

**CITY OF LAREDO
WORKSHOP
A-2022-W-01
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
March 9, 2022
12:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Saenz called the meeting to order at 12:03 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.

Cm. Martinez asked for a moment for silence for Jose A. Valdez Sr. and Fructoso San Miguel, may they rest in peace.

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	12:12 p.m.
Ruben Gutierrez Jr.	District V	
Dr. Marte Martinez	District VI	12:32 p.m.

Vanessa Perez
Alyssa Cigarroa
Jose A. Valdez Jr.
Samuel K. Selman
Rosario Cabello
Kristina L. Hale
Miazul Ria
Sylvia B. Firth

District VII
District VIII
City Secretary
Interim City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Assistant City Manager
Assistant City Manager
Assistant City Attorney

12:13 p.m.

Arrived late: Cm. Torres, Cm. Dr. Martinez, Cm. Perez.

Citizen comments

Jose Guadalupe Dias De Leon spoke on the importance of obtaining a secondary water source for the city of Laredo.

Andy Ramos, Ed Bueno, and Rosinta Hanes- Ramirez spoke in regards and offered an invitation to the Mayor and City Council to the Annual Latin International Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Roque Vela Jr. expressed his concern regarding the City of Laredo net worth. He would like for the city to conduct an investigation on the failure of the city's water system. He believes the city needs to investigate prior to making more fiscal decisions.

Victor Gomez expressed his concern regarding the city's water system issue.

Noraida Negrón read the following citizen comments into record:

Mary Lou Garza, and Ana Menchaca expressed their concern regarding the failure of the city's water system. They also spoke on the importance to fix the water system issue.

Fernando Baldazo spoke on the importance to hire qualified personnel to prevent any other errors that would affect our water system.

V. STAFF REPORTS

1. Discussion with possible action on the Integrated Water Master Plan and including the proposed funding plan; and any other matters incident thereto.

Mr. Selman explained the process for the presentation/workshop on the water master plan, as well as the proposed funding plan.

Cm. Torres requested for future workshops to be conducted at 5:30 p.m. to encourage citizen participation.

Mr. Selman explained the Water system in detail.

Cm. Dr. Martinez expressed his disappointment with conducting the workshop at noon as opposed to 5:30 p.m. to give the citizens a better chance to join and participate during the presentation.

Arturo Garcia explained what led to the water system failure and what was done to try to resolve it.

Cm. Dr. Martinez, MPT Rodriguez Cm. Perez, Cm. Gutierrez, Cm. Torres expressed their concern regarding the water system failure, they all agreed that it was unacceptable for the citizens to be without water because the incompetent staff/employees of the utilities department.

Motion to instruct the city manager to have an auditor conduct an audit to ensure all employees/ positions within the utilities department that require a license have an up to date and valid license.

Motion: Cm. Torres

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

NP. Cm. Dr. Martinez

Motion Carries.

Charles Martins stated that it would tremendously help to use a device called PIB for the ID inspection of the pipes.

Consultant representing LAN gave a presentation on the water system master plan and capital improvement plan.

Motion to conduct any necessary action or measurements to fix, repair, or replace the 36" line and the 24" feed line without a rate increase.

Motion: Mayor Saenz

Second: Cm. Torres

For:7

Against: 0

Abstain:0

NP: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Motion carries.

Motion to research and look over the turnover issue and check if the pay rate can be more competitive with key positions before the rate study comes in.

Motion: Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Gutierrez

For:7 Against: 0 Abstain:0
NP: Cm. Dr. Martinez

Motion carries.

Motion to conduct the following workshops on March 23rd & 31st at 5:30 p.m.

Motion: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Gutierrez
For:6 Against: 0 Abstain:0
NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

Motion Carries.

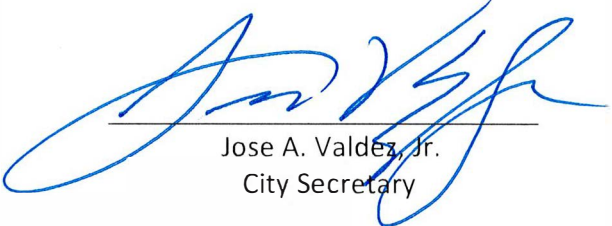
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 2:55 p.m.

Motion: Cm. Torres
Second: Cm. Gutierrez
For:6 Against: 0 Abstain:0
NP: Cm. Gonzalez, Cm. Dr. Martinez

Motion Carries.



Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
City Secretary