

**CITY OF LAREDO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
WITH
CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
M2006-W-05
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS
JULY 24, 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 Chavez,	Council Member,
District VII	
Juan Ramirez,	Mayor Pro Tem,
District VIII	
Susan Herrera,	Deputy City Secretary
Larry Dovalina,	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Jaime Flores,	City Attorney

IV. Presentation to City Charter Revision Commission of proposed charter revisions to the City Council and discussion by the City Council on proposed changes with possible action.

Section 4.02 City Attorney

The chief legal counsel for the City of Laredo shall be the City Attorney. In representation of the City, the City Attorney shall advise the Council, the City

it will not grant an employee, either meet or confirm any other type of status as far as unions. It provides for a process within the hiring practices of the administrative department setting up standards, testing and other items such as that you would follow in that particular application.

Cm. Garza said that is a form or a way to be established but it can be established in other formats.

Mr. Dovalina said that the Civil Service Commission does not grant union activities to employees in any instance.

Cm. Garza said that it is not specific to Collective Bargaining but testing requirements and other issues which are not a function of that.

Motion to accept the changes made by the Commission add the recommendations made by Canseco which will add "adopt a code of ethics by ordinance" to the last sentence.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to adopt as submitted by the Commission items **12.03** Civil Service **12.04** Nepotism; **12.05** Oath of Office.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12.06 Prohibitions

Cm. Garza noted that the prohibition section currently reads in 12.06 Section 5 "*no city employee shall knowingly or willfully make solicit or receive and contributions to the campaign funds of any political party or committee to be used in a city election or to campaign funds to be used in support or opposition to any candidate for election to City office or City ballot issue. Further no city employee shall knowingly or willfully participate in any aspect of any political campaign on behalf of or opposition to any candidate for city office. This section shall not be construed to limit any person's right to exercise rights as a citizen to express opinions or to cast a vote nor shall it be construed to prohibit any person from active participation in political campaign at any other level of government.*" He noted that the recommendation that he brings forward shall read "*No city employee shall knowingly or willfully make, solicit or receive any contribution to the campaign funds of any political party or committee to be used in a city election or to campaign funds to be used in support of or opposition to any candidate for election to City office or city ballot issue with the exception of members of council, no employee or office of the city shall in any way participate in political activity of any nature while on duty, in uniform or using city resources. With the exception of members of the managerial group and employees of the city secretary's office, officers, and employees of the city may participate in political activity: provided*

that, no coercion or retaliation concerning political activity shall be allowed. No members of the managerial group or employees of the city secretary's office shall at any time take part in any political activity on city-related issued except to provide factual information at the direction of the city manager, to express their own opinions privately, and to cast their votes". Managerial being defined as the City Manager's Office, City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Assistant City Managers, City Secretary and staff.

Motion to adopt the changes recommended by the Commission and accept the recommendation as read by Cm. Garza.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Landeck

For: 5

Cm. Garza

Cm. Garcia

Cm. Amaya

Cm. Chavez

Against: 3

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

Cm. Rendon

Cm. Belmares

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve **Sections 12.07** and **Section 12.08** as recommended by the Commission.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Ramirez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to accept **Sections 6.01**, **Section 6.02**, **Section 6.03** and **Section 6.04** as recommended by the Commission.

Moved: Cm. Garcia

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Section 6.05

Motion to accept the Commissioner's recommendations and to leave in the word "flexible".

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Section: 6.06

Motion to accept the Commissioner's recommendations.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve **Section 9.02** with the following recommendations “there shall be a City Planning and Zoning Commission consisting of nine (9) members appointed by the Mayor and City Council for the terms concurrent with the Mayor and Council Members. The Mayor and Council Members should appoint one member each from among the qualified voters. Members of the Commission shall hold no other city office, employment or appointment. The commission shall make recommendations to the City Manager and City Council on all matters affecting the municipal development of the City should be consulted on the creation and implementation of the comprehensive plan and shall exercise all other responsibility as may be provided by law. Reason for forfeiture of office by the Commissioner shall include failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without being excused by the commission.

Moved: Cm. Chavez

Second: Landeck

For: 6

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Cm. Belmares

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

Motion to adopt **Section 9.03** and **Section 9.04** as recommended by the Commissioners.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to accept recommendations by the Commission for **Section 9.05**.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Abstain: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to adopt **Section 10.01** as recommended by the commission. Elections shall be held in November.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Belmares

For: 5

Against: 4

Abstain: 0

Cm. Garza

Cm. Garcia

Cm. Landeck

Cm. Amaya

Cm. Belmares

Cm. Rendon

Cm. Chavez

Mayor Pro Tempore Ramirez

Mayor Salinas

Motion to approve the recommendations for the remainder of Article **Section 10**.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve **Sections 11** as recommended by the Commission.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to approve **Sections 13** as recommended by the Commission.

Moved: Cm. Belmares

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. 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.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Time: 8:47 P.M.

Moved: Garza

Second: Cm. Amaya

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I, Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, do hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 07 are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council meeting held on July 24, 2006.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary