

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**M-2022-R-07**  
**LIVE WEB LINK:**  
<http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**1110 HOUSTON STREET**  
**LAREDO, TEXAS 78040**  
**May 2, 2022**  
**5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Saenz called the meeting to order at 05:31 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Saenz.

**III. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Saenz called for a moment of silence.

**IV. ROLL CALL**

In attendance:

Pete Saenz	Mayor
Rudy Gonzalez Jr.	District I
Vidal Rodriguez	Mayor Pro Tempore
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
Samuel K. Selman	Interim City Manager
Rosario Cabello	Deputy City Manager
Kristina L. Hale	Assistant City Manager
Riazul Mia	Assistant City Manager
David Arredondo	Assistant City Attorney

## V. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of March 23, 2022, March 31, 2022 and April 19, 2022.

**Motion to approve the March 23, 2022, March 31, 2022 and April 19, 2022 minutes.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Gonzalez

**Motion Carries.**

## Citizen Comments

Melissa Cigarroa representing the Cleaner Laredo Coalition spoke against the statement released by Midwestern sterilization that was published by Laredo Morning Times. Ms. Cigarroa stated that there is a big risk affecting the community through air pollution, being caused by Midwest sterilization, she requested for city officials to look more into it.

## VI. COMMUNICATIONS

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

**Motion to open Public Hearings #1-7.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

1. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** ratifying the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Laredo Health Department and Methodist Healthcare Ministries amending the FY21-22 budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$220,621.00 and amending the FY21-22 Full-Time Equivalent Position Listing by adding two (2) Health Educators, R29 positions, for the Juntos for Better Help Program for the term period of March 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023.

Moises Moy Zendejo, made general comments in Spanish and was neutral in regards to public hearing #1.

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Martinez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez.

**Motion Carries.**

2. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending Chapter 15, "Health and Sanitation," Article I, "In General," Section 15-11 of the Code of Ordinances to add the fees for HIV prevention medication; providing a severability clause; providing a savings clause; and providing for publication and effective date. Fees are as follows: PrEP medication \$45.00 (new), nPep medication \$45.00 (new).

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez.

**Motion Carries.**

3. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** ratifying the execution of a contract from the Health and Human Services Commission, amending the FY21-22 budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$82,058.00, and amending the FY21-22 Full-Time Equivalent Position Listing by creating one (1) Health Educator Supervisor, R36, one (1) Licensed Professional Counselor, R37, one (1) Administrative Assistant I, R32, one (1) Medical Office Assistant II, R30, and one (1) Health Educator I, R29, for the City of Laredo Health Department. Funding is available in the Community Mental Health Grant for the term period of June 1, 2022, through August 31, 2022, with possibility of renewal.

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Dr. Martinez

For: 6                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez.

**Motion Carries.**

4. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending Chapter 23, Section 23-4 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo to incorporate a baseball league fee of \$200.00 per team

and authorizing the Interim City Manager to amend the City of Laredo FY21-22 budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$2,400.00. Revenues are from funds generated by the team fees and will be used for recreation equipment for the league; containing a savings clause; containing a severability clause, and providing an effective date.

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez.

**Motion Carries.**

5. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the Chapter 11.5, Emergency Management Ordinance, to set forth regulations for obtaining a license to use city-owned property when a state of emergency has been declared or a disaster has occurred; establishing an application and license fees; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; providing for a penalty; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date. Fees are as follows: one-time application fee of \$100.00, a maximum of 400 square feet of lease space at \$5.00 per square foot, for a total monthly lease amount of \$2,000.00 for private businesses.

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Gutierrez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Perez.

**Motion Carries.**

6. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** amending the FY21-22 budget for the Sports and Community Venue Fund by drawing down fund balance by \$4,669,400.00. Funds will be appropriated for maintenance and repairs at the Sames Auto Arena.

Cm. Dr. Martinez questioned if the funds were being designated towards repairs. He also questioned if heating generators had been installed about a year ago.

Mr. Selman, stated that the funds were being designate for several issues including maintenance and repairs.

Mr. Juan Mendiola from SMG stated that they seek out a transfer switch instead of a generator.

Mr. Miguel Pescador gave an explanation of the reasons why they were going the transfer switch route instead of the generator.

Cm. Dr. Martinez stated that he wanted this to be the last time they discussed this and that any drawdown should be based on the request by council.

Cm. Torres questioned who was responsible as the go between from staff for the area. Mr. Selman stated that he is the go between right now.

Cm. Gutierrez wanted to know if this budget included fixing the roof due to all the leaks. He also felt that that was the priority.

Mr. Mendiola stated that the roof was under design but it was a ways away. Mr. Ramon Chavez gave an update on the roof design with timelines.

Cm. Dr. Martinez asked about the fund balance and how the drawdown would affect it.

MPT. Rodriguez stated that he stands with Mr. Mendiola and asked if he agreed with the items being requested for the drawdown. He also mentioned that we will have more expanses to come.

**Motion to close and Introduce.**

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz.

**Motion Carries.**

7. **Public Hearing and Introductory Ordinance** of the City of Laredo, Texas, amending Chapter V, Alcoholic Beverages, to set forth regulations for establishments that are not licensed or permitted by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) to sell or serve alcoholic beverages on their premises for consumption which allow patrons to bring alcoholic beverages onto their premises for consumption ("BYOB businesses") and adding an annual BYOB venue permit fee; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing for a savings clause; providing for a severability clause; providing for a penalty; providing for publication; and declaring an effective date.

John Hickle, stated that they have been hosting meetings along with the community and this would be the first step towards getting something done in regards to ensure the safety of the community.

Chief Claudio Treviño, stated that TABC does not target nor focus on establishments without a liquor license.

MPT. Rodriguez stated that City Council has to come up with a plan to make sure no more incidents that endanger the community happen again. Assistant City Manager Kristina Hale gave the reason why this ordinance was created and being presented for council consideration.

Juan Caballero Assistant City Attorney, stated that TABC does not regulate "BYOB" business. Mr. Caballero explained some of the qualifications and requirements to obtain a "BYOB" business permit.

Cm. Torres questioned if the Ordinance would affect venues that are "BYOB" businesses.

**Motion to Table item and bring back in the following City Council meeting.**

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

**VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES**

8. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a Food Service Agreement between the Laredo International Airport and Chick-Fil-A Marketplace Bob Bullock for the Airport Passenger Terminal located on 5210 Bob Bullock Loop. The lease consist of 133 square feet counter and office space No. 5 on the first floor, as depicted in Exhibit B, for the purposes of providing prepared lunch food items and non-branded drinks, further described in Exhibit A. The hours of operation will be from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM, Monday through Saturday. The lease term shall be for one (1) year, with one (1) option to renew. Base rent shall consist of twenty percent (20%) of the contractor's monthly gross sales; and providing for an effective date.

**City Council to introduce.**

9. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all necessary documents to purchase the "surface only" of a 1.0170 acre tract of land, with legal description Villas San Agustin, Block 11, Lot 1, Unit 1 in Webb County, Texas for the amount of \$15,000.00. Funding is available in the Health Department - WIC Indirect Cost Account.

**City Council to introduce.**

**IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

**Motion to wave final reading and adopt items #10-22, with items 19 &16 as amended, as recommended by staff.**

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

10. **2022-O-060** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by amending Ordinance 2018-O-122 which authorized a Conditional Use Permit for a bar on Lot 2A, Block 2, Lago Del Mar Unit 7, located at 2511 East Del Mar Boulevard in order to remove USA Yu Hsing, Incorporated/Liling Huang, owner and ENF Entertainment Incorporated/Ernesto Trevino and Barbara del Bosque, Applicants - Musas Bar and replace with USA Yu Hsing, Incorporated/Liling Huang, owner and Taisan8, Limited Liability Company/Yiji Mei, Applicant – Havana Sports Bar as the parties to whom the permit is issued.
11. **2022-O-061** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning approximately 9.06 acres, situated in Porcion 26, Augustin Sanchez Original Grantee, Abstract 282, Webb County, Texas, said 9.06 acres being out of an 43,878.58 acre tract of land conveyed to Killam Ranch Properties, Limited, as recorded in Volume 540, pages 632-634, Official Public Records of Webb County, Texas located west of Bob Bullock Loop and north of University Boulevard, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).
12. **2022-O-062** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 1, Nancy Marie Plat, located at 1405 East Hillside Road, from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).
13. **2022-O-063** Amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 1A and 1B, Block 1, East Country Subdivision, Phase III, located at 3502 and 3510 East Del Mar Boulevard (respectively), from B-1 (Limited Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).
14. **2022-O-064** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to amend the City of Laredo Police Department Special Police Fund FY21-22 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Custodian, R23. Funding will be provided by the Office of the Governor’s Public Safety Office Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) FY 2022 Texas AntiGang (TAG) Program for the period of September 1, 2021, through August 31, 2022. This grant does not require matching funds. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.
15. **2022-O-065** Creating the Hamilton Housing Apartments Fund, appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$527,500.00, and amending the FY 2021-2022 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) position listing by adding one (1) Administrative Assistant II, R35 position, one (1) Building Maintenance Supervisor, R34 position, two (2) Building Maintenance

Mechanics, R28 positions, and one (1) Clerk II, R25 position. The Community Development Department's Municipal Housing Division will assist the Laredo Housing Finance Corporation (LHFC) by managing the daily operations of the Hamilton Housing Apartments. The Community Development Department will also continue collaborating with the LHFC

Board of Directors with setting up objectives, monitoring revenues and expenditures, and assisting with providing solutions.

16. **2022-O-066** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to accept and enter into a contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services, and amending the Health Department Fund FY21-22 budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$75,000.00, for the total of \$575,000.00 and amending the FY21-22 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Position Listing by adding one (1) Health Equity Analyst, R36A position for the City of Laredo Health Department, A for the term period from June 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023. No grant match required. (AS AMENDED)
17. **2022-O-067** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to amend the FY21-22 Transit Center Facility Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$308,501.00. Funds will be used to purchase and replace 1.) one (1) Hydraulic Elevator located at the Transit Center Facility Greyhound Terminal for \$148,340.00 2.) Replace the Transit Center Facility Garage Pay-Station and Parking Equipment for \$100,161.00 and 3.) Transit Center Facility Contractual Professional Services to inspect the Transit Center Structural Building and other professional services for a total of \$60,000.00.
18. **2022-O-068** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to amend the FY21-22 Environmental & Solid Waste Services budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$721,234.00 from the American Rescue Act to Environmental Services for \$169,881.00 and Solid Waste Services for \$551,353.00, respectively. Funds will be for future equipment purchases for both departments.
19. **2022-O-069** Ratification by the Interim City Manager for execution of all necessary documents granting a perpetual easement and right-of-way containing 669.82 square feet (as amended, due to a clerical error), to AEP Texas Central Company to install and construct certain electric distribution facilities. Said easement would be located on a property legally described as 205.13 square feet more or less out of a 14.50 acre tract as per assignment and assumption of a ground lease between Crossett Development I LLC and 2310 Saunders, LLC, situated in Survey 799 - Abstract 238 Original Laredo Town Tract, City of Laredo, Webb County Texas, as recorded in Volume 4546, page, 627 Webb County Official Records out of Block 1, Laredo Airport as recorded in Volume 5, page 1, Webb County Public Records, as depicted in Exhibit A and B; providing for an effective date.
20. **2022-O-070** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a lease agreement between the City of Laredo and 270 Development Group, LLC, on a 3.627 acre tract of land, legally described as a 157,992.1 square foot (3.627 acre) tract of land, situated in the GB & CNG



RR Co Survey, Abstract No. 780, Webb County, Texas, being part of Block 1 of the Laredo Airport Subdivision, as recorded in Volume 5, Page 1, of the Plat Records of Webb County, Texas, for the purposes of constructing and developing certain improvements which shall be subleased to fixed-base operator Laredo Aviation Partners, doing business as Million Air. Lessee, at its own cost and expense, shall use all commercially reasonable efforts to obtain all permits and approvals necessary to construct certain improvements upon the premises in accordance with the development agreement. The lease term shall be for 30 years with one option to extend for 9 years. The monthly rent shall be \$6,583.01, and shall be adjusted on each successive third anniversary of the occupancy term effective date by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The base annual rent shall be adjusted each tenth anniversary of the effective date to the then appraised fair market rental value of the premises, excluding any and all improvements thereon; and providing for an effective date.

21. **2022-O-071** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a ground lease agreement between the City of Laredo and 270 Development Group, LLC, on a 67 by 75 feet tract of land legally described as an 0.11 tract of land more or less out of the south part of Block 1 Laredo Airport Subdivision (34.45 acres), conveyed to the City of Laredo PID No. 2455472, situated in the City of Laredo Webb County, Texas, for the purposes of constructing and developing a concrete fuel containment pad of a size required by applicable regulatory agencies for the installation by lessee of at least two (2) each 25,000 gallon capacity aboveground fuel storage tanks and associated components upon the premises and subleasing said improvements to Laredo Aviation Partners, doing business as Million Air. The lease term shall be for 30 years with one option to extend for 9 years. The monthly rent shall be \$208.50, and will be adjusted according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), in addition to a base annual rent adjustment each tenth anniversary of the effective date based on an appraised fair market rental value of the premises. Lessee shall also be responsible to comply with fuel flowage fees and landing fees approved by the Laredo City Council; and providing for an effective date.
22. **2022-O-072** Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute an agreement providing for possible partial reimbursement of the cost of construction of a 12-inch water line extension incurred by P. Todd Ireland – Real Estate Management AEP Texas Central Company and developers connecting to the proposed 12-inch water main will be subject to this reimbursement contract in the amount of \$204,423.27 for the service area. The cost per demand is estimated at \$107.08/gpm.

## **X. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda, Items # 23 - 44 excluding items #27, 40, 41, and 44, which will be taken up individually.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

**BRIDGE: STAFF SOURCE YVETTE LIMON, BRIDGE DIRECTOR**

23. **2022-R-088** Ratifying the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Gobierno del Estado de Tamaulipas, Mexico and the City of Laredo, Texas for the planning and construction of the World Trade Bridge Expansion Project to accommodate increasing traffic volumes, improve vehicular safety, and reduce wait times.
24. **2022-R-081** Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Adriana Cecilia Ceballos for a proposed project located at 519 Hidalgo Street, Lot 10, Block 90, Western Division that consists of a single-family home, 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 \$128,700.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$791.99 and estimated total fee waivers of \$989.20. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.
25. **2022-R-082** Authorizing and approving a fee waiver and a tax abatement agreement between the City of Laredo and Laredo Funeral Care LLC for a proposed project located at 3502 US Highway 83, Lot 1, Block 1, LAFON of commercial subdivision, 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 \$2,197,880.00, estimated annual tax abatement total of \$13,525.09 and estimated total fee waivers of \$4,940.00. Guidelines and criteria for the agreement are set forth in the attached agreement and information.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

26. **2022-R-087** Authorizing the issuance of a resolution suspending the effective date of the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) rate adjustments proposed by CenterPoint Energy for the maximum amount of time allowed by Texas Utilities Code section 104.301 to permit adequate time to review the proposed increases, analyze all necessary information, and take appropriate action related to the proposed increases.
27. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to engage in contractual services with Bojorquez Law Firm in an amount of approximately \$95,000.00, of which \$24,788.56 has been paid. The firm's service includes general legal counsel for the city and service provided as Interim City Attorney. Funding is available through General Fund-City Attorney's Office.

Cm. Torres questioned where the \$95,000.00 were going towards. He expressed that he believes that the City of Laredo Assistants Attorney's are capable of doing the job without the need to hire attorneys from out of town. Cm. Torres, stated that in the need of the City having to hire attorneys, he would have preferred that they hire someone local.

Cm. Dr. Martinez agreed that it is preferably to hire someone local as opposed to someone from out of town.

Cm. Perez stated that the issue with the lack of a City Attorney needs to be addressed and fixed.

Cm. Cigarroa stated that it is important to have outside counsel that is not connected to the City.

Mayor Saenz agreed that it is imperative to have outside council that are more experienced with Municipal law.

Cm. Torres had a concern that everything was being outsourced and that simple things that our in house attorneys should be doing, they were being outsourced. As far as not having local ties to anyone, we all know that at least two of the Bojorquez Law Firm attorney's have local ties.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 4

Against: 4

Abstain: 0

Cm. Martinez

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Torres

Cm. Cigarroa

Cm. Gutierrez

Mayor Saenz

Cm. Dr. Martinez

NP: Cm. Gonzalez

**Motion dies for a lack of majority.**

**Motion to bring back the item for reconsideration.**

Moved: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 8

Against:

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 4

Against: 5

Abstain: 0

Cm. Martinez

Cm. Gonzalez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Rodriguez

Cm. Cigarroa

Cm. Torres

Mayor Saenz

Cm. Gutierrez

CM. Dr. Martinez

NP: Cm. Gonzalez

**Motion dies for a lack of majority.**

**Motion to approve the amount that we have already paid this firm (billed amount) not to exceed \$55,000.00.**

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

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

28. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1, an increase of \$84,400.00, an increase of 360 calendar days due to delays and 126 calendar days for project completion of the tree house, re-assigned amounts from tree house site work and contingency allowance assigned towards completion of the water features to a construction contract with Celso Gonzalez Construction, Inc., Mission, Texas., for the Fasken Community Center Pool & Amenities Project. Current total contract amount including this change order No. 1 is \$547,508.60, and contract time of 756 calendar days. Estimated commencement date is May 9, 2022 and estimated completion date is August 11, 2022. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund and 2018 CO.
29. Consideration to award construction contract FY22-ENG-16 to the lowest responsible responsive bidder ALC Construction Co. Inc., Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$239,125.00 which includes the base bid for the CDBG Sidewalks – District IV (8 Blocks) including Phase I & Phase II with a construction contract time of 60 working days; and authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After a notice to proceed is issued, estimated completion date for the project is scheduled for August 2022. Funding is available in 2019, 2020, and 2021 CDBG Grants.
30. Consideration for approval of change order No. 1, an increase of \$75,000.00, and additional time of 60 working days, for the replacement of six (6) suspended rear braced stationary

basketball backstops, including backboard and goals to ALC Construction, Laredo, Texas., for the Independence Hills Park Basketball Shade Project-FY21-ENG013. Current total contract amount including change order No.1 is \$407,176.00, and contract time is 120 working days. Funding is available in the 2021A C.O. Bond.

31. Consideration to award construction contract FY22-ENG-21 to the second-lowest responsible responsive bidder, R&A Construction, LLC, Laredo, Texas, in the amount not to exceed \$244,515.00 for the Uni-Trade Stadium Stud Wall Repairs Project, with a construction contract time of forty-five (45) working days; and authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. After a notice to proceed is issued, estimated completion date for the project is scheduled for July 2022. The apparent lowest bidder Midas Contractors, LLC withdrew their bid for the project. Funding is available in Sports Venue Fund - Uni-Trade budget.

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

32. Consideration to renew and amend contract FY21-011 to Clean Earth Environmental Solutions, Inc., Houston, TX for a total amount of \$87,500.00. This is the first and final extension for this contract. Funding is available in the Environmental Services Department.

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

33. **2022-R-083** Ratifying the execution of a renewal contract to the Texas Department of State Health Services through the South Texas Development Council in the amount of \$639,817.00 for the City of Laredo Health Department, HIV Program for the term period of April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023; no grant match required.
34. Consideration to award the contract FY22-040 to Texas Health Institute for a community health and needs assessment in the amount not to exceed \$289,587.00. The term of this contract shall be for a period of one (1) year beginning as of the date of its execution and is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Funding is available through the Health Department - Health Equity Program budget.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:** STAFF SOURCE ZAIDA J. GONZALEZ, INTERIM HUMAN  
RESOURCES DIRECTOR

35. Consideration for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding and a one-time payment of \$72,975.00 to Texas A&M International University to cover enrollment costs of 15 City of Laredo employees at a rate of \$4,865.00 per participant in the Certified Public Manager Program being offered by the Office of Continuing Education. Funding is available from respective participating departments.

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

36. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to approve a contract with Granicus Government at Carasoft in the amount of \$199,729.42 for one (1) year; with four (4) additional oneyear options, and as per DIR Contract No. DIR-TSO-4288. Funding is available in the Capital Improvements Fund.

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

37. Consideration to authorize the purchase of two (2) rapid deployment Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) trailers from the sole source vendor Jenoptik Light & Safety, Traffipax, LLC, Jupiter, Florida, in the amount of \$126,642.20. These ALPR trailers will benefit the border security mission and will be routinely utilized during Operation Lone Star. Funding is available in the Special Police Fund.

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

38. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute a contract utilizing the Buy Board Cooperative Purchasing Program to Insituform Technologies, LLC, of Chesterfield, Missouri for the repair of 350 linear feet of a 10-inch gravity sanitary sewer clay line on Loop 20 in front of the Airport for an amount of \$68,920.00. Funding is available in the Sewer System Fund.
39. Consideration to select and negotiate for the engineering and surveying services with Valdez Engineering, San Antonio, Texas for an 8-inch gravity sanitary sewer and a 10-inch force main. Two (2) Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) were received for the project and were reviewed and evaluated by City staff. Valdez Engineering ranked first in the evaluation and is being recommended for this project. There is no cost involved during the interview, review and selection of the Request for Qualifications.
40. Consideration to rescind Purchase Order 345127 for the purchase of five (5) dump trucks and one (1) water tanker truck from Rush Truck Center, Laredo, Texas in the amount \$817,327.42 for the Utilities Department. Funding is available in the 2020A Revenue Bond.

Arturo Garcia Utilities Director stated that the purchase Order has been re-sent since the equipment is not available at the moment. Ron Miller Fleet Director stated that there would be delays if we wait for new trucks.

**Motion to accept and close items # 40 & 41.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Martinez, Cm. Torres.

### **Motion Carries.**

41. Authorize the purchase of five (5) dump trucks and one (1) water tanker truck from Doggett Freightliner of South Texas, Laredo, Texas in the amount of \$1,227,227.00 for the Utilities Department. The purchase of these trucks shall be made utilizing the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program. Some of these trucks are replacement units for trucks which have already reached their useful life and the new trucks are for in-house utilities projects. Funding is available in the 2020 A Revenue Bond.

Ron Miller Fleet Director, explained they reached out to Rush Truck Center to inquire on the equipment that they had requested before and they were only able to deliver two of the seven trucks. They also advised him that at the moments they weren't able to fulfil the previous request of the remainder of the trucks.

Arturo Garcia, stated that due to their work load they are in need of the equipment as soon as possible.

42. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to contribute and authorize a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) in the amount of \$69,980.00 to benefit the environment in lieu of a fine to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's proposed agreed order, Docket No. 2021-1455-PWS-E; Enforcement Case No. 61538 for the Jefferson and El Pico Water Treatment Plants. Funding is available in the Utilities Department - Waterworks Fund - Construction Division.
43. Authorizing Interim City Manager to award contract to Southern Trenchless Solutions of Weslaco, Texas for the construction of 700 linear feet of a 16-inch discharge waterline from the SH 359 Booster Station parallel to the highway in the amount of \$296,725.25 using the Buyboard Proposal Code No. 635-21. This project is needed to improve the flow and pressure to La Herradura and Las Fincas, as well as the existing school along EG Ranch Road. Funding is available in the Waterworks System Fund.
44. Authorizing Interim City Manager to award a contract to Precision Pump Systems in the amount of \$380,005.00 using Buy Board Contract No. 589-19 for the purchase of pump repair services and replacement pumps at El Pico, Jefferson Water Treatment Plants and the MHOC Booster Station. Funds are available in the Waterworks Fund.

Cm. Dr. Martinez questioned why the pumps are being replaced with less than a year from the previous replacement.

Arturo Garcia, explained several factors that contribute to the pumps being replaced so often.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Gonzalez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 6                      Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Martinez, Cm. Torres.

**Motion Carries.**

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**XI. STAFF REPORTS**

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

**Motion to approve the Auditor's report.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 6                      Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Cm. Martinez, Cm. Torres.

**Motion Carries.**

46. Presentation with possible action on the Bi-National River Park, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Martinez gave a brief introduction for the project.

Rick Archer gave a small presentation and spoke in regards to the vision for the Bi-National Park.

Henry Sauvignet representing IBC, spoke in favor of the Bi-National Park project. Mr. Sauvignet stated that the Bi- National park project was a great investment for the City of Laredo that would bring tourism to the city.

Melissa Cigarroa representing the Rio Grande International Study Center, spoke in favor of the Bi-National park project.

Gene Lindgren represented Economic Development Corporation, spoke in favor of the Bi-National park project.



Mayor Saenz expressed his excitement and support in regards to the Bi-National Park project. He believes it is a great investment that would benefit the City of Laredo tremendously.

**Motion to hold a workshop with Webb County, and Laredo College on May 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

Moved: Cm. Cigarroa

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP:

**Motion Carries.**

Cm. Dr. Martinez expressed his concerns with the long-term viability with this project. He also mentioned that citizens have expressed concerns with spending tax dollars on this project instead of infrastructure.

47. Discussion with possible action in hosting a City-wide event at the Uni-Trade Stadium for 4th of July, and any other matters incident thereto.

**Refer to item #52 A.2.**

48. Discussion with possible action to create an ordinance for large lot subdivisions with low density development, where natural drainage is designed similar to countryside properties, and any other matters incident thereto.

Ramon Chavez City Engineer provided a staff report on natural drainage for large subdivisions with low-density development. City Manager Selman also gave a brief description of the process to implement.

**No action was taken.**

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez,

**Motion Carries.**

- 49. Consideration to authorize the Interim City Manager to execute a contract for the purchase of one (1) Hydraulic Elevator for the Laredo Transit Center in the amount of \$148,399.46 from TK Elevator Corporation located in Corpus Christi, TX, and two (2) Stops with a capacity of 2,500 pounds each; utilizing the Omnia Partners Contract No. R200502. Funding is available upon the approval of Ordinance 2022-O-067 for the Transit Center Facility Budget.

**Motion to approve Items #49 and 50.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5                                      Against: 0                                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez,

**Motion Carries.**

- 50. Consideration to authorize the Interim City Manager to execute a contract for the purchase and installation of the Parking Garage Automated "Pay-In-Lane" Station System upgrade at the Laredo Transit Center from Mitchell Time and Parking from Austin, Texas in the total amount of \$100,161.12. Funding is available upon the approval of Ordinance 2022-O-067 for the Transit Center Facility Budget.
- 51. Consideration for approval to award contract to select the sole responder Parra & Company for the Design and Engineering Services FY22-028 for seventeen (17) locations identified in the ADA Bus Stops and Bicycle Plazas Enhancement Project Phase I and nine (9) locations identified in the ADA Bus Stops and Bicycle Plazas Phase II; and authorizing the Interim City Manager to negotiate a contract for said services. Funding is available through the Laredo Transit Budget.

El Metro Director R.J. Garza described the project as far as locations and why they were chosen.

Eduardo Parra representing Parra Company explained the breakdown of the \$283,570 was going to be distributed and allocated towards the project.

Cm. Dr. Martinez along with Cm. Perez inquired if the \$283,570. 00, was going towards the design only or the designed and construction.

Miguel Pescador Purchasing Director stated that the contract is for the design and production of the actual construction.

Mr. R.J. Garza stated that they had \$350,000 just for construction.

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 3

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Cm. Martinez

MPT. Rodriguez

Cm. Dr. Martinez

Cm. Perez

Cm. Cigarroa

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm Torres, Cm. Gutierrez.

**Motion fails for lack of majority.**

**(No action Taken initially)**

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm Torres, Cm. Gutierrez.

Motion Carries.

**Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.  
(City council brought this item back at (09:09 pm))**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez

**Motion Carries.**

**Motion to bring back item #51.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**

Cm. Cigarroa asked to hear from City Engineer Ramon Chavez and if he had any information with regards to this item. She also asked if they were over priced in their fees.

Ramon Chavez City Engineer stated that he was part of the evaluation team for the RFQ. Mr. Chavez stated that there was only one sole bidder; therefore, there was not anyone else to evaluate. He also stated that the scope of was accurate for the services being offered for the project.

Cm. Torres stated that if the scope of work was relevant and a far proposal.

Mr. R.J. Garza stated that he could find additional moneys if needed.

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Cigarroa

For: 7                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For: 7                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**

**XIV. 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: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Martinez

For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm Torres, Cm. Gutierrez.

**Motion Carries.**

**52. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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

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

- 2200 Old Spanish Trail
- 4200 Manzanillo

**Motion to approve.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 5                      Against: 0                      Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Torres, Cm. Gutierrez.

**Motion Carries.**

2. Discussion with possible action to instruct Interim City Manager for Independence Day firework display and event on July 3rd at Independence Park and July 4th at Sisters of Mercy Water Park; and any other matters incident thereto. (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Pro Temp Vidal Rodriguez)

J. J Gomez Parks & Recreation Director, gave a small presentation on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event proposal.

Cm. Gonzalez stated that he would prefer to have a separate even in his district the way he has been having it previous years.

Cm. Rodriguez expressed his disagreement with the decision that management made in regards to making a citywide event. He also wanted to also hold his event.

Cm. Perez agreed that District I & II should have their own events in south Laredo while still having only fireworks and no event at Uni-trade stadium.

Cm. Cigarroa wanted to know how much money was spent for the event last year.

**Motion to approve a July 4<sup>th</sup> events, at Independence Park on the third and Cigarroa on the 4<sup>th</sup> and only fireworks at Uni-trade on the 4th.**

Moved: Cm. Rodriguez

Second: Cm. Gonzalez

For: 6                      Against: 1                      Abstain: 0

Cm. Cigarroa

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm, Dr. Martinez.

**Motion Carries.**

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

1. Discussion with possible action of explanation of what happened with the three recent waterline breaks, who were the responsible parties, and what are the consequences as far as damages done; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Gutierrez requested an explanation in regards to the recent waterline breaks.

Arturo Garcia explained that the waterline break that happened on March 19, 2022 at Los Pinos and Loma Vista was cause by Fiber Light Contractors hired by ATT. Fiber Light Contractors did not have any permits from the City. They City of Laredo crews had to fix the damages that were caused. Fiber Light Contractors paid the City for repairs. The second water break at Aguila Azteca and Loop 20 was caused by KCS Sub- Contractor. City of Laredo crews fixed the damages as well, KCS Sub- Contractors paid for repairs. The third waterline break on 408 Plymouth was caused by M-1 Networks Contractors.

**No action was taken.**

2. Discussion with possible action of explanation as to why council is not being notified of major issues going on in the city for example waterline breaks, criminal activity, major accidents, etc.; and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Gutierrez, stated that City Council has not been notified about any major issues going on in the City. He instructed management to advise City Council of any future major issues going on with the City, he added that City Council needs to be aware of any issues affecting the City or citizens of Laredo.

**No action was taken.**

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

1. Discussion with possible action on sending a request to the Webb County Tax Appraisal District for confirmation that the 2022 assessed value of all residential, commercial, industrial, and business personal property within our city limits was accurately and equitably based on standard, well-established, appraisal practices rather than through the application of an arbitrary percentage increase without reference to market value, as is required by Article VIII of the Texas Constitution.

Cm. Dr. Martinez, stated that he is concerned with the amount of frantic calls that he has been receiving from constituents in regards to the increase on their properties.

Cm. Martinez, stated that he has been receiving a lot of calls from upset constituents as well.

MPT. Rodriguez requested to designed or create a PowerPoint presentation, or something to educate the citizens of Laredo on how to fight their taxes in English and Spanish.

**Motion to send a request for confirmation that the 2022 assessed value was accurately done based on the Texas Constitution and not arbitrary based on a percentage. To also create a program to teach residents on how to appeal their home values, and to hold a town hall meeting to present to the public.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Rodriguez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Gutierrez.

**Motion Carries.**

2. Discussion with possible action on the cause of the dormancy of the Telecommunications Advisory Committee that was re-established on May 18, 2020, for purposes of acting in an advisory capacity to the City Telecommunications Officer, City Manager, and the City Council concerning any matter whatsoever pertaining to Telecommunications, Franchised/Licensed Utilities and Public Access Facilities, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Martinez, requested for Council that haven't done so to appoint members to the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

**No action was taken.**

3. Discussion with possible action to explore the viability of delegating control of the City's water and sewer system away from a city owned utility, managed by an independent board of trustees, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cm. Dr. Martinez explained the item and what he was thing are placing the item on the agenda.

Mr. Selman agreed that it has succeeded in many communities and really has not seen one fail that he is aware of.

MPT Rodriguez said he did not have a problem looking at the viability of how this would work but he was against completely removing it from the city.

**Motion to explore the viability.**

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**

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

Moved: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Second: Cm. Torres

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**

MPT. Rodriguez mentioned that he had done a motion last council meeting that his item be brought back under staff items and he wanted to know what the reason was that they were not brought back.

Mr. Selman said that he did not have a presentation to get it on the agenda but that it would be on the next agenda.

MPT. Rodriguez stated that a motion had been made by council to bring the items back at the next meeting and it had been ignored. He also stated that he hopes the management was not picking and choosing what items make it on the agenda and that he expects it back on the next agenda.

**XV. ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn.**

Moved: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

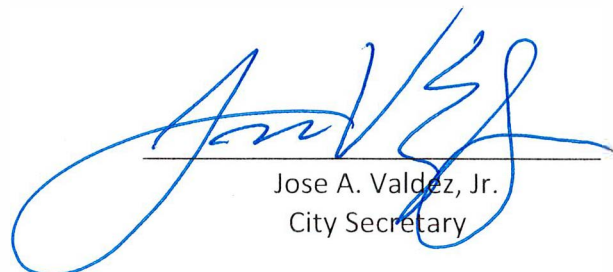
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP: Mayor Saenz, Cm. Gonzalez.

**Motion Carries.**



Jose A. Valdez, Jr.  
City Secretary