altgelt will bring bias and prejudice to this commission given his tenuous relationship with several members of Council. Cm. Perez disagreed and initiated a motion to approve the nomination.

Dr. Marte Martinez noted that since there is a current Ethics Commission investigation being conducted in which Mr. Altgelt is involved, it would be better to wait on the result of that investigation before making a decision.

Motion to table until after the Ethics hearing, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Perez  
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

11. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Jaime Montes to the Facility Naming & Recognition Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jaime Montes to the Facility Naming & Recognition Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

12. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Carlos Abraham Flores to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Carlos Abraham Flores to the Fine Arts & Culture

Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Priscilla Iglesias to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Priscilla Iglesias to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Marie Gonzalez to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Marie Gonzalez to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Maria Reyes to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Maria Reyes to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Jorge Alberto Guerrero to the Laredo/Webb Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jorge Alberto Guerrero to the Laredo/Webb Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Ethel Perez to the Library Advisory

Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Ethel Perez to the Library Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Fernando Rodriguez to the Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course Advisory.

Motion to approve the nomination of Fernando Rodriguez to the Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Elizabeth Cantu to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Elizabeth Cantu to the Municipal Civil Service Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Angel Guerrero to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Angel Guerrero to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Frank Sciarrafa to the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Frank Sciarrafa to the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

22. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Ciro Gonzalez to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Ciro Gonzalez to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

23. Appointment by Council Member Vanessa J. Perez of Arturo Dominguez to the Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors.

Motion to approve the nomination of Arturo Dominguez to the Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

24. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Gabriel Castillo to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Gabriel Castillo to the Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

25. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Julian Rotnofsky to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Julian Rotnofsky to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

26. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Adolfo Martinez to the Ethics Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Adolfo Martinez to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

27. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Mark Gonzalez to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of Mark Gonzalez to the Historic District/Landmark Board.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

28. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Joaquin Rodriguez to Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course Advisory.

Motion to approve the nomination of Joaquin Rodriguez to the Max A. Mandel Municipal Golf Course Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

29. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Karen Gaytan to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Karen Gaytan to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

30. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Jacqueline Hinojosa to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Jacqueline Hinojosa to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

31. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Anna Gabriella Villarreal to the



Planning & Zoning Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Anna Gabriella Villarreal to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Rodolfo Morales to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rodolfo Morales to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

33. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Maxine Rebeles to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Maxine Rebeles to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

34. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Rosa Maria De Llano to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rosa Maria De Llano to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Patricia Goldberg to the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number One.

Motion to approve the nomination of Patricia Goldberg to the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number One.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

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

36. Appointment by Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa of Dr. Jaime Pinero to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Jaime Pinero to the Municipal Hospital Authority Ad-Hoc Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

37. Appointment by Council member Alyssa Cigarroa of Dr. Carlos Valle, Jr. to the Airport Advisory Board.

Motion to approve the nomination of EDr. Carlos Valle, Jr., to the Airport Advisory Board.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

38. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Rey Rocha to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rey Rocha to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

39. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Rosario (Rosie) Santos to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rosario (Rosie) Santos to the Fine Arts & Culture Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Rodriguez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

40. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Priscilla Pantoja for the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Priscilla Pantoja to the Laredo Commission for

Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

41. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Yvette Romero for the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve the nomination of Yvette Romero to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

42. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Rosa Maria De Llano for the Library Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Rosa Maria De Llano to the Ethics Commission.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

43. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Alfonso Santos for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Alfonso Santos to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

44. Appointment by Council Member Ruben Gutierrez Jr. of Fred Dickey for the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve the nomination of Fred Dickey to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Open public hearing #1.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and discussion of the voluntary annexation an initial zoning of R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) on a tract of land totaling 17.57 acres, more or less, as described by metes and bounds in the attached Exhibit "A", and known as Annexation Tract 3 (Martinez Tract), located north of State Highway 359, and east of Floral Blvd. AN-003-2021 District II

George Martinez spoke in favor of this item.

Cm. Rodriguez noted that while the applicant wants to use the land for agricultural purposes (AG), the application states R-1A in order to provide more property taxes to the City at first. James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, explained that the Planning & Zoning Commission, as well as staff, advised against R-1 because residential next to a landfill is problematic.

Motion to close public hearing.

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

2. Motion to open public hearing #2.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and discussion of the voluntary annexation and initial zoning of AG (Agricultural District) and R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) on a tract of land totaling 247.7 acres, more or less (160.43 Acres - AG and 87.27 Acres R-1A) as described by metes and bounds in the attached Exhibit "A", and known as Annexation Tract 1 (Rodriguez Ranch Tract), located east of International Blvd. and north of Juan Escutia Blvd. AN-001-2021 District VI

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Cm. Perez  
For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, Cm. Torres, and Dr. Marte Martinez were not present.

3. Motion to open public hearing #3.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and discussion of the voluntary annexation and initial zoning of M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) on a tract of land totaling 2.07 acres, more or less, as described by metes and bounds in the attached Exhibit "A", and known as Annexation Tract 2 (Cuevas Stanley Tract) located south of Mines Rd. (FM 1472), and west of Coal Mine Rd. AN-002-021 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, Cm. Torres, and Dr. Marte Martinez were not present.

4. Motion to open public hearing #4.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and discussion of the voluntary annexation and initial zoning of M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) on a tract of land totaling 2.62 acres, more or less, as described by metes and bounds in the attached Exhibit "A", and known as Annexation Tract 4 (Mario Palos Garza Tract), located northeast of Mines Rd. (FM 1472) and southeast of Pinto Valle Dr. AN-004-2021 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, Cm. Torres, and Dr. Marte Martinez were not present.

5. Motion to open public hearing #5.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Public Hearing and discussion of the voluntary annexation and initial zoning of B-1 (Limited Business District) on a tract of land totaling 17.29 acres, more or less, as described by metes and bounds in the attached Exhibit "A", and known as Annexation Tract 5 (Islitas Farms Tract), located south of Mines Rd. (FM 1472), and north of Phelps Rd. AN-005-2021 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez, Cm. Torres, and Dr. Marte Martinez were not present.

6. Motion to open public hearing #6.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Community Development Department's budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$787,469.05 in order to appropriate Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) - Coronavirus (TDHCA-CV2) funds available for Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program (TERAP) through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) second round allocation to assist eligible families/individuals under low-to-moderate income impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, amending the FY2020-2021 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Administrative Assistant I, R32 position and one (1) Clerk II, R25 position for the City of Laredo Community Development Department Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program (TERAP).

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

7. Motion to open public hearing #7.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance accepting a grant of \$3,000 from HEB Green Bag Grant Program and amending the City of Laredo FY 2021 Environmental Services/Keep Laredo Beautiful division budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$3,000.00 from Keep Texas Beautiful/H-E-B Green Bag Grant. The funds from said grant will be used to beautify an area in between the McKendrick Ochoa Salinas Library, 1920 Palo Blanco, and the Freddy Benavides Sports Complex by creating a butterfly garden and outdoor learning space.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

8. Motion to open public hearing #8.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY2021 Sports and Community Venue Fund Budget by appropriating a draw down from fund balance in the amount of \$8,535,458.00. Amending the Debt Service Fund to appropriate revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$8,535,458.00 to account for the defeasance of the Sports Venue Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2014.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

9. Motion to open public hearing #9.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's FY 2021 General Fund budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$1,200,000.00. Revenues are in the form of a transfer in from the COVID-19 Economic Assistance Fund. The restricted reserve in General Fund will increase by the same amount. The restricted reserve will be used to cover additional expenses due to the current COVID-19 health crisis. Funding is available in the COVID-19 Economic Assistance Fund.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

10. Motion to open public hearing #10.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo FY 2021 General Fund - Police Department Annual Budget by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$18,382.00. The revenues are from forfeiture cases involving abandoned and unclaimed money from the Laredo Police Department Property and Evidence Section. These funds will be used for maintenance, repairs, and improvements to the police department buildings. Funding is available in the General Fund.

There was no public input.



Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

11. Motion to open public hearing #11.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code Section 24.1.3.1 to adjust the rules governing the organization of the Zoning Board of Adjustment related to the number of members; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for a severability clause; providing for a publication and effective date.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, explained that the original text makes the Board of Adjustment a board of nine in which only five members vote and the other four serve as alternates. The proposed change allows all nine members to vote, and a three-fourths majority would be required to take action; this change is more in line with the State of Texas's requirements for boards of adjustment. The quorum will also be established by no less than five members.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

12. Motion to open public hearing #12.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code Section 24.77.1 to adjust the setback requirements in residential zones; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; providing for publication and effective date.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, explained that all residential zones will have a rear setback of six feet.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Motion to open public hearing #13.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code Section 24.70.2 to eliminate minimum size requirements for the PUD Zone; amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code Section 24.70.4, 24.70.5, and 24.70.6 to allow more flexibility in the creation of PUD Zones; amending the City of Laredo Land Development Code Section 24.63 to eliminate confusion and remove Special Use Permits as an option for townhouses on the permitted uses chart; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for a severability clause; providing for publication and effective date.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, explained that the current PUD ordinance requires 20 acres or more to actually enact the PUD. This amendment eliminates the minimum area requirements and clarifies the site plan approval process among other creative solutions to address affordable housing needs.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Motion to open public hearing #14.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the

City of Laredo by rezoning a tract of land containing approximately 91.64 acres, more or less, out of and part of Porcion 38, Abstract 472, Tadco Sanchez, Original Grantee, as conveyed to J.E. Moore, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District), B-1 (Limited Business District), B-3 (Community Business District) to R1-MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff does not support the application. ZC-003-2021 District I

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, reported that staff mailed out 90 letters regarding this zone change. Only one letter was returned; it was from the developer and was in favor of the zone change. Staff did not support the zone change because the area already has a high concentration of manufactured housing lots; the Comprehensive Plan recommends that neighborhoods contain a mix of residential types and uses. He reported that of all of the manufactured housing units in Laredo (6,625), 52% (3,439) of those units are in District I already; another 12% (793) units are in District II. Conditional Use Permits cannot be used for manufactured housing lots.

Motion to close public hearing and table.

Moved: MPT Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

15. Motion to open public hearing #15.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 3.9628 acre tract out of 15.196 acres of land, more or less, situated in Porcion 35, Abstract 546, Jose Miguel Diaz original Grantee, as conveyed to HFK Development, LLC., located west of Ejido Ave., north of Dolly Richter/Bianka Lane. From R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-011-2021 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

16. Motion to open public hearing #16.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 11.233 acres out of a 15.196 acre tract of land more or less, situated in Porcion 35, Abstract 546, Jose Miguel Diaz original Grantee, as conveyed to HFK Development, LLC., located west of Ejido Ave., south of Dolly Richter/Bianka Lane. From R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-1A ( Single Family Reduced Area District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-012-2021 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

17. Motion to open public hearing #17.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 35, Block 1, Cuatro Vientos Sur, Phase V located west of Ejido Ave., south of Dolly Richter/Bianka Lane. From R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-013-2021 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

18. Motion to open public hearing #18.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 9.87 acres, more or less, situated in Porcion 35, Abstract 546, Jose M. Dias original Grantee as conveyed to ALS Laredo Holdings, LLC c/o Alejandro E. Villarreal III. From R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) to R-1B (Single Family High Density District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-015-2021 District I

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

19. Motion to open public hearing #19.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez was not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1602, of Phase II, South View Subdivision located at 3301 S. Louisiana Ave. from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-001-2021 District II

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, explained that the applicant intends to build four-plex apartments. Staff mailed out 31 letters on this zone change and did not receive any letters in response. Letters were sent in both English and Spanish.

Motion to close public hearing and table for the next City Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez was not present.

20. Motion to open public hearing #20.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, D-5 Acres Subdivision, located at 7071 Hwy 359, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-3 (Mixed Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-005-2021 District II

There was no public input.

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Motion to open public hearing #21.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximate 10.04 acres out of 42.98 acres of land conveyed to AFW Investments, LTD., located west of U.S. Highway 83, south of the Lomas Del Sur Blvd., from B-3 (Community Business District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area Residential District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-004-2021 District III

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

22. Motion to open public hearing #22.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit (S.U.P.) for a restaurant serving alcohol on Lots 10, 11 & 12, Block 891, Eastern Division, located at 1618 and 1620 Chihuahua St. Lot 12, and West 1/2 of Lot 11, Block 925 Eastern Division located at 1702 Chihuahua St. to be used for additional parking only. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-007-2021 District III

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Motion to open public hearing #23.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 1, Lafon Subdivision, Phase II. Located at 3620 S. US Highway 83. From B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-010-2021 District III

Gerardo Benavides, applicant, spoke in favor of the zone change.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

24. Motion to open public hearing #24.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 8 & Lot 9, Block 470, Eastern Division, located at 316 & 318 E. Bustamante St., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-006-2021 District IV

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director, confirmed that this proposed zone change would take parked cars off of the street and into a parking lot.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0



25. Motion to open public hearing #25.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1 & 3, Block 7, Del Mar Village, located at 6826 & 6930 Springfield Ave., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-008-2021 District V

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

26. Motion to open public hearing #26.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 5, Del Mar Village, located at 120 W. Village Blvd., from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-009-2021 District V

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

27. Motion to open public hearing #27.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning a 2.50 acre tract of land, out of the west side of Tract 11-H, and more or less, situated in Porcion No. 10, Tomas Sanchez Abstract 280, Webb County, Texas conveyed to Marquez Express, LLC. From AG (Agricultural) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-016-2021 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Motion to open public hearing #28.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Mercurio Martinez and Cm. Torres were not present.

Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 7, Block 1, Hilltop Subdivision, Phase I, located at 406 Hilltop Road, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the zone change and staff supports the application. ZC-002-2021 District VII

There was no public input.

Motion to close public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

## IX. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

29. Ratification of the City Manager's execution of all necessary documents granting an easement and right-of-way to AEP Texas Central Company to install and construct certain electric distribution facilities at the Laredo International Airport. Said easement being a ten (10) foot wide easement lying wholly within a portion of 34.45 acres of land, more or less, being out of the south part of block 1, Laredo Airport Subdivision, Webb County, Texas; said tract of land conveyed to grantor, on deed recorded in volume 478, page 471, deed records of Webb County, Texas; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

30. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to nine (9) lease agreements between the City of Laredo and Aero Center, Inc., Laredo Aero Center, Inc. and Laredo Aero Center, Inc. dba Signature Flight Support, as LESSEES, to change the name to Signature Flight Support LLC for 95-O-156, 95-O-157, 95-O-158, 2006-O-133, 95-O-159, 2008-O-032, 2008-O-241, 2013-O-023, 2012-O-166, 2019-O-152. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

31. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with St. Patrick's Church for a parcel of land consisting of approximately 3,455 square feet and being out of the right-of-way at Del Mar Blvd. and Fenwick Dr. north of Lot 721, Block 44, Section 2-A, Area "C", Del Mar Hills Subdivision, in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The new lease terms include a five (5) year initial term with a five (5) year renewal option at a lease rate of \$1.00 dollar per year as amended.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

32. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, authorizing the City Manager to renew a lease agreement by and between Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (Lessor) and the City of Laredo Department of Community Development, (Lessee). This is for the leased building space at the Laredo Transit Center, located at 1301 Farragut Street, of 6,628 square feet, second and third floors (East). The term will be for one (1) year, exercising the last renewal option as per the original lease agreement, commencing on December 1, 2020. The monthly sum is \$4,586.58 (\$.6920 per square foot). The prorated shared cost of 20% of the electric and water bills will remain the same.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

33. An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas authorizing the City Manager to renew a lease agreement by and between Laredo Transit Management, Inc., (Lessor) and The City of Laredo Police Department (Lessee) for the lease of 2,681.61 square feet, located in the

second (2nd) floor, west wing of the Laredo Transit Center, 1301 Farragut St. The rate per square foot is \$.6920, for a total monthly sum of \$1,855.67, commencing on December 1, 2020. The term will be on a month-to-month basis. The prorated share cost of 25% of the electric bill, 25% of the water bill and the rental fee of \$30.00 per vehicle per month for Parking fees will remain the same.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## **X. FIRST AND FINAL READING**

34. 2021-O-018 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 February 19, 2021; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

This item was discussed in conjunction with Item #109. Guillermo Heard, Fire Chief, reminded Council and the public that COVID-19 infections are being spread through public gatherings, family reunions, workplaces, and restaurants/bars. The community is underserved in hospital beds and healthcare providers; most patients in the emergency room do not have a primary care physician and therefore wait until they are very sick to seek medical treatment. Three proposed sites are being considered alternate care sites for medical help beyond the hospitals.

Richard Chamberlain, Health Director, reported the seven-day positivity rate and incident rates have been steadily increasing over the past six week. The City's allocations of COVID-19 vaccinations have been reduced since the first few weeks. He reminded the public that the vaccine does not cause a person to get COVID-19. At this time, he confirmed that every person who has received their first dose of the vaccine will be contacted by the provider who administered their vaccination to get their second dose.

Cm. Cigarroa questioned why the City is only administering 200-300 vaccines a day since the number of vaccinations being administered is used to determine how many more doses are provided by the state. Mr. Chamberlain agreed that staffing and partnership would be needed to host a large vaccination clinic such as the TAMIU event at the beginning of January.

Robert Eads, City Manager, confirmed that staff has a plan and site in place for when new vaccines are delivered to the City for a large vaccination drive, but to-date the City has had to create a system piecemeal as the state portions out doses. Mr. Chamberlain noted that all but about 100-200 of the vaccines doses on hand are committed to the individuals on the City's waiting list. Cm. Torres clarified that this

information leads to misinformation when others think that the City has 1,200 vaccinations that they are hoarding; this is untrue since most of them are reserved for individuals on the waiting list.

Cm. Perez noted that if the state is monitoring how many vaccines are being administered per day and resupplying as needed, then the City is slowing itself down by not administering all of its vaccines quickly and signaling to the state that more are needed. Cm. Torres countered that the allocation that the City received for the mass vaccination drive at TAMIU is not the same as what the City is receiving now for daily vaccinations, to which Mr. Chamberlain agreed.

Mr. Chamberlain noted that he has discussed bringing on a vaccination team to the Health Department with management to help administer as many vaccinations as possible; he estimated a team of 12 individuals would be split between data entry and vaccine administration. Chief Heard added that a large quantity of vaccinations will be administered by Tuesday of next week.

Dr. Marte Martinez reminded the public that while vaccines will help end the pandemic, each individual resident needs to do their part to wear their mask and stay socially distant; everyone must put the needs of the community first and their own personal desires second to prevent situations that the City currently face such as a 50% COVID-19 hospitalization rate. Individual responsibility must be in place in order for the pandemic to get better. He initiated a motion to block tables at restaurants with large Xs to ensure social distance and consider the lack of blocked tables as a violation subject to a \$1,000 fine.

Cm. Cigarroa noted that the number of citations filed with the municipal court have reduced greatly in the last several months, to which Mr. Eads clarified that citations are still being issued by Code Enforcement as well as the Police Department.

Dr. Maurice Click, speaking on behalf of health authority Dr. Victor Treviño, read a statement noting the lack of federal guidance and eschewing of medical and scientific norms throughout this pandemic, resulting in Laredo being on the brink of a medical collapse. The virus is actually getting more contagious as seen in the medical community, and he urged the community to avoid establishments that allow patrons to remove their masks, especially in an enclosed area.

Motion to block (X-out) or remove tables at restaurants to ensure social distance, meet the 50% occupancy requirement for indoor dining, and consider the lack of blocked tables as a violation subject to a \$1,000 fine and possible revocation of the establishment's certificate of occupancy.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Dr. Martinez initiated a motion to request the Governor to reduce Laredo's restaurant occupancy from 50% to 25%. Cm. Gutierrez countered that Council should let Code Enforcement work during weekend and evening hours when people are gathering in restaurants and bars given that the 50% occupancy requirements are not being followed.

Mr. Eads reminded Council that the City has exhausted all CARES Act funding, and every COVID-related expense has been addressed with taxpayer dollars as of January 1, 2021. Kristina L. Hale, Assistant City Manager, clarified that the hundreds of citations have been filed with the district court, not the municipal court, as the district court has been more effective. She confirmed that staff will provide Council with reports on this matter to assist their understanding of the situation; the Governor's orders have also impacted the City's ability to provide citations.

Motion to request that the Governor reduce Laredo's restaurant in-person dining occupancy from 50% to 25%.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Dr. Martinez initiated a motion to ask the Governor to limit or prohibit family gatherings for two weeks in an attempt to stop the spread of COVID-19. The request would exempt caretaker responsibilities. Dr. Click suggested that the City request more vaccines in their petition as well; Mr. Chamberlain that businesses should alter their operations to prohibit the removal of masks. Cm. Torres suggested that the City send this letter to the Governor through Senator Judith Zaffirini and State Representative Richard Raymond.

Dr. Martinez accepted all suggestions as amendments.

Motion to petition the Governor to limit or prohibit family gatherings for two weeks, to require businesses to alter their operations in order to prohibit the removal of masks, to request more COVID-19 vaccines, and to send this letter to the Governor through Senator Judith Zaffirini State Representative Richard Raymond, and State Representative Tracy King, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to direct staff to bring a plan for COVID-related enforcement to the next City Council meeting, to include a warrant roundup for COVID-related offences, and to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-018, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to direct management to repurpose police officers to complement the work of Code Enforcement officers.

Moved: Cm. Cigarroa

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

After an overnight recess, Claudio Treviño, Police Chief, reported that the Police Department is the leading enforcement unit for COVID-19 related requirements and prohibitions, coordinating with the City Attorney's Office and TABC. He reviewed the current emergency order guidelines.

Mr. Eads noted that many establishments are not incentivized to follow the requirements with citations and fines because they can easily pay \$1,000 and make \$10,000-\$15,000 a night while they are not in compliance. What will get their attention is not citations but having their certificates of occupancy revoked or having their businesses shut down. That is the direction that staff is taking at this point. The enforcement is not simply in the Building and Police Departments.

Cm. Cigarroa asked for weekly reports that depict the number of businesses visited, number of citations issued and filed with the courts, and any follow-up information on those citations/filings. Arturo Garcia, Building Director, confirmed that staff will be able to pull weekly reports, reminding Council that this endeavor has been a "moving target" as the situation changes. Mr. Eads noted that the reports could be included in Council's Friday packet.

Ana Rodriguez, Municipal Court Clerk, explained that when a violator does not appear for their court date, the Court is required by law to give them a second notice and new court date. If they do not appear to that second court date, the case goes into a "warrant" status. There are currently 453 outstanding warrants for failure to appear or noncompliance with a hold on these individuals' drivers' licenses. Cm. Perez asked staff to move forward on the warrants so as not to waste time on these violations.

Cm. Rodriguez reminded Council that the Judge has the ability to dismiss any violations or reduce the fine amounts from the total to a partial amount; Council does not have the authority to make decisions on these violations in court. Also, virtual court dates may be too difficult for some people to attend, which could account for their failure to appear. Cm. Perez noted that many citations were dismissed by the Judge but added that there are many current, active outstanding violations that can be pursued at this time.

Mr. Garcia reminded Council that the Department needs a conviction of the violation before they can take further action; a citation alone is not a conviction.

Motion to direct staff to assist the Municipal Court in executing pending warrants to the extent allowable by the law and to direct the revenues to the General Fund, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Chamberlain reported that the Health Department is prioritizing marginalized communities with lack of access to healthcare for COVID-19 vaccinations. The three phases are:

Phase 1 – Limited COVID-19 vaccine availability

Phase 2 – Large number of doses available; supply likely to meet demand

Phase 3 – Likely sufficient supply

Phase 4 – Sufficient supply

The City established a COVID-19 Vaccine Committee made up of COVID-19 vaccine providers and emergency management staff to monitor and administer vaccines to the community utilizing the resources of local stakeholders. Staff are using the Vaccine Allocation and Ordering System (VAOS) throughout operations, and a vaccine scheduling portal has been made available to the public to secure appointments for vaccination. Second-dose operations will begin next week at the Same Auto Arena drive-thru and last over five days. Starting February 3 and every Wednesday afterward, first-dose inoculations will be performed at Sames at a rate of about 1,200 vaccines a day. Every Tuesday will be dedicated to second-dose inoculations as well.

Health Authority Dr. Victor Treviño noted that the second dose of the Moderna vaccine can be taken up to six days after the schedule three-week period. He could not confirm how long after the schedule vaccination



that the Pfizer vaccine would remain viable; the medical community understands that some people are going to miss their second dose of the vaccine, but this is strongly discouraged. Dr. Treviño informed Council that the City cannot prioritize within priority groups, such as those who qualify as 1A or 1B.

Motion to direct management to prioritize vaccinating the elderly community first as organized through a vaccination committee to the extent allowable by law.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to direct El Lift to assist the Health Department in transporting elderly and disabled individuals to their vaccination appointments and to waive the fare to these appointments.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to prioritize mass transit drivers aged 65 years or older to get vaccinated and direct all City Department to be included, subject to approval from the State of Texas.

Moved: Cm. Torres  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

Motion to direct management to determine priority vaccination of City employees aged 65 or older subject to approval from the State of Texas as allowable by law.

Moved: Cm. Torres  
Second: Dr. Marte Martinez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**XI. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances 2021-O-001, 2021-O-002, 2021-O-003, 2021-O-004, 2021-O-005, 2021-O-006, 2021-O-007, 2021-O-008, 2021-O-009, 2021-O-010, 2021-O-011, 2021-O-012, 2021-O-013, 2021-O-014, 2021-O-015, 2021-O-016, and 2021-O-017.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

35. 2021-O-001 Amending Chapter 24, Article III, Section 24.56.2 and 24.56.5 of the City of Laredo Land Development Code to allow parkland funds to be used for purposes reasonably related to parks in certain circumstances, limited to:

1. speed humps near parks;
2. traffic signals near parks; and
3. sidewalks abutting parks.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-001.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

36. 2021-O-002 Amending Chapter 15, Health and Sanitation, Article III Cleanliness and Sanitation of Premises, division 1 generally of the Code of Ordinances, by enacting entitled "Repeat Violations" consisting of Section 15.42 (4) - (6) and 15.44 (a)(3) regarding notice for repeated violations of the same type for the City of Laredo; establishing a non-refundable one hundred (\$100.00) dollars administrative fee effective February 1, 2021; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for publication; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-002.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

37. 2021-O-003 Amending the FY2020-2021 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding two (2) Administrative Assistant I, R32 positions for the City of Laredo Community Development Department COVID-19 Response Programs. Funding is available through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Budget through grant funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)/ CDBG-CV (3) third round allocation.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-003.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

38. 2021-O-004 Amending the FY 2020-2021 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by

adding one (1) Registered Nurse II, R38 position through the City of Laredo Interdepartmental Agreement between the Community Development Department and the Health Department for the Public Health Program for COVID-19 prevention and response. Funding is available through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-004.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

39. 2021-O-005 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 additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$278,420.27 for a total of \$449,420.27 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 September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. No grant match required.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-005.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

40. 2021-O-006 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 9.99 acres out of a 26.61 acre tract conveyed to MRMD Development Co. LLC, in Porcion 34, J.A. Diaz Original Grantee, Abstract 762, located Est of Cuatro Vientos Rd., from AG (Agricultural District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area Residential District). ZC-065-2020 District II

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-006.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

41. 2021-O-007 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 3, Block 1, The Gates at D&J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3145 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District); providing for publication and effective date. ZC-059-2020 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-007.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

42. 2021-O-008 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 4, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3147 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). ZC-060-2020 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-008.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

43. 2021-O-009 Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 2, Block 1, The Gates at D&J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3143 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District ) to B-3 (Community Business District). ZC-061-2020 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-009.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

44. 2021-O-010 Amending g the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1m The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3141 Acropolis East Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). ZC-063-2020 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-010.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

45. 2021-O-011 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, closing and vacating as a public easement a portion of the Chestnut Street right-of-way in District III, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas and authorizing the City Manager to sell the "surface only" of the property; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-011.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

46. 2021-O-012 Closing and vacating as a public easement, a partial section of 1100 Buena Vista Avenue Right-of-Way for Uriel Razo, in District III, South of Barrios Street and North of Boulanger Street, legally described as an undeveloped tract of land containing 3,043.67 sq. ft. tract of land, more or less, being out of the Buena Vista Avenue Right-of-Way between the northeast Right-of-Way line of Meadow Avenue south Right-of-Way line of Barrios Street, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-012.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

47. 2021-O-013 Closing and vacating as a public easement, a partial section of 1100 Buena Vista Avenue Right-of-Way for Eduardo Estrada Herrera, in District III, South of Barrios Street and North of Boulanger Street, legally described as an undeveloped tract of land containing 3,043.67 sq. ft. tract of land, more or less, being out of the Buena Vista Avenue Right-of-Way between the northeast Right-of-Way line of Meadow Avenue South Right-of-Way line of Barrios Street, Eastern Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. 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.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-013.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

48. 2021-O-014 An Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter 2 – Administration, of the Code of Ordinances, by adding Article XI – Employee of the Quarter and Employee of the Year Program to establish a selection committee, eligibility, criteria, nomination and selection procedures, and recognition and awards for a total of twelve (12) Employees of the Quarter and three (3) Employees of the Year; providing that this Ordinance shall be

cumulative; providing a severability clause; and declaring an effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-014.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

49. 2021-O-015 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Third Amendment to Equipment Premises Temporary License Agreement between the City of Laredo and Sprint Spectrum Realty Company, LLC, for equipment space at 1501 Water Street, Laredo, Webb County, Texas and subject to an existing License Agreement between the Parties for use of the existing communications tower. Term of the Third Amendment is six (6) months commencing October 7, 2020 and ending April 6, 2021; with two six (6) month renewal options. The Third Amendment fee will be \$9,000.00 and the license fee for the renewal terms will be \$9,500.00, if exercised.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-015.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

50. 2021-O-016 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a License Agreement between the City of Laredo ("Licensor") and Diamond Towers V LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Licensee") for ground space located at the Intersection of Backwoods Trail and Beach Lane, Laredo, Webb County, Texas, for the construction of a 135' communications tower, installation of an equipment building and related communication facilities. Term of the license is five (5) years, with five (5) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. Annual base rent shall be \$25,000.00, with a three percent (3%) increase on each anniversary of the commencement date; and providing for effective date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-016.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

51. 2021-O-017 Amending amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 5, Block 1, The Gates at D & J Alexander Subdivision, East, located at 3149 Acropolis Est Ct., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). ZC-062-2020 District V

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-O-017.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: MPT Gonzalez  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**XII. CONSENT AGENDA**

**AIRPORT: STAFF SOURCE JEFFREY J. MILLER, AIRPORT DIRECTOR**

52. 2021-R-017 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application and if offered to execute Grant Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Small Community Air Service Development Program in the amount of \$250,000 for airport marketing air service at the Laredo International Airport and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents resulting from the award . The city’s local match in the amount of \$75,000 is available in the Airport Operation Fund and \$75,000 in the Convention & Visitors Bureau Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-017.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

53. Consideration for approval of the selection of CBP Laredo LLC, owned and managed by the principals of FD Stonewater located in Arlington, Virginia, and authorization to negotiate a contract and execute a Letter of Intent for leasing land for the development of a Federal Government facility at the Laredo International Airport. There is no cost involved in this part of the selection and negotiation process.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**BUILDING: STAFF SOURCE ARTURO GARCIA, BUILDING DIRECTOR**

54. 2021-R-001 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and MHC JMO Separate Property, L.L.C., for a proposed project located at 602 & 604 Laredo Street, lot 1, & lot 2, block 45, eastern division that consists of mixed use, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a ten (10) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment

total of \$502,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$3,182.68 and estimated total fee waivers of \$4,592.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information. This is located in City Council District 3.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-001.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

55. 2021-R-003 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Ana Laura Cantu for a proposed project located at 918 E Fremont Street, lot 8, block 548, eastern division that consists of residential, 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 \$271,865.36, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$1,723.63 and estimated total fee waivers of \$1,621.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information. This is in City Council District 3.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-003.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

56. 2021-R-007 Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and RR Company of America, L.L.C. for a proposed project located at 2719 San Bernardo Avenue, lots 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, & 8; block 574 western division that consists of commercial, in accordance with authorized guidelines and criteria established for the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ). This agreement will be for a ten (10) year period and will abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic development. The project has an estimated capital investment total of \$1,900,000.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$13,136.03 and estimated total fee waivers of \$6,665.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information. This is in City Council District 8.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-007.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres



For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**CITY SECRETARY: STAFF SOURCE JOSE A. VALDEZ, JR., CITY SECRETARY**

57. Consideration to appoint a Mayor Pro Tem as per Ordinance 2011-0-029 and whose term shall start January 19, 2021 through November 15, 2021, and any matters incident thereto.

Motion to appoint Rudy Gonzalez, Jr., as Mayor Pro Tem.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Council thanked Cm. Torres for his diligence and success as the outgoing Mayor Pro Tem and congratulated MPT Gonzalez on his appointment.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TINA MARTINEZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

58. Ratification of the submission of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program (TERAP) grant application and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. The program under this grant will provide Emergency Rental Assistance to eligible low to moderate income families/individuals impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

59. Ratification of the submission of the U.S. Department of the Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program payment information and acceptance of award terms and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. The program under this grant will provide Emergency Rental Assistance to eligible low to moderate income families/individuals impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 7

Against: 0

Recuse: 1

MPT Gonzalez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Mercurio Martinez

Cm. Gutierrez  
Dr. Marte Martinez  
Cm. Perez  
Cm. Cigarroa

60. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the 2019 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) contract with Bethany House of Laredo, Inc. by increasing the total amount awarded to the agency by an additional \$4,379.13 in funding. The additional awarded fund will be utilized to cover expenses related to maintenance (including minor or routine repairs), security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishing and/or supplies necessary for the operations of the emergency shelter. These available ESG funds are administrative savings and must be utilized for eligible ESG activities.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU: STAFF SOURCE AILEEN RAMOS, CVB DIRECTOR**

61. Authorizing the City Manager to approve the participation on the project "La Frontera with Pati Jinich" in coordination with other public and private entities in both Laredo and Nuevo Laredo, that will highlight the attractions of the region and will promote both communities during Prime Time on PBS and other streaming services, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. Funding available in the CVB Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: STAFF SOURCE TECLO J. GARCIA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

62. Authorizing the City Manager to develop plans for a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) proposal by Majestic Realty for Port Grande a \$1 billion 2,000-acre master-planned logistics and commercial development based on non-binding terms sheet. The Tax Increment Financing (TIF) project is a public-private partnership plan that would use a share of new ad-valorem taxes produced from the projects improvements to fund public infrastructure costs spread over a 30-year period. A creation ordinance, project and financing plan, and full development agreement must be approved by City Council before the TIRZ is fully established.

Teclo Garcia, Economic Development Director, reported that Majestic Realty has been

entrusted to oversee the Ft. Worth Stockyards, an iconic historic district in Texas. About 14 million square feet of buildings are being proposed for the Port Grande TIF/TIRZ, bringing light manufacturing companies such as GE and Yazaki (supplier for Toyota) to Laredo. There are hundreds of TIRZs across Texas that fund infrastructure, public improvements, and economic development grants in those cities. In order to create a TIRZ, Council must first adopt a creation ordinance and then a TIRZ project and financing plan. The creation ordinance establishes the TIRZ boundary, term, board, City participation, and the preliminary project and financing plan. City staff are pleased with the current proposed terms given the preliminary commitments of other entities to share the responsibility of participation.

Cm. Cigarroa asked that this presentation be made to the Economic Development Advisory Committee; Robert Eads, City Manager, noted that the TIRZ terms and agreement are usually negotiated with City staff first so that the partners do not lose any industry advantage; the EDAC is merely advisory and cannot enter into any agreement with the entities. Rene Benavides, City Attorney, reminded Council that this TIRZ plan is still in the preliminary stage; there will be plenty of opportunities for the business community to provide feedback and opinion on the matter before the TIRZ is created or begins any work.

Cm. Perez asked staff to remember that industrial traffic has historically created traffic issues like bottlenecks, leading to costly repairs that could have been avoided with better planning ahead of time. She asked that staff keep that in mind moving forward.

Motion to create a TIRZ as proposed and to direct staff to present to the Economic Development Advisory Committee after terms are discussed, as amended.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

### **ENGINEERING: STAFF SOURCE RAMON E. CHAVEZ, CITY ENGINEER**

63. Consideration to rescind the selection of the top consultant Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Dallas, Texas RFQ FY19-ENG-001 for the City of Laredo Municipal Waterpark. There is no financial impact.

Fernando Baldazo stated that now is not the time to pursue waterpark features in the City as the last two features were failures. He also noted that moving the waterpark from the stadium and arena area would be a mistake.

Robert Eads, City Manager, explained that the City requested qualifications for a site-specific project; given Council's wishes to move the site to South Laredo, the project is now entirely different and requires a new Request for Qualifications. The Airport Director and FAA have explained to staff that a waterpark so close to the Laredo International Airport would be very problematic give noise pollution, birds, flight lines, and other

matters.

Motion to rescind the selection of Kimley-Horn and Associates.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

64. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement (ROW CSJ#0086-01-096) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to contribute Right of Way funds (Fixed Price) for the segment on SH 359 from 4.06 miles E of Loop 20 to 8.935 miles E of Loop 20 in the total amount of \$139,482.00, being the City's participation (10%) for acquisition of Right of Way (R.O.W.) \$79,006.00 and reimbursable utility adjustments \$60,476.00 respectively along State Highway 359 to make certain highway improvements. First payment of \$15,000.00 is due on March 1, 2021 and four additional annual payments of \$31,120.50 due through March 1, 2025. Funding is available in the Capital Grants Fund.

Mayor Saenz recused himself from this item.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against:

Recuse: 1

Mayor Saenz

MPT Gonzalez

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm Mercurio Martinez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Gutierrez

Dr. Marte Martinez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Cigarroa

65. Consideration for approval to award a construction contract to the lowest responsible responsive bidder MTZ Construction Inc. Laredo, Texas, in the total amount of \$5,099,641.46 which includes the base bid (Phase 1) arterial road improvements from Cuatro Vientos Road to Concord Hills Blvd., additive alternate #1 (Phase 2A) arterial road improvements from Concord Hills Blvd. to Brownwood Street, additive alternate #3 JMLG Holdings, LTD water improvements, and alternate #5 providing for a concrete cross section (Phase 1) for the City of Laredo / WCCL RMA / WCDD No. 1 Ave. Los Presidentes Arterial Project from Loop 20 (Cuatro Vientos) to Brownwood Street with a construction contract time of 270 working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Funding is available as follows: Capital Grants Fund in the amount of \$ 2,430,334.19, Webb County City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) in the amount of \$ 1,262,023.89, Webb County Drainage District No. 1 (WCDD) in the amount

of \$ 901,574.25, 2019 Water Revenue Bond in the amount of \$ 498,559.13 and 2014 Sewer Revenue Bond in the amount of \$7,150.00. Subject to approval from the Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority and Webb County Drainage District No. 1.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**ENVIRONMENTAL: STAFF SOURCE JOHN PORTER, ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR/  
INTERIM SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR**

66. Consideration to renew contract FY19-093 for the Chacon Creek Hike & Bike Trail Maintenance to low bidder Nick Benavides, Laredo, TX for an annual amount of \$68,988.00 per year. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year; this is the last renewal extension period for this contract. Funding for this contract is available in the Environmental Services Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

67. Consideration to award contract FY21-011 to sole bidder Clean Earth Environmental Solutions, Inc., Houston, TX in an annual estimated amount of \$31,189.33 for Household Hazardous Waste/CESQG Collection Services. This is a two (2) year contract, subject to future appropriations, with an option to renew an additional two (2) year term, upon mutual agreement. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Department's Budget.

Jose A. Valdez, Jr., City Secretary, clarified that the estimated amount of the contract is actually \$70,000.00, not \$31,189.33.

Motion to approve with correction.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

68. Authorizing the City Manager to execute and approve an Engineering Services contract with Crane Engineering - Laredo, Texas in the amount of \$220,250.00 for the River Vega Hike/Bike Trail, (TXDOT project # CSJ:0922-33-177) from Anna Park to Dovalina Elementary. The job includes, survey, design, construction and environmental work for

approximately 7000 linear feet of ADA compliant trail. TXDOT has approved the draft contract. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

69. Consideration for approval of the selection of LNV, Inc., based on Request for Qualifications (RFQ) received and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate an engineering contract for detention pond and drainage improvements for Ponderosa Hills/Towne East subdivisions. There is no cost involved in this part of the Request for Qualifications/selection of consultant process.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**FIRE: STAFF SOURCE GUILLERMO HEARD, FIRE CHIEF**

70. Consideration to award contract to Galls, LLC., Lexington, KY for the purchase of fire department uniforms for an annual amount not to exceed \$226,800.00 under BuyBoard Cooperative Contract 587-19. The purchase of uniforms includes boots and other accessories for all active firefighters. These items are included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and the Firefighters Union. Each firefighter has a \$600.00 clothing allowance that may be used to purchase any of the listed items in the agreement. The term of this contract is for two (2) years with the option to extend it one (1) additional two(2) year term upon mutual agreement and contingent upon availability of funds. Funding is available in the General Fund - Fire Department's operational budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**FLEET MANAGEMENT: STAFF SOURCE RONALD MILLER, FLEET DIRECTOR**

71. Consideration to award annual service contract FY21-021 to the following low bidders:
1. Fox Truck World, San Antonio, TX, in an amount up to \$125,000.00 (Parts Only);
  2. Laredo Mechanical Industrial Services, Laredo, TX, in an amount up to \$150,000.00 (Primary Vendor-Labor);

3. Fox Truck World, San Antonio, TX, in an amount up to \$75,000.00 (Secondary Vendor-Labor);

for the purchase of GS Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) parts and truck services for the City's automated side loader trucks. 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 contract may be extended for three (3) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

72. Consideration to award annual service contract FY21-022 to the sole bidder Laredo Mechanical Industrial Services, Laredo, TX, in an amount up to \$80,000.00 for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) generator parts and services for the City's stationary and portable generators. 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 contract may be extended for three (3) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement. All services will be secured on an as needed basis. Funding is available in the Fleet Maintenance Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**HEALTH: STAFF SOURCE RICHARD A. CHAMBERLAIN, HEALTH DIRECTOR**

73. 2021-R-016 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and enter into a contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) through the South Texas Development Council (STDC) in the amount of \$130,512.00 for the continuation of the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) State Services Program for HIV prevention and education for the term period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. No grant match required.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-016.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

74. 2021-R-018 Ratifying the submission of a continuation grant application to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the estimated amount of \$127,561.00 with no match to continue the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Family Support/Community Resources program to assist families with children with special healthcare needs for the term period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents resulting from the award of this grant. No grant match required.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-018.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

75. 2021-R-019 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a continuation grant application to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the estimated amount of \$222,837.00 with a 20% match of \$44,567.40 to continue the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Tuberculosis Elimination/State Program for the term period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents resulting from the award of this grant.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-019.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

76. 2021-R-020 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) in the estimated amount of \$88,176.00 with no match for the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) Immunization Program for COVID-19 vaccination planning and implementation activities for the term period upon execution through June 30, 2022 and further authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all documents resulting from the award of this grant. No grant match required.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-020.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0



77. 2021-R-021 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Laredo Health Department (CLHD) and Serving Children and Adults in Need, Inc. (SCAN), for the purpose of integrating services that can improve client care for Texas residents who meet financial criteria for HHS-funded substance use disorder treatment services and are at risk of contracting or are living with HIV/AIDS, for the term of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-021.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

78. Consideration to ratify the emergency purchase of a Ford F-550 Starcraft Allstar XL Mobile Testing Unit from Creative Bus Sales, Inc. through Texas Smartbuy Program in the amount of \$213,681.00 for COVID-19 testing and diagnosis. Funding is available through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

79. Consideration to extend the continuation contract to Change Healthcare Technology Enabled Services, LLC for support of a cost reimbursement analysis to submit appropriate reports to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Ambulance Supplemental Payment Program (TASPP) to generate revenue for uncompensated ambulance costs for emergency services for the term period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021. Funding is available in the General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**HUMAN RESOURCES: STAFF SOURCE MELINA BERMUDEZ, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR**

80. Motion to accept, establish and to implement the Consumer Driven Health Plan (CDHP) and Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plan rates for employees who retire after February 1, 2021; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

Cm. Torres noted that he Chaired the Insurance Committee, and the decision was made to move retirees to the CDHP/HMO plans rather than a PPO plan was due to the budgetary constraints that their claims were having on the City. He suggested that Council allow retirees be offered the PPO at a current employee rate if they would prefer that over the CDHP. He initiated a motion to bring any costs back to Council.

Motion to table and bring back costs and/or conflicts with any City Collective Bargaining Agreements.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**INFORMATION SERVICES & TELECOMMUNICATION: STAFF SOURCE HOMERO VAZQUEZ-GARCIA, IST DIRECTOR**

81. Consideration to authorize the use of State of Texas, Department of Information Resources (DIR) Cooperative Purchase contracts to purchase computers, computer hardware, computer software, telecommunications and other goods and services offered through DIR Cooperative Purchase contracts. Due to year-round (as needed) cumulative DIR contract vendor purchases, the city exceeds the \$50,000.00 purchase limits, which require City Council approval; the following are DIR Co-op Vendors and estimated annual purchase amounts:

Dell Computers USA	\$810,000.0
Computer Solutions	\$650,000.00
Verizon	\$450,000.0
AT&T	\$475,000.0
SHI Government	\$410,000.00
CDG Government	\$375,000.00

The City is a member of the State of Texas - Texas Procurement and Support Services (TPASS) Cooperative Purchasing Program which allows the City of Laredo to take advantage of approved State contracts. Funding for Cooperative Purchase contracts and services are available in the respective departmental budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

82. Authorizing the City Manager to approve payment for year four renewal option of services agreement with Superior public sector for OpenGov open data software services. Renewal term is for one (1) year effective January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021; and shall automatically renew for successive one (1) year terms; unless terminated

by either party with at least thirty (30) days written notice prior to expiration of the current term. Fourth year cost is \$143,265.37; funding is available in the Information Technology Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**LAREDO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES: STAFF SOURCE KARINA ELIZONDO, ACTING LACS DIRECTOR**

83. Consideration to amend contract FY20-013 with MWI Animal Health, Boise, Idaho; amendment is requested to increase contract by 25% for a new total annual amount of \$112,500.00. This contract is for the purchase of Pharmaceuticals & Medical Supplies for the Laredo Animal Care Services. This is the second year of the first two (2) year term, subject to future appropriations and contract may be extended for one (1) additional two (2) year term upon mutual agreement of the parties. Funding is available in the Laredo Animal Care Department.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**MUNICIPAL COURT: STAFF SOURCE ANA CABALLERO-RODRIGUEZ, MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK**

84. Authorizing City Manager to renew the existing annual software maintenance agreements with Tyler Technologies, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$94,373.00 and for database services in the amount of \$25,000.00 for a total of \$119,373.00. The annual software maintenance agreement begins October 1, 2020 and end September 30, 2021. Funding is available in the FY 2020-2021 Municipal Court Technology Fund budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**PLANNING & ZONING: STAFF SOURCE JAMES KIRBY SNIDEMAN, PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR**

85. Motion to advance funds to the Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning

Organization (LW-CAMPO), in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the Metropolitan Plan Update and Fast Act Compliance Project, contract amendment #2. Contract amount to date will be \$371,891.00. Funds are 100% reimbursable through the Federal MPO Planning Grant and available in General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**POLICE: STAFF SOURCE CLAUDIO TREVINO, CHIEF OF POLICE**

86. 2021-R-004 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement and accept reimbursement from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection/U.S. Border Patrol Treasury Forfeiture Fund of up to \$300,000.00 for joint operations for overtime expenses. The City of Laredo required match will be \$96,000.00 for a total amount of \$396,000.00. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-004.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

87. 2021-R-009 Authorizing the City Manager to ratify and accept a grant in the amount of \$15,712.44 from the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), to fund the 2021 Project Safe Neighborhoods Program for the period of October 01, 2020 through September 30, 2021. This funding will provide overtime for the Juvenile and Gang Enforcement (JAGET) Unit which will utilize target enforcement techniques against criminal and transnational organizations responsible for violent criminal activity. No local match is required. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-009.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

88. 2021-R-010 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$123,138.78 to the Texas Department of Transportation for enforcement of Commercial Motor Vehicle Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. This

grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24% of total funds. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-010.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

89. 2021-R-011 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$129,689.95 to the Texas Department of Transportation for Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The grant period will begin October 1, 2021 and runs through September 30, 2022; this grant is for overtime salaries. The City of Laredo will match approximately 24% of total funds. Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-011.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

90. 2021-R-015 Authorizing the City Manager to renew one (1) cooperative working agreement between the City of Laredo Police Department (LPD) and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Enforcement and Removal Operation (ERO), San Antonio Field Office (SNA), Port Isabel Detention Center (PIDC) in the event of an emergency or crisis situation that may warrant additional personnel assistance. The Police Department's participation is part of the community service provided to our citizens and our partner law enforcement agencies with no cost to the City of Laredo.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-015.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

91. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract amendment with Motorola Solutions, Inc. to enter into a cloud transition agreement. This is a zero cost contract amendment that would only transition the Real Time Crime Center system from servers set up locally to Motorola's cloud based service. There will be no additional cost or future subscription fees for this service. The Real Time Crime Center has been in operation for over a year and acts as a command center that monitors citywide cameras, license plate readers, bridge cameras, and provides real-time support to police officers, as well as other divisions within the Laredo Police Department, and other federal, state, and local agencies. This contract amendment requires no financial impact.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

92. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source supplier, Atlantic Diving Supply, (ADS, Inc), in the amount of \$55,000.98 for the purchase of a FPX portable x-ray machine to assist the Laredo Police Department Bomb Unit in the prevention and protection against terrorist attacks. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund and Police Trust Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

93. Consideration to award a software maintenance contract to Superior, LLC, a Central Square Company, in the amount of \$369,879.69. This maintenance contract currently provides customer support and service for the OSSI computer software system utilized by the Police and Fire Department. The term of the contract is for twelve (12) months ending on December 31, 2021. Funding is available in the Police and Fire Departments annual budgets.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

94. Consideration to authorize a purchase contract with the sole source provider, LEA-AID, Inc., Raleigh, NC, in the amount of \$84,500.00 for the purchase of surveillance equipment for a police vehicle for the HIDTA Task Force. This purchase is 100% grant funded by HIDTA. Funding is available in the Financial Task Force Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

95. Authorizing the City Manager to renew three (3) individual Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Laredo Police Department (LPD) and the 1.) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE-HSI)

with LPD, 2.) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE-HSI) with LPD HIDTA Task Force and 3.) Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) addendum. The Police Department's participation is part of the community service provided to our citizens and our partner law enforcement agencies with no cost to the City of Laredo.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

96. Consideration to authorize a contract with Dr. Tania Glenn & Associates, PA in the amount of \$57,828.75 for Clinical Advisory for trauma and work related counseling. This is the third year LPD provides this services to all PD personnel. Through a copy written model this clinical practice will continue to provide the necessary education and counseling services that assist officers in dealing with traumatic situations and stressful events; from preparation to interventions and follow-up care for major incidents, traumatic events and crises that affect both groups and individuals within the organization. Funding has been awarded by the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division and is available in the Special Police Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

97. Consideration to authorize the purchase of sixty-eight (68) ballistic vests for the Police Department in the amount of \$55,717.00 from Galls through the Buyboard Cooperative Purchasing Program's contract pricing. Funding is available in the Police Department General Fund Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**TAX: STAFF SOURCE DORA MALDONADO, TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR**

98. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts adjusted for the month of December 2020 represent a decrease of \$192,661.50. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

**TRAFFIC SAFETY: STAFF SOURCE DANNY MAGEE, TRAFFIC DIRECTOR**

99. Consideration to renew annual contract FY19-029 for the purchase of speed hump signs and marking from NSTS, LLC., Seguin, Texas, in an amount up to \$70,000.00. All speed hump signs and marking 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 Traffic Safety Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

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

100. 2021-R-005    Accepting the conveyance of a 15.00 Foot Wide Sanitary and Access Easement, out of Lot 3-A, Block 1520, as per re-plat of Lot 3-A Recorded In Volume 37, Page 33, Plat Records, Webb County, Texas, Eastern Division of The City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas Situated In Survey 799, Laredo City, Abstract 239, Webb County, Texas and being more particularly described by Metes and Bounds in Exhibit "B" and depicted on Exhibit "A". The easement will serve as a sanitary sewer and access easement for the purpose of construct, replace, repair, and perpetually maintain an 8- in diameter sanitary sewer line, and the right of free, full and unimpeded access to grantee's equipment; and providing for an effective date.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-R-005.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

101. Authorizing the City Manager to reject bid for the project - 12 inch Sewer Main on Blaine Street & Dorel Lift Station Elimination Project. There was only one contractor responding to the bid. No fiscal impact at this moment.

Motion to approve.



Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

102. Authorizing the City Manager for the approval of Change Order #1 in the net decrease amount of (\$345,270.00) for the Eastern Chacon Creek Interceptor & Drainage Improvements. This change order is required to credit the City of Laredo for the decrease in material originally specified for use. With this change order the new contract amount with AZAR Services, LLC is \$4,016,387.20 with 330 working days, no increase or decrease from the original amount of working days. Funding is available in the 2019 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

103. Authorizing the City Manager to approve and execute Change Order #1 totaling to a credit of (\$6,106.50) for a final contract value amount to \$1,565,857.50, acceptance of the project, and release of retainage amounting to \$78,292.88 to Insituform Technologies, LLC. of Chesterfield, Missouri for the IH-35 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 3 project. The project was completed on October 6, 2020. Funding is available in the 2015 and 2017 Sewer Revenue Bonds.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

104. Authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment #1 in the amount of \$25,262.00 with LNV, Inc. of Laredo, Texas, for the TCEQ safety assessment of the Zacate Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (ZCWWTP). The total contract sum including this amendment is at \$124,162.00. Funding is available in 2017 Sewer Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez  
Second: Cm. Torres  
For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

105. Consideration to amend contract FY20-067 with CB Solutions, Lago Vista, Texas for an extension/increase in rental months for the continued rental of generators and increase in the amount of \$ 555,638.00. The revised total amount for the extended rental is \$1,389,095.00. The estimated rental time was originally for six months but another four

months are needed for completion of this project. The continued rentals are required for continuous operation under load as the water treatment process project for the Utilities Department. There will be no cost increase for the extra monthly rentals. Estimated completion date is March 2021. Funding is available in the Utilities Department Water Construction Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

106. Authorizing the City Manager to award a construction contract to the sole responsible bidder, SAL Construction Management, LLC., Weslaco, Texas in the amount of \$219,650.00 for the Sierra Vista Booster Pump Station Improvements Project. The contract time is ninety (90) working days. Funding is available in the 2019 Water Revenue Bond.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

107. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a water rights transfer agreement between the City of Laredo and Hapo Holdings, LLC, in which the City is agreeing to purchase 254 acre feet Class "B" water rights to the Rio Grande river at \$1200.00 per ac./ft., for a purchase price of \$304,000.00 in the form of a credit for water availability fees in lieu of cash; and further authorizing the City Manager to sign and file any necessary documents with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on behalf of the City for the use of said water rights be changed as required by the City. Funding is available in the Utilities Water Availability Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

### **XIII. STAFF REPORTS**

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

Motion to discuss this item in executive session with other executive session items.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Following an overnight recess, Council voted to table this item at the request of management.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

109. Status update on current COVID-19 information as presented by Local Health Authority, Health Director and Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC); and any other matters incident thereto.

This item was discussed in conjunction with Item #34, where additional discussion and action can be found.

Jose Vazquez spoke about a video on Facebook showing multiple people crowding in a Laredo bar without masks, which received heavy criticism. He asked Council to enlist a task force to ensure that establishments are following at least the minimum standards for COVID-19 prevention.

110. Discussion with possible action on reviewing the recruitment process for an Internal Auditor; and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to discuss this item in executive session with other executive session items.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Following an overnight recess, Council voted to table this item at the request of management.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Robert Eads, City Manager, stated that Council and City representatives will not be able to travel to Austin as they have done in the past for the legislative session. Staff has submitted the legislative agenda to its partners and arranging virtual meetings.

112. Status update on the 2021 Federal Legislative Agenda for the 117th Legislative Session; and any other matters incident thereto.

Robert Eads, City Manager, stated that Council and City representatives will not be able to travel to Washington, D.C. as they have done in the past for the legislative session. Staff has submitted the legislative agenda to its partners and arranging virtual meetings.

#### **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to go into executive session.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

113. Request for executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.087 (Economic Development) to discuss the Economic Development Performance and Program Agreement between the City of Laredo and Laredo Outlet Shoppes, LLC and any other matters incident thereto, and return to open session for possible action.

Following executive session, Mayor Saenz reported that no action was taken. Cm. Rodriguez asked staff to proceed as discussed.

114. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.071 related to possible litigation pertaining to property owned by the City of Laredo along the Rio Grande River incidental to the Government's assessment of the Property for Border Infrastructure Projects in the Laredo Sector area of responsibility and return to open session for possible action.

Following executive session, Mayor Saenz reported that no action was taken. Cm. Rodriguez asked staff to proceed as discussed.

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

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

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

115. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Alliance Bus Group Incorporated from Lewisville, Texas for the purchase of two (2) Paratransit vans and one (1) Light Duty bus for the El Metro Transit Department in the amount of \$483,034.85 utilizing the Georgia DOAS Purchase State Contract #99999-001-SPD0000138. Funding is available in the Federal Transit Administration Section 5339 Grant# TX-2020-141-00. The required 15% local match for the grant will be funded by Transit Sales Tax.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

116. Consideration for approval to award contract FY20-082 to sole bidder Sepulveda Associates Architects Incorporated for the CNG Fueling Station Upgrade, design and development plans and specifications for the CNG fueling station, assistance with bidding preparedness, and construction administration services; and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a contract for said services. Funding is available through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant no. TX-04-0055-01 and Transit's local sales tax.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

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

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

### **A. Request by Council Member Rudy Gonzalez, Jr.**

1. Recognizing Heberto "Beto" L. Ramirez on the occasion of his retirement following 26 years of dedicated service with the City of Laredo in which he has served in various capacities, to include the Director of the Budget, Utilities, Information Services &

Telecommunications, Fleet, Interim City Secretary, and most recently, as Director for the Animal Care Service Department.

Several members of Council commended Mr. Ramirez on his leadership in his various positions at the City of Laredo, adding their well wishes and presenting him with a certificate of recognition for his accomplishments.

Heberto "Beto" L. Ramirez thanked Council for the recognition and noted his enjoyment in working with everyone at the City. Robert Eads, City Manager, noted staff's appreciation for Mr. Ramirez's dedication to the organization and wished him well in retirement.

**B. Request by Council Member Vidal Rodriguez**

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 II Priority Funds will be used for this project.
  - a. Speed hump on Nueces Loop
  - b. Speed hump on 3100 Vicente

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on the overpass on Cuatro Vientos & Lomas Del Sur to expedite construct possibly 2025, and any other matters incident thereto.

Motion to expedite this overpass for completion by 2025 and to send a resolution to the MPO in support of this project.

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**C. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Alberto Torres, Jr.**

1. Recognizing Mr. Jeffrey J. Miller, Laredo International Airport Director, for his inclusion as a recipient of Airport Business Magazine's Top 40 Under 40 Award. On November 24, 2020, Airport Business Magazine recognized Mr. Jeffrey J. Miller for his service and continued leadership in the aviation industry by including him as a top leader in the aviation industry under the age of 40.

Council commended Mr. Miller for his example of leadership and excellence at the City and presented him with a certificate of recognition for the accomplishment. Mr. Miller thanked Council for the honor and recognized the Airport staff that have contributed to this success.

2. Recognizing Ricardo "Cuate" Santos for his 39 years of service to the City of Laredo as photographer for the Laredo Morning Times and any other matters incident thereto.

Several Council Members commended Mr. Santos for his passion and commitment to his photography career through numerous City events and local news stories. Cm. Torres presented him with a certificate of recognition.

Ricardo "Cuate" Santos thanked Council for the recognition and noted the honor of covering local government developments.

3. Discussion with possible action to dedicate the K. Tarver Pocket Park in memory of Armando Cisneros and the Crime Stoppers Bldg. in District IV in memory of Estela Quintanilla, as amended; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Torres remember the modesty, humility, and preparedness of Mr. Cisneros whenever he came to address Council; he was a champion for transparency, good government, and fiscal responsibility. He served on many City committees and was an educator with Laredo ISD.

Several Council Members added sentiments of esteem and respect for Mr. Cisneros, whose wife and daughters thanked Council for their dedication and kind words.

Motion to dedicate District IV Priority Funds to invest in the dedication of the K. Tarver Pocket Park in memory of Armando Cisneros.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Dr. Marte Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Torres noted that Estela Quintanilla was a retired educator who served as Chair of the Drug & Alcohol Commission and established the Crime Stopper Program at Laredo ISD.

Motion to dedicate District IV Priority Funds to invest in the dedication of the Crime Stoppers Building in District IV in memory of Estela Quintanilla.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mayor Saenz added his fond memories of Mrs. Quintanilla and thanked Cm. Torres for bringing this item forward.

Motion to bypass the Facility Naming & Recognition Commission for these two namesake dedications due to COVID-19 as well as unanimous Council agreement.

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: MPT Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**D. Request by Council Member Ruben A. Gutierrez, Jr.**

1. Discussion with possible action on the status of the Texas Department of Transportation's Loop 20 overpass project, specifically on Jacaman and Del Mar, with a time frame, and any other matters incident thereto.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director speaking on behalf of TxDOT, reported that this project has an estimated construction cost of \$198 million, which is TxDOT funded. The City's cost share for right-of-way totals \$219 million; the project includes five overpasses/interchanges. The MPO will soon hold its first joint workshop with the City and the County to get all elected official input to TxDOT on this project; the date of the workshop is still being determined.

No action taken.

2. Status Report on the Water Master Plan, and any other matters incident thereto.

Arturo Garcia, Utilities Director, reported that the last water master plan was completed in 2015; Council selected a consultant in November 2019 to complete a new integrated water master plan. This new plan will include a rate study good for the next five years. Public outreach is currently being developed and scheduled through virtual town hall meetings; he estimated that the plan will be completed in February 2022.

3. Discussion with possible action to amend the Airport Advisory Board ordinance to change the attendance requirements, and any other matters incident thereto.

Kristina L. Hale, Assistant City Manager, explained that in 2019, an ordinance was adopted standardizing the attendance requirements of all City boards, committees, and commissions *unless* a committee already had an ordinance stipulating its attendance requirements. The Airport Advisory Board has such an ordinance from the 1980s, which has caused problems establishing a quorum and conducting business. Therefore, staff requests that the Airport Advisory Board's ordinance be amended to reflect the attendance requirements of the 2019 ordinance.

Motion to amend the Airport Advisory Board ordinance so that the attendance requirements match those of the 2019 ordinance governing attendance of all City



boards, committees, and commissions.

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**E. Request by Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez**

1. Discussion with possible action on supporting a Resolution calling on President Elect Joseph R. Biden, Jr. to immediately declare a moratorium on border wall construction in the Laredo Sector and halt the government's condemnation of public lands and private property for border wall construction, directing the City Manager to present said Resolution to the incoming Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and to members of the DHS transition team, and any other matter incident thereto. (Resolution Attached) (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pete Saenz and Council Member Mercurio Martinez, III)

Oscar Martinez urged Council to pass a border wall moratorium resolution, as did Jose Medina, Ricardo De Anda, Gary Jacobs, Jose Ceballos, Annie LaMantia Cullen, Bill Skeen, Gerry Schwebel, Shellee Laurent, Maxine Rebeles, Paty Carretero de Orduna, Dr. James Norris, Dr. Lola Norris, Sandra Benavides, Nadja Lopez, Melissa Cigarroa, Juan Ruiz, and Valentin Ruiz.

Juan Livas asked Council not to vote on a resolution that has not been shown to the public.

Dr. Marte Martinez reminded the public that for over 12 years, the City had paid for and supported a river vega plan along the Rio Grande to improve access to the river as well as providing floodplain mitigation, biodiversity, and economic development. This predated the Trump Administration and was a Council obligation to find funding to support as mandated by the citizenry.

Motion to adopt the resolution as stated.

Moved: Dr. Marte Martinez

Second: Cm. Mercurio Martinez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2. Discussion with possible action on directing the City Manager to explore the feasibility and all potential funding sources for the establishment of an effective street maintenance and repair program in an effort to protect the public investment on all City streets and thoroughfares, and any other matter incident thereto.

Motion to approve and to direct staff to talk to bond counsel in order to make sure such action is allowable.



Ruben Gutierrez, Jr., Council Member Dr. Marte A. Martinez and Council Member Alyssa Cigarroa)

Juana Elia Guevara spoke in favor of this item, as did Gonzalo Prida, Emilio Richter III, Rafael Dueñas, Arturo Dominguez, and Monica Salinas.

James Kirby Snideman, Planning Director and MPO Director, reported that the trade and logistics master plan for the City of Laredo is in progress at this time. Cm. Rodriguez urged Council to let each Council Member appoint a commissioner so that each district is represented.

Dr. Marte Martinez noted that a hybrid system, such as a mix of Council and Council appointees as well as industry leaders, work well for a nuanced topic like trade and logistics.

Motion to direct staff to start the process of creating this committee and bring back to Council, along with a list of the organizations that would participate, as amended.

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Status report with possible action on the planned renovation by the new owner of the structures and properties located at 2201 Bristol Road in Laredo, Texas commonly known as the Dellwood Apartments, and any other matter incident thereto.

Cm. Perez reminded Council that this apartment complex has been a hazard and nuisance in District VII for many years. Rene Benavides, City Attorney, reminded Council that there was an abatement injunction on this property which led to it being boarded up. Staff is pending an inspection to see if the building has any continuing issues that would require further action. An inspection warrant was signed today.

Arturo Garcia, Building Director, noted that the property owner is granting the City access to inspect the property tomorrow to assess its current state. The City Attorney's Office will move forward at that point with any necessary legal action.

Cm. Perez noted that the building qualifies for a public nuisance under numerous criteria in the related ordinance due to its many violations. At this time, the City has the option of securing the building or demolishing it. She asked why these actions have not been pursued since the City has the means to recover its costs with regard to this property and noted that the property presents a hazard to surrounding residences.

Motion to direct management to enforce the ordinance regarding public nuisances with regards to this property to the fullest extent possible and pursue any cost recovery measures.

