

**CITY OF LAREDO  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
M2006-R-13  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1110 HOUSTON STREET  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
July 3, 2006  
5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present Mayor Raul G. Salinas called the meeting to order.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Raul G. Salinas led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

In attendance:

Raul G. Salinas,	Mayor
Mike Garza,	Council Member, District I
Hector Garcia,	Council Member,
District II	
Michael Landeck,	Council Member,
District III	
Johnny Amaya,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon	Council Member, District V
Gene Belmares,	Council Member,
District VI	
Juan Ramirez,	Mayor Pro Tem,
District VIII	
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Larry Dovalina,	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Rafael Garcia,	Assistant City Manager
Jaime Flores,	City Attorney

Motion to excuse Cm. Chavez.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

**IV. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of April 17, 2006, May 16, 2006, and May 25, 2006.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

**V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**Announcements**

None.

**Invitations**

None.

**Recognitions**

- a. Recognition of City employees who received a college or university degree in May 2006 by utilizing the City's Tuition Reimbursement Program.

Monica Flores, Human Resources, introduced the individuals who received a college or university degree. The Mayor and City Council presented certificates to each employee.

Health	Gala Castillo TAMIU	Health	Master's Degree in Public	
Health	Nora Guerra TAMIU	Health	Master's Degree in Public	
Health	David Garza TAMIU	Health	Master's Degree in Public	
Science	Guillermo Hurd TAMIU	Fire	Bachelor's Degree in Public	
Arts	Fernando Morales TAMIU	Planning	Bachelor's Degree in Applied	
Management	Mauricio Del Barrio LCC	Finance	Master's in Business Administration	TAMIU
Management	Vanessa Morales LCC	CVB	Associates Degree in	
Science	Veronica Lopez TAMIU	Parks	Bachelor's in	

**Communiqués**

Cm. Garza thanked the voters in his District for giving him an opportunity to serve them as their Council Member.

Cm. Garcia welcomed Cm. Garza, Dr. Landeck, and Mayor Salinas for being elected to serve as part of the City Council for the City of Laredo. He said that he is

looking forward to working with them. He thanked the Parks and Recreational Department for holding a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Eastwood Parks. He also thanked the Council Members in attendance at the ribbon cutting including Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez, Cm. Chavez, and Mayor Salinas.

Cm. Landeck noted that he is very happy to be part of City Council adding that it has been a long road. He said that his purpose for serving as Council Member is to take proper action on all issues. He noted that he is not affiliated with any groups or persons. He added that he will work hard to do the best for his district and for the City as a whole.

Cm. Amaya welcomed Cm. Garza, Dr. Landeck, and Mayor Salinas to the City of Laredo City Council. He wished all the District IV residents a safe and happy Fourth of July week-end.

Cm. Rendon welcomed the Mayor and new Council Members. He thanked the City of Laredo Public Works Department for working very hard in his District. He advised that he was in Dallas at the River of Trade Coalition Conference where he was impressed by Assistant City Manager Rafael Garcia for giving a dynamic presentation. In fact, Mr. Garcia was asked to give additional presentations regarding the City of Laredo at other conferences. He invited all the residents of Springfield and Mayberry for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Parade. Finally, he thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for repairing some of the equipment in the District V parks.

Cm. Belmares welcomed the Mayor and other Council Members to the City of Laredo City Council. He congratulated them on running a great campaign. He encouraged everyone to participate in the neighborhood parades and festivities. He also asked everyone to visit the Bronco game at Veteran's Field. He also congratulated Cm. Garcia and Cm. Rendon for their attendance at the River Trade Coalition noting that it is important for the City of Laredo to send representatives to the meetings to carry forth the message of the City of Laredo. He too congratulated the Assistant City Manager on his presentation at the River Trade Coalition. Finally, he wished his son, Jacob, a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez congratulated the Mayor and other Council Members that were elected to serve on the Council. He invited everyone to participate in celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with him by attending a parade that will start at the St. Peter's Plaza and end with an all day celebration at the Civic Center.

Mayor Salinas said that he was so humbled to be elected as Mayor for the City of Laredo. He also said that he was honored and that he thanks the Lord for affording him the opportunity. He mentioned that as Council goes forward and leads this City for the next four years, he said that he could assure everyone that they will work very hard to make the City the brightest and the greatest City in the United States. He went on to say that the prior Council has done an outstanding job. He noted that they will not agree from time to time but that does not mean that they cannot walk holding hands – shoulder to shoulder. He respectfully asked for the Council's support. He said that he has so much faith in the Lord and he would work very hard to bring prosperity to the City of Laredo. He said that he realizes that the Mayor's position

comes with a lot of responsibility and he plans to carry the mission with the utmost responsibility, ethical standards, integrity, and honest so everyone will be proud of Laredo. He said that if everyone works together the City of Laredo will shine throughout the world.

**VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

a. Appointments by Council Member Mike Garza of:

1. Raymond Bruni to the Airport Advisory Committee.
2. Dr. Nedil A. Antonini M.D. to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.
3. Hope Zuniga to the Library Advisory Committee.
4. Ramiro Martinez to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
5. Efrain D. Sanchez, Jr. to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
6. Albert Blanco to the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.
7. Sylvia E. Bruni to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.
8. Hector A. Gomez to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.
9. Cynthia L. Espinoza to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Garcia

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

b. Appointments by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck of:

1. Ronnie Salamon to the Airport Advisory Committee.
2. Eduardo Perales to the Board of Adjustment.
3. Lorraine Laurel to the Charter Review Commission.
4. Eduardo Quiroga to the Historic District / Landmark Board.
5. Beatriz Escamilla to the Library Advisory Committee.
6. Dr. GeorgeAnne R. Reuthinger to the Para Transit Advisory Committee.
7. Remy V. Salinas to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
8. Javier Martinez to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
9. Rafael Martinez to the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.
10. Peter Arredondo to the Third Party Funding Advisory Committee.
11. Joe Perez to the Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.
12. Viviana Rotnofsky to the Laredo Commission for Women.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

**VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo Fiscal

Year

2005 – 2006 Budget by appropriating revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$57,850.00 in additional funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the Public Health Preparedness and Epidemiology Program of the City of Laredo Health Department for a total grant amount of \$468,881.00, and extending the grant period which ends August 31, 2006, an additional four (4) months. The term period from September 1, 2005, through December 31, 2006; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance authorizing the City Manager to accept the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Public Access Computer Hardware Upgrade Grant (PAC HUG) from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in the amount of \$23,750.00 and amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 Friends of the Library Fund Annual Budget in the amount of \$23,750.00. Funds will be used to replace computers at all three (3) branches.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Landeck  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## VIII. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) DTFASW-07-L-00035 between the United States of America, as Lessor, and the City of Laredo, as Lessee, in order to cover required land sites and easements for existing navigational aid (NAVAID) facilities operated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). FAA has installed and is maintaining six (6) facilities that are covered under three (3) separate lease agreements at Laredo International Airport, those being DTFA07-97-L-1047, DTFA07-95-L-0150, and DTFA07-04-L-00018. These lease agreements will be terminated and consolidated into superseding MOA DTFASW-07-L-00035; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Scheduled Airline Operating Agreement and Terminal Building Lease with Allegiant Air, Inc., for exclusive and non-exclusive joint use space located at the Laredo International Airport passenger terminal for the purpose of conducting commercial air transportation services. Lease term is for three (3) years commencing on June 1, 2006, and ending on May 31, 2009. However, it is agreed by the parties that the lease may be terminated by either party upon giving a ninety (90) day written notice from the party terminating to the other. The monthly rent including landing fees is waived for the first twelve (12) months commencing on the date the airline initiates commercial air transportation services at the Laredo International Airport; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the leased agreement approved by Ordinance No. 2004-O-038 dated February 17, 2004, between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and Webb County Juvenile Board, as Lessee, for the Juvenile Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) school campus for an approximate 100,357 square foot tract of land located on Block No. 11 of the Airport Subdivision Plat at the Laredo International Airport. Said amendment will extend the lease term six (6) months ending June 30, 2007. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged and in effect; providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Setting the new speed limits on Loop 20 within the City limits of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, as defined in the Texas Department of Transportation Control Section Map 0086-14, providing for the installation of appropriate signs to indicate new speed changes in the designated areas and providing for publication and effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

## IX. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances # 2006-O-135, # 2006-O-136, # 2006-O-137, # 2006-O-138, # 2006-O-139, # 2006-O-140, # 2006-O-141, # 2006-O-142, # 2006-O-143, # 2006-O-144, # 2006-O-146, # 2006-O-147, # 2006-O-148, # 2006-O-149, # 2006-O-150, # 2006-O-151, # 2006-O-152, and # 2006-O-153.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Ramirez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. 2006-O-135 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning

Drive, Lot 1, Block 1, Cuatro Vientos Subdivision, located at 4467 Exodus from R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-135.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-136 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning

Exhibit 53.34 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached "A", located at 2325 Bob Bullock Loop, from R-1 (Single Family Residential District), R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District) and R-2 Business District) to B-3 (Community Business District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-136.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-137 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning

further .37 acres, part of Block 1, Del Mar Village Subdivision, as described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located at 6919 San Dario Avenue, from B-3 (Community Business District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-137.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

0

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

rezoning  
from R-2  
District).

2006-O-138 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by

Lot 3, Block 2026, Eastern Division, located at 3219 Ross Street,  
(Multi-Family Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-138.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

rezoning  
on  
Business

2006-O-139 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by

the Replat of Lot 1A, Block 1, Tesoro Plaza Subdivision, located  
Tesoro Plaza Drive north of Calton Road, from B-3 (Community  
District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District).

last  
the rezoning told  
business until he  
Member Chavez informed  
is ignoring what he had told Council

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, said that there was discussion at the  
Council Meeting where the individual that was asking for  
the Council Member that he would refrain from doing  
actually paved his parking facility. Council  
him in an e-mail that the individual  
that he would do.

Motion to table.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

rezoning  
Bob  
to B-4 (Highway

2006-O-140 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by

Lot 1, Block 17, Lakeside Subdivision Phase I, located at 7223  
Bullock Loop, from B-3 (Community Business District)  
Commercial District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-140.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-141 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning the west 2/3 of Lot 7, Block 1103, Eastern Division, located approximately at 1906 East Lyon Street, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to R-O (Retail/Office District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-141.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-142 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning 30.14 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located east of Ejido Avenue north of Exodus Drive, from R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-142.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-143 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning 13.82 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit "A", located west of Ejido Avenue north of Exodus Drive, from R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-143.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-144 Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Laredo by rezoning 8.12 acres, as further described by metes and bounds in attached Exhibit and Pita Mangana Housing District) to B-1 "A", located on the northwest corner of Exodus Drive Road, from R-1MH (Single Family Manufactured Housing District) to B-1 (Limited Commercial District).

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-144.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-146 Authorizing the City Manager to amend the Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006  
Customer Service Budget to appropriate revenues and expenditures  
amount of \$4,825.00 provided by the sale of tables and individual  
during the 2006 City of Laredo Commission for Women  
Induction Ceremony; providing for an effective  
in the  
seats  
Hall of Fame  
date.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-146.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-147 Authorizing the City Manager to accept contributions of \$30,000.00  
from  
the Laredo International Airport, \$15,000.00 from Wells Fargo,  
\$4,000.00 from Coyote Creek, \$3,000.00 from HEB, and \$500.00 from  
South Texas Realty for a total of \$52,500.00 in contributions for the Miss  
Texas USA Pageant; and amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year  
2006 Convention & Visitors Bureau Annual Budget by appropriating an  
additional \$2,500.00 in revenues and expenditures to the Convention  
and Visitors Bureau Fund.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-147.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-148 Amending the City of Laredo Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 Annual  
Budget by  
increasing revenues and expenditures by \$30,000.00 of additional  
funds, for a total amount of \$64,678.00 from the Texas Department of  
State Health Services for the Title V Family Planning  
Services of the City of Laredo Health Department for the  
term from January 1, 2006 through August 31, 2006.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-148.

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon

0

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

2006-O-149 Amending the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances as follows:  
Chapter 2,

Article II, Division 3 (Leave Policy), Section 2-58, 59 and 60,  
providing for the exclusion of part-time and temporary  
employees hired after July 2, 2006 from Holiday, Sick Leave, and  
Annual Leave benefits except as otherwise stated in any  
collective bargaining agreement; providing for an effective date of July  
2, 2006.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-149.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-150 Approving an agreement with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms,

and Explosives (ATF) in the amount of \$18,000.00 and amending  
the Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 City of Laredo Annual Budget  
by \$18,000.00. The agreement's purpose is to reimburse cost  
for overtime and fringe benefits incurred by the Laredo Police  
Department in providing resources to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) task force. The term of this agreement  
is from October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-150.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

2006-O-151 Authorizing the City Manager to accept a supplemental overtime  
award

from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the amount of \$5,144.00  
and amend the Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 City of Laredo Annual Budget  
by \$5,144.00. The purpose is to reimburse cost for overtime  
incurred by the Laredo Police Department in providing resources of  
Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces  
(OCDETF). The term of this agreement is from October 1, 2005 through  
September 30, 2006.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 2006-O-151.

Moved: Cm. Belmares



0 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain:

9. 2006-R-072 Confirming the appointment / reappointment for a member of the Fire  
of Fighters' and Police Officers' Civil Service Commission of the City  
Laredo.

Garner. Motion to approve Resolution # 2006-R-072 and reappoint Ray

Moved: Cm. Belmares  
Second: Cm. Rendon  
0 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain:

## XI. MOTIONS

10. Approval of a request from Webb County Historical Commission Marker  
Committee to make application to the Texas Historical Commission for an official  
Texas Historical Subject Marker regarding the former Laredo Air Force Base and  
authorizing the City Manager to execute said application.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
0 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain:

11. Consideration for approval of change order no. 2 an increase of \$91,294.00 for  
the

balance of quantities actually constructed in place, acceptance of the Los  
Obispos Unit- 5, Remediation Project, Phase III and approval of final payment in the  
amount of \$132,947.30 to LEH Contractors, Inc., San Antonio,  
Texas. Final contract amount is \$904,194.00. Funding is available in the Capital  
Improvement Fund – Los Obispos Housing Project.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
0 For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain:

12. Consideration to award contract number FY06-102 to the low bidder, Rhino  
Builders LTD, Laredo, Texas, in the total amount of \$59,400.00 for the purchase  
and installation of concrete traffic barriers at the International Bridge II bridge  
span. Funding is available in the Bridge Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

13. Consideration for approval of change order no. 1 an increase of \$29,321.25 to add weep holes and sawed/expansion joints to improve long term durability of riprap, acceptance of the Laredo Colombia International Bridge Phase I Concrete Drainage Channel Improvements and approval of final payment in the amount of \$44,780.10 to G.O. Excavating and Construction Company, Alamo, Texas. Final contract amount is \$183,909.75. Funding is available in the Bridge System Fund – Revenue Bond Series 2005A.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Amaya  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

14. Setting City Council meeting dates for August 2006 and September 2006 as follows:  
August 14, 2006, August 28, 2006, and September 5, 2006.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

15. Adopting a schedule of hearings and proceedings for voluntary and unilateral annexations for calendar year 2006, in accordance with Section 43.052 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

16. Consideration to authorize the purchase of an Internet Protocol (IP) telephony application server and related equipment from CALENCE for the Public Library, through the State of Texas – Department of Information Resources

(DIR) cooperative purchase contract, in the total amount of \$30,640.00. Funding for these items is available in the Library's Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

17. Consideration to exercise the renewal option for contract number FY05-094 awarded to the low bidder, A-1 Dry Cleaning, Laredo, Texas, for an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00, for providing laundry dry cleaning services for the Police Department uniformed officers. The city must provide dry cleaning service for police uniforms as a condition of the collective bargaining agreement. Funding is available in the Police Department Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

18. Consideration to ratify the emergency purchase order issued to Turbonetics Engineering, Corpus Christi, Texas in the total amount of \$ 68,680.00. The City Manager has authorized emergency rehab repairs to two high service pumps located on the discharge of the Jefferson Water Plant. These repairs were authorized to prevent disruption of pumping capacity throughout the water distribution system. Funding is available in the Utilities Department – Water Treatment Division Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

19. Consideration to ratify the emergency purchase order issued to Bradley's Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas in the total amount of \$36,900.00. The City Manager has authorized emergency repairs to a 300 HP raw water intake pump that was damaged and resulted in low or no water pressure to several areas of the City. Funding is available in the Utilities Department – Water Treatment Division Budget.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya

0

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

20. Amending the contract with Harry Jewett Associates, Inc., Laredo, Texas for \$7,320.00 to include basic engineering services required for adjustments and revisions to the water distribution lines on Mines Road Work Order #1. The amendment brings the total contract amount to \$228,100.00. Funding is available in the Colonias Project Engineer Fees.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
 Second: Cm. Amaya  
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

### XII. STAFF REPORTS

21. A. Discussion with possible action regarding landscaping improvements along Zacate Creek from Sanchez Street south to Corpus Christi Street, to be paid for with District VIII Discretionary Funds.

Miguel Pescador, Parks & Recreation Director, reported that staff did meet with Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez advising him of several improvements. He said that staff is recommending planting a total of sixty (60) different kinds of 3" caliber trees along the linear area but concentrating mainly on the intersections. He said that staff would need to install proper irrigation for the trees. The total cost for the trees, irrigation and proper soil cost estimate is \$25,500.

Motion to use Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez discretionary funds for landscaping improvements along Zacate Creek from Sanchez Street south to Corpus Christi Street.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez  
 Second: Cm. Amaya  
 For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

### XIII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

22. A. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Discussion with possible action on a workshop to discuss the water rate increase and United Water and Utilities transition issues; setting a date and time for the meeting.

Cm. Garza stated that as a newly elected Council Member he would like to have an opportunity to review the transitional phase of what happened with the water issues.

At the same time, he feels that it will educate the new council members and educate the viewing public of all the criteria that went forth with the entire transaction.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, said that the City of Laredo has sold some bonds based on the water rates. He said that he would be happy to give the new Council Members a presentation. He said that the Council has already received a presentation but he would set up a workshop if the Council so desired.

Motion to instruct the City Manager to set a workshop to discuss the water rate increase and United Water and Utilities transition issues.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 6  
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

Mayor Pro Tempore was not present.

2. Discussion with possible action on a workshop to discuss the City of Laredo employment policies; setting a date and time for the meeting. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck and Council Member Juan Chavez)

Motion to set a workshop to discuss the City of Laredo employment policies.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7  
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

B. Request by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck

1. Discussion with possible action in scheduling a City Charter amendments workshop at a special call City Council meeting.

Motion to call a special City Council meeting to discuss the City Charter Amendments.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 7  
0

Against: 0

Abstain:

2. Discussion with possible action on status and possible redesign of the Slaughter Park project. (Co-sponsored by Council Member Mike Garza)

Miguel Pescador, Parks and Recreation Director, said that the last survey that was prepared by staff was two seasons ago where staff compared the numbers and there was over 5,000 baseball players in the community and over 9,000 soccer players. The city has 21 to 23 lighted fields for baseball and no lighted fields for soccer. Staff has been working on refurbishing parks through City Council's guidance and approval.

Cm. Landeck addressed his concerns for the current design of the Slaughter Park. He acknowledged that the City has a large demand for soccer but noted that District III is not the place to try to facilitate the public's need for a stadium. He noted that there are currently nine soccer fields in his district. He also expressed his desire to change the design of a pond to a swimming pool. Finally, he requested reviewing the area for horseback riding. He asked Council to support him in postponing the current design so staff could consider offering other options for Council to consider.

Cm. Garcia said that he had a problem with the suggestion to redesign the Slaughter Park. He said that when the property was presented to Council that there was no funding but Council instructed staff to search for monies because the City of Laredo was not servicing the soccer community. He noted that the Council did it to benefit District III and the community as a whole. The Soccer stadium is over due for the City of Laredo. He said that the City owes it to the children that approached Council for a soccer stadium. He said that the City of Laredo is falling behind in the soccer area. He also spoke in favor of the horse back riding trail.

Cm. Belmares stated that removing any of the soccer fields from the current plan would be detrimental to the soccer leagues even more so now that we are trying to get them more organized.

Motion to place the redesign of Slaughter Park on hold to allow for changes and redesign of the park and return to Council for their approval.

Moved: Cm. Landeck

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 3

Against: 4

Abstain:

0

Cm. Garza

Cm. Garcia

Cm. Landeck

Cm. Rendon

Cm. Amaya

Cm. Belmares

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

### C. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

1. Discussion with possible action on increasing enforcement of paper license plate violations.

Agustin Dovalina, III, Police Chief, advised that in 2005 the City of Laredo Police Department issued 10,370 citations for unregistered motor vehicle violations which include the paper license plats. Year to date, the department has issued 5,439 citations for the same violation. He further reported that the patrol division, traffic section, and the auto theft tasks forces has been actively addressing the problem. In 2005 the auto task force handled three cases of counterfeiting the paper tags which resulted in two arrests and the seizure of three hundred (300) counterfeit paper tags. In January of this year, the auto tasks force participated in the hearing addressed to change in the transportation rules dealing with paper tags. He continued to explain that the department is working aggressively on enforcing the paper license plate violations.

Cm. Belmares asked if staff has considered addressing this problem on the legislative state agenda.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, said that the City of Laredo will add the paper license plate issue on the list of the Legislative Agenda.

## 2. Discussion with possible action on creating a City of Laredo Ethics Commission.

Cm. Belmares said that he brought this item to Council because Council had discussed the item in 2003. At the time that the Council was discussing the item, staff was going through some direction of the Charter which will be required to implement this commission. Legislature was taking up the charge on full financial disclosure on all elected officials, City Manager and the City Attorneys for municipalities of 100,000 or greater. The Ethics Commission will not be a "White Knight" or guarantee complete safety from unethical behavior but it will bring the Council closer.

Jaime Flores, City Attorney, said that he had copies of other city's code of ethics. He recommended for Council to give him some time to take a look at the other code of ethics and come back with recommendations.

Cm. Belmares instructed the City Manager to return to Council within 60 days with a draft of a Code of Ethics to be used for the City of Laredo. In the meantime, he suggested sending the Council members a copy of the San Antonio and Houston Code of Ethics so they can begin to review them to be able to give input. It not only should govern the elected officials but the City staff and employees.

## 3. Status report on tax levy, exemptions and / or tax cuts.

This item was discussed on the supplemental agenda.

## D. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Juan Ramirez

1. Discussion with possible action on repairs at Bruni Plaza including the water fountain.

Keith Selman, Planning Director, advised that the City has recently hired a consultant that has drafted a report to take a look at the Bruni Plaza fountain. He advised that the City of Laredo needs to proceed carefully with the preservation and the restoration of the fountain efforts. The fountain has characteristics that are not just unique to the plaza but is unique to anywhere in this country. The Italian eight designs, with tiles, make it a very unique fountain. Staff is looking at the budget and is trying to place funds for the fountain. He added that there are patterns that staff is just learning about because the blue paint is fading. There is a stencil underneath the paint that is dyed concrete that is a beautiful blue. The project for renovating the fountain should be a special "toothbrush" renovation project. He went on to say that a tile company from Mexico that did produce a replica of one of the scenery tiles, also produced a replica of one of the tiles that were in place but they feel short of what a person would expect for the fountain.

Larry Dovalina, City Manager, advised that there are members in the community that have an inheritance tied to the fountain because of who donated the fountain that the City might be able to approach and seek a donation to make the donation happen.

Cm. Garcia asked if staff could submit the item to the Heritage Committee and allow them to make the decisions for the fountain. He also mentioned submitting the item to the Keep Laredo Beautiful Committee for ideas to renovate the fountain.

Cm. Ramirez instructed the City Manager to prepare a report on the fountain and include the year it was build and who donated it.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding a lease agreement for 200 parking spaces between the City of Laredo and the Rio Grande Plaza Hotel.

This item was discussed in the supplemental agenda.

3. Presentation by George Altgelt regarding the pollution of the Rio Grande, with possible action.

George Altgelt was not present for the presentation.

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

The City Council hereby reserves the right to go into executive session at any time during this public meeting, if such is requested by the City Attorney or other legal counsel for the City, pursuant to his or her duty under Section 551.071(2) of the Government Code, to consult privately with his or her client on an item on the agenda, or on a matter arising out of such item.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Supplemental Agenda**

**I. Appointments to Commissions, Boards and Committees**

A. Appointments by Council Member Dr. Michael Landeck of:

- 1. Victor Garza to the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.
- 2. Sammy Amaya to replace Dr. GeorgeAnn R. Reuthinger, to the Para

Transit Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garcia  
Second: Cm. Amaya  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

**II. Motions**

1. Consideration to award contract FY06-103, to provide the City of Laredo Health Department contract labor for two (2) office personnel positions: one (1) Community Service Aide and one (1) Health Educator, for the term beginning on July 5, 2006 through December 31, 2006, and for an amount not to exceed \$33,359.00. Funding is available in the HIV Prevention Grant Budget. The City received identical bids from Staff Force and RM Personnel. Lots will be drawn at the City Council meeting to determine which vendor will be awarded the labor contract.

draw a Francisco Meza, Purchasing Agent, submitted a canister for Mayor Salinas to name from and the winner of the bid was RM Personnel, Inc.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Rendon  
Second: Cm. Belmares  
For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

**III. General Council Discussions and Presentations**

A. Request by Council Member Johnny Rendon

- 1. Discussion with possible action regarding the mosquito abatement/vector control program. (Co-sponsored by Cm. Gene Belmares)

Cm. Rendon stated that the reason he has placed this item on the agenda is because he has been receiving calls from the Hillside area where there is a creek where they are complaining about the mosquitoes.

Dr. Gonzalez, Health Director, advised that the City of Laredo has a Comprehensive Integrated Plan which the City has been doing for years. The Health Department has a five (5) point plan which includes surveillance, testing, sampling, source reduction, spraying, minnow distribution, enforcement, campaigns, task forces, and education. The Health Department will continue to educate the public and remind them to wear long sleeves and apply repellent against mosquitoes. The most important information that needs to be dispersed is to remind citizens to get rid of standing water.

#### B. Request by Council Member Gene Belmares

Amendment to item no. 22 letter C. no. 3 posted on the regular City Council Agenda.

##### 1. Status report on tax levy, exemptions, and/or tax cuts, with possible action.

Martin Aleman, Budget Director, said that the City of Laredo has received a preliminary number from Webb County Appraisal District which is the number they use to update the taxable valuation which is 8 billion dollars. The levy translated to 51.9 million dollars. The revenue is around 40 million dollars going into general fund.

Elizabeth Martinez, Tax Collector/Assessor, said that the City of Laredo will expect an increase of 4.4 million dollars and of that 2.7 as a result of 1.7 million as a result of reappraisals.

Cm. Belmares asked the Tax Collector/Assessor to provide an amount for an impact of a tax freeze at 65 or handicapped.

Ms. Martinez said that it would vary. She said that the City of Laredo can only estimate a value of \$226,000 because it would fluctuate from year to year. She explained that the value changes because of the amount of people that qualify for the exemption from year to year.

#### C. Request by Mayor Pro-Tempore Juan Ramirez

Amendment to item no. 22 letter D no. 2 posted on the regular City Council agenda.

1. Discussion with possible action regarding a lease agreement for 200 parking spaces between the City of Laredo and One South Main Partners, LP. (Co-sponsored by Cm. Gene Belmares)

Motion to instruct the City Manager to prepare an RFP for a parking lot lease located on a tract of 82,833 sq. ft of Vega land 227 x 299 feet lying south of Block 281 WD. Currently known as the Rio Grande Plaza Hotel Parking lot to commence

at the end of the current parking lot lease and to include additional improvements to the area which would be beneficial to the city as soon as possible.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0

#### **IV. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn.

9:38 p.m.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain:

0