

**CITY OF LAREDO
LAREDO, TEXAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
1110 HOUSTON STREET
5:30 P.M.**

M-92-R-20

JULY 20, 1992

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

SAUL N. RAMIREZ, JR.,	MAYOR		
JOSE R. PEREZ,	COUNCILMEMBER,	DISTRICT I	
JACINTO P. JUAREZ,	"	DISTRICT II	
ARLENE RASH ALDRIDGE,	"	DISTRICT III	
CECILIA MAY MORENO,	"	DISTRICT IV	
BLAS CASTANEDA,	"	DISTRICT V	
EDUARDO PERALES,	"	DISTRICT VI	
JOSE GERARDO (JERRY) PEREZ,	"	DISTRICT VII	
FELIPE CARDENAS,	"	DISTRICT VIII	
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.,	CITY SECRETARY		
PETER H. VARGAS,	CITY MANAGER		
JOSE SALVADOR TELLEZ,	CITY ATTORNEY		

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Regular City Council Meeting: July 6, 1992

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Juarez not present.

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. Declaring the necessity for, and ordering the paving and improvements of certain streets, and setting a public hearing for Paving Assessment Project 39.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VI. FINAL READINGS

Motion to waive the final readings of Ordinances #92-O-144, #92-O-145, and #92-O-146 and adopt as presented.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. G. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

4. 92-O-144 Approval of budget amendment to add Dental Care Prevention and Administration Program with the Texas Department of Health for the period beginning September 1, 1992 through August 31, 1993; and increasing Revenue Line #226-0000-323-4047 from \$44,177 to \$92,372; and increasing Expenditure Line Item #226-6055 from \$0 to \$48,195. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. G. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

5. 92-O-145 Approval of revised budget for HIV Counseling, Testing, Referral, and Partner Notification Program with the Texas Department of Health for the period January 1, 1992, to December 31, 1992; and increasing Revenue Line Item Fund #226-0000-323-4046 from \$20,154 to \$29,792; and increasing Expenditure Line Item of Fund #226-6041 from \$20,154 to \$29,792. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. G. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

6. 92-O-146 Amending the Street Reconstruction Fund budget for Fiscal Year 1991-1992 as follows: (1) increasing Expenditure Line Item Reserve Appropriation from \$0 to \$209,000 and (2) increasing Revenue Line Item In Bridge System from \$1,801,533 to \$2,010,533. Amending the bridge system fund budget to appropriate \$209,000 in additional toll revenues for street reconstruction. (City Council)

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. G. Perez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to approve refund in the amount of \$3,397.48 for taxes by Antonio C. Vela.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Award of contract to Image Network Technologies, Monterey Park, California, in the amount of \$50,000, for the purchase of an Optical Archive System for the scanning and archiving of documents and reports.

Motion to award contract to Image Network Technologies.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Award of contract to the Low Bidder, Laser Technology, Richardson, Texas, in the amount of \$7,268.00, for the purchase of two police radar units.

Motion to award contract to the low bidder, Laser Technology.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Award of an annual supply contract to the Low Bidder, International Supply, Corpus Christi, Texas, in the estimated amount of \$310,397.40, for supplying ductile iron and pvc pipe.

Motion to award annual supply contract to the low bidder, International Supply.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Approval of a partial release of payment in the amount of \$59,626.35, to Randy L. Morrow d/b/a General Construction by Randy's, San Antonio, Texas, and approval of retainage in the amount of \$25,554.15, for the Lyon Street Tank (South) Repairs.

Motion to approve a partial release of payment in the amount \$59,626.35, to Randy L. Monrow d/b/a General Construction by Randy's and approval of retainage in the amount of \$25,554.15, for the Lyon Street Tank (South) Repairs.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Award of an engineering contract to Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, to design and prepare specifications, for (a) water lines at Zacate Creek and (b), a water well at Santa Isabel Creek area, for an amount not to exceed \$41,500.00.

Motion to award engineering contract to Foster Engineering.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

17. Approval of amendment no. 2, an increase of \$7,900.00, to the engineering contract with NRS Consulting Engineers, Harlingen, Texas, for the Northwest Laredo Elevated Water Storage Tank and Water Improvements Project (E.D.A. Project No. 08-01-02788).

Motion to approve amendment no. 2, an increase of \$7,900.00 to engineering contract with NRS Consulting Engineers.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

18. Acceptance of the project, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$27,303.04, to Lambda Construction Company, New Braunfels, Texas, for the North Laredo Wastewater Reclamation Plant.

Motion to accept the project, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$27,303.04 to Lambda Construction Company.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

19. Award of an engineering contract to Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, for the Laredo International Airport Fuel Farm Environmental Engineering/Site Investigation and Assessment for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Motion to award an engineering contract to Raba-Kistner Consultant, Inc.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Castaneda

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Approval of amendment no. 2, an increase of \$82,763.25, for additional services to the engineering contract with S.A. Garza Engineers, Inc., for the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Motion to approve amendment no. 2, an increase of \$82,763.25 for additional services to the engineering contract with S.A. Garza Engineers, Inc., for the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plan Project.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

21. Approval of change order no. 2, an increase of \$11,660.00, to the construction contract with J & B Contractors d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors, Laredo, Texas, for the 1990 Bond Issue Street Improvements Project 34 (38 Blocks).

Motion to approve change order no. 2, and increase of \$11,660.00 to the construction contract with J & B Contractors d/b/a South Texas Utility Contractors.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Castaneda
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

22. Approval of amendment no. 3, an increase of \$5,955.00, to the engineering contract with Foster Engineering Company, Laredo, Texas, for the construction of Major Water Distribution Mains in North Laredo.

Motion to approve amendment no. 3, an increase of \$5,955.00 to the engineering contract with Foster Engineering Company.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

23. Award of an engineering contract to Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc., Austin, Texas, to prepare plans and specifications for the Improvements to the Upper and Lower Water Treatment Plants on Jefferson Street, to increase their capacity from 38 MGD to 55 MGD; for an amount not to exceed \$572,000.00.

Motion to award an engineering contract to Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc., Austin, Texas.

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

24. Introduction of Jose Salvador Tellez, newly appointed City Attorney for the City of Laredo.

Mr. Peter Vargas, City Manager, introduced Mr. Jose Salvador Tellez as the new City Attorney to the members of the city council.

- 25. Appointments to the position of Associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Laredo, and possible executive session under Article 6252-17, Section 2 (g), to discuss personnel matters.

Mr. Vargas stated that by request of the present Municipal Court Judge, that two (2) associate judges be appointed.

Mr. Vargas further stated that the situation would be that the associate judge would only be compensated for the actual time that he sits in court, not necessarily on a monthly salary, but only when they are called to sit.

Motion to go into executive session under Article 6252-17, Section 2(g) to discuss personnel matters.

Moved : Cm. Perez
 Second: Cm. Castaneda
 For: 8

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

After executive session Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. announced that no formal action was taken.

Motion to table this item and place it on the next Regular City Council meeting agenda.

Moved : Cm. Cardenas
 Second: Cm. G. Perez
 For: 5
 Cm. Cardenas
 Cm. G. Perez
 Cm. Juarez
 Cm. Aldridge
 Cm. Castaneda

Against: 3 Abstain: 0
 Cw. Moreno
 Cw. Perales
 Cm. Perez

- 26. Requesting approval of amendments to the City of Laredo Health Insurance Plan Document.

Motion accepting approval of the amendments to the City of Laredo Health Insurance Plan Document:

Ambulance Services

- Copayment Percentage Payable - 80%
- Maximum benefits for ground ambulance - \$750 per occurrence
- Maximum benefits for air ambulance - \$1500 per occurrence
- Ambulance service must be provided to the nearest facility capable of the required treatment.

Home Health Care

- Copayment Percentage Payable - 100%
- Deductible Waived
- Maximum per visit - \$100

Hospice Care

- Deductible Waived
- Inpatient & Outpatient Copayment Percentage Payable -100%
- Lifetime Maximum Benefits - \$20,000
- Family Unit Counseling Copayment Percentage Payable - 100%

- a. Ignacio Urabazzo and Miguel Conchas, representing the Chamber of Commerce;

Mr. Urabazzo, Chamber of Commerce President, stated that the Chamber has the best mechanism process for the promotion of tourism for the city of Laredo and that no other agency can compete with the chamber.

Mr. Miguel Conchas, Acting Director for the Chamber of Commerce, elaborated on the services provided by the Chamber and the personnel that they provide.

- b. Chuck Owen, representing the Convention & Visitors Committee;

Mr. Chuck Owen stated that they have met with the Ad-Hoc Committee on two occasions and even though the council has the option of contracting the promotional funds, he felt that promotion under the Chamber with its strategic plan should be given another year to promote the City of Laredo.

- c. Fernando Cantu, representing the Hotel-Motel Association;

Mr. Cantu, Hotel-Motel Association President, stated that the Laredo Hotel-Motel Association has passed a resolution in support of \$750,000 of Hotel-Motel promotional funds.

- d. Dr. Michael Landeck, representing Gateway Marketing.

Dr. Landeck, Gateway Marketing Chairman, stated that his concern is not the strategy of the Chamber, but the performance of the intermediary. Dr. Landeck continued saying that 93.1% of the total promotional monies that the chamber is spending is being subcontracted; 6.9% is being performed inhouse by the chamber itself a total of \$32,500.00 as compared with \$439,000.00 that they subcontract.

He surmised his presentation by saying that the best performance can be accomplished by having the city find another alternative for the promotion of the city than the Chamber of Commerce.

Rosena Garcia spoke on behalf of Gateway Marketing stating that they have three certified professional people. She further added that the professional job should be done by a professional company.

Richard Perez, Chairman of the Conventions & Visitors, recognized members of CNB and recognized the Chamber for it's work, also outlined work done by other members.

Glen Jackson asked for the vote of confidence and asked that council accept another attempt by Chamber of Commerce to work with Council.

D. Requests from Councilmember Eduardo Perales:

1. Report and possible action regarding the City of Laredo Promotional Funding Ad-Hoc Committee.
(Co-Sponsored by Councilmember Jerry Perez)

Cm. Perales stated that they have not met lately because of the summer schedule.

Cw. Aldridge stated that the committee should meet with Mr. Jesus Amesqua and get an input on his report.

Cm. G. Perez stated that he would like the Ad-Hoc Committee to consider more marketing skills.

2. Discussion and possible action concerning the request of Frank Mims to enter into a lease agreement with the City of Laredo to lease a 15' wide parcel of land adjoining his proposed subdivision on Hillside Road for parking purposes.

Motion instructing staff to proceed to draft a lease agreement with Mr. Frank Mims.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perales

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cm. Juarez & Cw. Aldridge not present at this time.

E. Requests from Councilmember Jerry Perez:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding complaints by Dellwood property owners concerning Celadon Trucking Services.

Mr. Vargas stated that the present issue is that the property is going to be leased to another trucking firm and the adjacent Dellwood property owner still has a concern with the noise problem.

Marina Sukup, Planning Director, explained that discussion went before the Board of Adjustment which the zoning enforcement officers had determined that the truck parking in that location was in conflict

with the zoning ordinance. Ms. Sukup continued saying that some time ago Mr. Perez had sought rezoning to a zone that would allow him to build apartments which Manufacturing Zone (M-1) would not do. Mr. Perez did not build the apartments he and entered into the lease with Celadon. He was denied and he was cited. His quarry to the Board of Adjustment was in fact whether he was grandfathered into a non-conforming use even thou he had requested a change in the use to a more restricted zone. The Board of Adjustment denied his request and at this point the issue is that he has no further appeals unless he goes into court. She added that by Friday most of the trucks were gone.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the changing of existing truck routes within the City to incorporate changes made by the opening of the Anna Truck Route.

Motion to proceed with the realigning our truck routes to incorporate the Anna Truck Route and eliminating primarily the Santa Maria/Lafayette that has existed there.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

At this time Mayor Ramirez, suggested that items E(3) and F(4) that are related be taken together at this time.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Cw. Aldridge was not present.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding possible railroad overpasses in West Laredo.

Mr. Vargas stated that they have met with the Union Pacific Railroad and that they have shown interest in participating with the construction of an overpass. Mr. Vargas added that they indicated they were interested and that they would participate in partial funding for a study that would be required in order to make an application for any federal funds that might be available for such a project. Mr. Vargas continued by saying that staff will continue to proceed to identify any federal funding sources available to see what the criteria would be in order to develop that study and if that study is necessary.

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. suggested that we pursue finding matching monies and setting up a fund to study this matter to see where the overpass would better serve the area.

4. Discussion and possible action concerning the issuance of Building Permits for swimming pools.

Motion to table for next regular meeting.

Moved : Cm. G. Perez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

F. Requests from Councilmember Felipe Cardenas:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the blockage of Sanchez and Gonzalez streets by the Union Pacific Railroad for longer time periods than allowed by City Ordinance.

Police Chief, J.L. Martinez stated that they are citing the railroad companies, but that he will look into the various incidents and complaints presented to him by Cm. Cardenas.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the results of the study concerning an overpass to cross into La Ladrillera.

This item was discussed with item E(3).

3. Request by Andres Sandoval to address the City Council regarding El Cuatro Pit.

Mr. Sandoval spoke on the heavy truck traffic in the area, even thou the situation has improved, he has asked for continued heavy truck traffic elimination.

He addressed the council on finishing the paving of the last four unpaved streets in the El Cuatro Neighborhood with possible federal funding and not street assessment.

His final request was that the city take care of the filling of the pit known as the El Cuatro Pit. He requested that the pit be cleaned once and for all and to consider the donation of the pit lots to the L.I.S.D. for the possibility of building a school.

4. Request by Robert Gilmartin to address the City Council concerning the blockage of streets by trains.

Mr. Robert L. Gilmartin stated that on July 10, the Union Pacific train blocked the crossing on Calton Road for 1 hr. and 15 mins. He requested that we

should start citing the railroad company more vigorously with stiff fines.

Mr. Martinez added that the legal department is researching the matter concerning the blocking of railroad crossings.

Cm. Cardenas complained about the railroad companies blocking the intersections for long periods; the noise that the engines make when they are left running unattended at night and the police department not responding to the calls. He asked that they be rotated accordingly in order to get response.

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Motion to open the Public Hearing (s):

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. First public hearing concerning the proposed annexation of the 14.0 acre tract, known as the Javier Garza Tract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Oscar Salinas spoke in favor of the annexation.

Motion to close the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

32. Public hearing regarding the amending of the General Fund budget for Fiscal Year 1991-1992, as amended, to appropriate additional revenues from the Texas Traffic Safety Program for the operation of the Occupant Protection Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), and expenditures for Police Department Overtime in the amount of \$15,000; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

To amend the 1991-1992 General Fund budget to appropriate \$15,000 for Police-Overtime for the operation of the Safety Belt Enforcement Program, Grant Revenues from the Texas Department of Transportation \$15,000 STEP Grant.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Juarez

Second: Cm. Cardenas

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 33. Public hearing regarding the amending of Section 4-2 of the Subdivision Ordinance, adding Subsection (H), to allow for the issuance of permits for certain housing improvements, demolition, oil and gas exploration or extraction, and removal/replacement of mobile and or manufactured homes on unplatted parcels of land; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Amending Section 4-2, adding Subsection (H) to the Subdivision Ordinance to allow for the issuance of permits for certain housing improvements, demolition, oil and gas exploration or extraction, and removal/replacement of mobile homes on unplatted parcels of land; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perez

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 34. Public hearing regarding the creation of a Special Paving Permit, suspending platting requirements for period of six months for commercial parking lots; and that an ordinance be introduced.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Creating a Special Paving Permit, suspending platting and certain surveying requirements for a six month period to allow for the paving of commercial parking lots; providing for publication and effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Phil Ochoa was confused as to the requirements and he asked information as to what they need to do to comply.

Mayor Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. clarified that if they do the paving within the next six months they did not have to plat.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Perales

Second: Cm. Juarez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

XIII. MOTION TO RECESS AND TO CONVENE AS MASS TRANSIT BOARD

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

Moved : Cw. Aldridge

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

35. Award of contract to Alamo Rent A Car of San Antonio, Texas, in the amount of \$10,000, for the purchase of one 1988 (fifteen passenger) diesel powered shuttle van.

Motion to award contract to Alamo Rent A Car of San Antonio, Texas in the amount of \$10,000.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda

Second: Cm. Perez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

36. Award of contract to the Sole Bidder, Daytech Manufacturing, Inc., Lancaster, New York, in the amount of \$19,800.00, for the purchase of four bus shelters.

Motion to award contract to the sole bidder, Daytech Manufacturing for the purchase of four bus shelters.

Moved : Cm. Castaneda
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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

Moved : Cm. Juarez
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

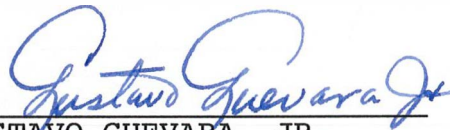
Moved : Cm. Perales
Second: Cm. Perez
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Adjournment time was at 10:15 P.M.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE THAT ABOVE MINUTES CONTAINED IN PAGES 01 TO 17 ARE A TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH DAY OF JULY, 1992. A CERTIFIED COPY IS ON FILE AT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.



GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.
CITY SECRETARY

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Delia Rodriguez, Deputy City Secretary II

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON: **AUG 03 1992**

CORRECTIONS: