

CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
5:30 P.M.

M99-R-28

M I N U T E S

OCTOBER 4, 1999

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth G. Flores,	Mayor
Alfredo Agredano,	Councilmember, District I
Louis H. Bruni,	Councilmember, District II
John C. Galo,	Councilmember, District III
Cecilia May Moreno,	Councilmember, District IV
Eliseo Valdez Jr.,	Councilmember, District V
Joe A. Guerra,	Councilmember, District VI
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Florencio Pena, III,	City Manager
Jaime L. Flores,	City Attorney

ABSENCES:

Motion to excuse Cw. Montalvo and Cm. Alvarado.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IV. MINUTES

1. City Council Meeting, September 7, 1999
City Council Meeting, September 20, 1999

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign Trade Zone Operators Agreement with Jett Racing & Sales, Inc., to operate an approximate 12,973 square foot facility within Foreign Trade Zone No. 94-Site 1 located at the Laredo International Airport for a term of ten (10) years.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign Trade Zone Operators Agreement with Jett Racing & Sales, Inc., to operate an approximate 22,500 square foot facility within Foreign Trade Zone No. 94-Site 1 located at the Laredo International Airport for a term of ten (10) years.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey fee simple title to the Surface Only, at its adjusted market value of \$38,351.50, of certain property described as Tract 1; and being the North one-half (a 6,973 sq. ft., more or less), of that former section of Pace Street between San Bernardo and Sta. Ursula Aves., to Sun Yang and wife Mei Chin Wei Yang; and further authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to effectively convey fee simple title to the Surface Only, at its adjusted market value of \$38,351.50, of certain property described as Tract 2; and being the South one-half (a 6,973 sq. ft., more or less), of that former section of Pace Street between San Bernardo and Sta. Ursula Aves., to Elia G. Gonzalez Properties, Ltd.; provided that the City of Laredo retains the entire former street as a Utility and Drainage Easement. Said tracts being situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas being described on attached copy of the City Plat, Exhibit A; and hereby approving the submitted respective Improvement Plans, as described on Exhibits B & C, and which are in compliance with Section 10 of the Street Closing/Sales Policy Handbook, as approved per Resolution No. 97-R-140; and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Closing as a public easements, certain street sections which were dedicated as public easements, as per the United Independent School District (U.I.S.D), San Jose Subdivision School Plat recorded in Vol. 18, Page 79, Webb County Map Records; and releasing any interest which the City of Laredo may have in the title to said abandoned street sections which are described below; and providing for an effective date.

TRACT A - Being a 1,268.25 sq. ft. tract of land situated between the North right-of-way line of Casa del Sol Blvd., and the South property line of the San Jose Properties Ltd. bounded on the West by Lot 12, Block

2, and on the East by Lot 28, Block 4, as recorded in Vol. 495, Page 686, Webb County Deed Records.

TRACT B - Being a 1,268.25 sq. ft. tract of land situated between the North right-of-way line of Casa del Sol Blvd., and the South property line of the San Jose Properties Ltd. bounded on the West by Lot 32, Block 4, on the East by Lot 1, Block 3, as recorded in Vol. 495, Page 686, Webb County Deed Records.

TRACT C - Being a 1,268.25 sq. ft tract of land situated between the North right-of-way line of Casa del Sol Blvd., and the South property line of the San Jose Properties Ltd. bounded on the West by Lot 5, Block 3 and on the East by Lot 1, Block 5 as recorded in Vol. 495, Page 686, Webb County Deed Records.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

6. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease renewal with the State of Texas General Services Commission on behalf of University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for 317 square feet of office space at the City of Laredo Health Complex located at 2600 Cedar Street. The term of the lease renewal will be from September 1, 1999, through August 31, 2000. The lessee shall pay a sum in the amount of \$345.08 rental fee per month which includes the cost of utilities and janitorial services. The funding source is the State of Texas General Services Commission on behalf of University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

7. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Scheduled Airline Operating Agreement and Terminal Building Lease with TAESA Airlines 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. The term of the agreement is for three (3) years effective July 1, 1998 and ending on June 30, 2001. The monthly rent including landing fees is capped at \$1.50 per enplaned revenue passenger and is retroactive to July 1, 1998.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

8. Setting the maximum speed limits in that portion of US 83 State Highway, between Market Street and 1.5 miles south of Prada Machin, within the City limits of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, as 35MPH, 45MPH, 55MPH, 60MPH and 25MPH for School Zone Sections, as defined in TXDOT control section map 0038-01.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

9. Setting the maximum speed limits in that portion of IH35 State Highway Main Lanes, between Hidalgo and Calton Road within the

City limits of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, as 30MPH, 45MPH, and 55MPH, as defined in TXDOT control section map 0018-06 and 0018-05.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VI. FINAL READING

Internet Available: <http://www.cityoflaredo.com>

Motion to waive the final reading of ordinances #99-O-284, #99-O-285, #99-O-286, #99-O-288, #99-O-289, #99-O-290, #99-O-291, #99-O-292, #99-O-294, #99-O-296, #99-O-297, #99-O-298, #99-O-298, #99-O-300, and #99-O-301.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. 99-O-284 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement between the City of Laredo, as Lessor, and United Way of Laredo, Inc., as Lessee, for a tract of land containing approximately 50,458 square feet located on Block No. 12 as recorded in Volume 5, Page 1, Plat Records of Webb County, Texas. Said property located at the Laredo International Airport and is further described by metes and bounds description. Lease term is for twenty (20) years commencing on November 1, 1999 until October 31, 2019, plus two consecutive ten years terms ending on August 31, 2029, and August 31, 2039. Monthly rent shall be 630.75 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. (Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-284.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 99-O-285 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents associated with a public sale to convey the "Surface Only" of a 1.1257 acre tract of non-aeronautical use of land (approximately 49,035 square feet) being part of Block No. 21 - Subdivision Plat of Laredo Airport land located at the Laredo International Airport, together with improvements located thereon being more particularly described by metes and bounds to Steve Whitworth, sole bidder for the purchase price of \$343,500. The appraised fair market value for the subject property was \$343,000. (Louis H. Bruni)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-285.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-0-286 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 50.11 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located at the northeast corner of Loop 20 and McPherson Road., from AG (Agricultural District) and R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). (Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-0-286.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-0-288 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 4.95 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located at the southwest corner of the proposed San Isidro Parkway and International Blvd. intersection, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). (Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-0-288.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-0-289 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 38.30 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located at the southeast corner of the proposed International Blvd. and San Isidro Parkway intersection, from AG (Agricultural District) to R-2 (Multi-Family Residential District). (Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-0-289.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-0-290 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 60.12 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located west of the proposed extension of International Blvd. and south of Loop 20, from AG (Agricultural District) to R-1A (Single Family Reduced Area District). (Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-0-290.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-291 Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Special Use Permit for a manufactured housing park on Block 66, Calton Gardens Subdivision, located at 100 E. Calton Road. (Joe A. Guerra)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-291.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-292 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 1, Block 752, Eastern Division, located at 1301 E. San Pedro St., from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District). (Eliseo Valdez Jr.)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-292.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-294 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lot 22, El Rancho Subdivision, Unit I, located on the south side of Hwy 359 and east of Hwy 83, from R-3 (Mixed Residential District) to B-3 (Community Business District). (Alfredo Agredano)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-294.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-296 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 59.3252 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located on the west side of FM 1472 and north of Pan American Blvd., from AG (Agricultural District) to M -1 (Light Manufacturing District). (Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-296.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-297 Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a conditional use permit for a psychologist office and residence on Lots 9 and 10, Block 1097, Eastern Division, located 1908 Clark Blvd., from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-O (Residential/Office District).
(Cecilia May Moreno)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-297.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-298 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 75.036 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located at the proposed Bob Bullock Loop and FM 1472 intersection, from AG (Agricultural District) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing District).
(Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-298.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-299 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 1.989 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located on the west side of FM 1472 and south of the proposed Bob Bullock Loop extension, from AG (Agricultural District) to B-4 (Highway Commercial District). (Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-299.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-300 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning 0.304 acres, as further described by metes and bounds located west of FM 1472 and south of the proposed Loop 20 extension, from AG (Agricultural District) to R-1 (Single Family Residential District).
(Mario G. Alvarado)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-300.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-301 Ordinance amending City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 25 entitled plumbing, specifically article I,

25-2 entitled Definitions, by adding new definitions; and creating Article III, Division I, Section 25-37, to include provisions for customer service inspections and providing for authority for the building official to enforce this ordinance and creating Article III, Division I, Section 25-38 to provide penalties for noncompliance; and amending Article III, Division III, Section 25 -63 by requiring an inspection prior to obtaining water service; providing for severability, publication and an effective date.
 (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-301.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cm. Agredano
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

- 11. 99-R-138 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a non-financial agreement between the City of Laredo - Laredo Public Library and the Webb County Head Start Program to coordinate services provided to Head Start families.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-138.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cw. Moreno
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 12. 99-R-140 Authorizing and approving a Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Laredo and Laredo Candle Company in accordance with Ordinance 98-O-141 for the Tax Abatement and Reinvestment Zones. This agreement will be for a five-year period to abate taxes on new improvements for the purpose of economic growth and development for the City, and for the creation of jobs. The amount of taxes abated depends on the number of jobs created and the amount of the investment.

Nina Mendez Nixon, from the Planning Department, made the presentation before the Council.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-140.

Moved : Cm. Galo
 Second: Cw. Moreno
 For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 13. 99-R-143 Nominating candidates for the positions to be filled on the Board of Directors of the Webb County

Appraisal District and directing the City Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chief Appraiser of the Webb County Appraisal District on October 15, 1999.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-143.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to confirm the nomination of Cm. Bruni to the Board of Directors of the Webb County Appraisal District.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

14. 99-R-144 Declaring the public necessity to acquire two parcels of land for the construction of downtown public facilities. Said parcels of land being Lots 3&4, Block 162 and the West 38.06 feet of Lot 1 & all of Lot 2, Block 53, both parcels being situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas; and being delineated on City Plat: and authorizing staff to negotiate with the owners for the acquisition of those parcels.

Motion to approve Resolution #99-R-144.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII. MOTIONS

15. Consideration for approval of construction plans and authorization to advertise for bids for the Railroad Overpass with Retaining Walls and Approach Road to Unitec Industrial Center Phase 7 contingent upon approval of plans by Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

16. Consideration to award a contract to Laredo Development Foundation for Fiscal Year 1999-2000 in the amount of \$185,000 and authorizing the City Manager to sign and implement the contract. Funding is available in the General Fund, Bridge Fund, and Hotel/Motel Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 17. Consideration to enter into and execute a contract by and between the City of Laredo, a Texas Municipal Corporation and the Laredo Development Foundation, Inc., for the administration of the Texas Border Infrastructure Coalition (T.B.I.C.) Headquarters, for a term of two (2) years commencing October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2001, in the amount of \$50,000 per annum. Funding for FY 1999/2000 is available in the Reserve Appropriation from General Fund.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 18. Consideration to award a two year supply contract FY99-121, for the purchase of water and wastewater treatment chemicals for the Utilities Department, to the following LOW BIDDERS,

DPC Industries, Inc., Corpus Christi, Texas	(\$95,700.00),
Bay Chemical and Supply, Odem, Texas	(\$84,440.00),
Polydnye, Inc., Parsippany, NJ	(\$44,380.00),
Van Waters & Rodgers, Corpus Christi, Texas	(\$39,000.00),
The Chlorine Connection, Laredo, Texas	(\$13,907.20),
Skyhawk Chemicals, Houston, Texas	(\$ 8,852.80),
Houston Chemical Dist., Algoa, Texas	(\$ 7,550.00),
PENNCO, Belville, Texas	(\$ 6,250.00),
Chemical Lime New Braunfels, LTD., New Braunfels, Texas	(\$,5,288.40)
Acetylene Oxygen Co., Alice, Texas	(\$ 5,020.00),
and Bigler Trading, Houston, Texas	(\$ 2,360.00).

The amounts indicated are the estimated usage for a twelve month period, subject to appropriations in the second year.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 19. Consideration to award of annual contracts (FY99-131) for the purchase of automotive parts for the Fleet Maintenance Division, to the following LOW BIDDERS:

- a. O'Reilly Auto Parts, Laredo, Texas
 - Section I - Oil and Fuel Filters, \$ 32,227.21
- b. Gonzalez Auto Parts
 - Section III - Wheel Bearing,

Seals, and U-Joints	\$	5,622.10
Section V - Hose, Clamps, Belts	\$	8,072.30
	\$	13,694.40
c. A & A Automotive, San Antonio, Texas		
Section II - Bulbs, Lamps, Fuses, etc.	\$	6,282.62
Section VI - Wiper Blades, Assemblies	\$	1,805.60
	\$	8,088.22
d. Laredo Wholesale, Laredo, Texas		
Section IV - Service Lubricants	\$	8,072.30
	\$	62,012.33

All replacement automotive parts will be purchased on an as need basis.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

20. Consideration to ratify authorization for lease payments to OUTDOOR SYSTEMS MEXICO, S.A. DE C.V. for outdoor (billboard) advertising in Mexico in the amount of \$26,414.82. Funding is available in the Laredo Convention & Visitors Bureau billboard advertising account.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

21. Consideration to approve an amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Health for the Abstinence Education Program partnered between the City of Laredo Health Department and the Laredo Independent School District to extend the project period term by one month through January 31, 2000. The budget in the amount of \$435,686 (which consists of \$230,286 in direct funds from the State and in-kind services match of \$205,300) from January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, to January 1, 1999, through January 31, 2000. The budget in the amount of \$435,686 (which consists of \$230,286 in direct funds from the State and in-kind services match of \$205,300) remains unchanged. The source of direct funds is the Texas Department of Health and has been assigned budget number 226-6094.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cw. Moreno

22. Consideration to transfer funds from Reserve Appropriation in construction and Utility Relocations - TXDOT to the Colonias project; and consideration to award a contract for \$132,000 to Turner, Collie and Braden for the completion of the Environmental Information Document and preparation of step 2 of an application for supplemental funding from the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission, for the Colonias project. Ultimate funding for the project will be provided by the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission, this motion simply provides for the initial appropriation.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

23. Consideration to award a contract with New Dimension Wrestling for proposed wrestling match at Veterans' Field on November 13, 1999. Funding in the amount of \$9,500 for the event will be available from the professional services line item. Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

24. Consideration to amend existing contract with Montgomery Watson Americas Inc. and authorization to transfer \$50,000 from the 1998 Sewer Bond Reserve to fund an Industrial Pretreatment Study. The amendment will provide for additional services in the completion and submission of an approvable Pretreatment Program to comply with Environmental Protection Agency specifications. The contract will be amended from \$176,000 to \$226,000.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

25. Consideration to negotiate a contract with Land Engineering, Tucson, Arizona, for services to the City of Laredo to evaluate and recommend a site for a new city cemetery location. The amount of the contract is subject to negotiation. Funding is available in an amount of \$49,995 from the Cemetery Land Acquisition line item.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion to reconsider.

Motion to table.

Moved : Cm. Valdez

Second: Cm. Galo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

29. Consideration to co-sponsor with the Rio Grande International River Study, Inc. and Laredo Community College the annual Dia de Rio and authorizing expenditures of \$3,500 for t-shirts to be funded through the Environmental Division.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. STAFF REPORTS

30. Presentation on the recommendation from the Water Issues Committee to negotiate with Competitive Government Strategies, Inc., of Indianapolis, IN, for the preparation of procurement documents to bid the privatization of the Utilities Department. The consultant will prepare a cost estimate for their services to be approved by Council at a later date.

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, reported that the Water Issues Committee did issue a direction as to which way they wanted to go and he sent a letter to Competitive Government Strategies, Inc. of the action taken. He stated that within a week he will be expecting to define a scope of work under which they will work.

Cm. Galo stated that this is not the procurement for privatization as of yet.

31. Presentation by the City Secretary regarding their activities and projects.

Gustavo Guevara, Jr., City Secretary, made a Corel presentation to Council.

City Secretary's Department

Mission Statement

- To engross and enroll all the laws, ordinances and resolutions of the City Council.
- To provide administrative support to the City Council
- Administer all city elections.
- Over see and provide support for records management and policies for all city departments.

Functions

- To attend all City Council meetings and keep records of the

minutes, resolutions, ordinances and other official documents of the City Council.

- To keep the corporate seal and counter sign all commissions and licenses issuance.
- Any duties and responsibilities assigned by the City Council.
- Oversee and administer city elections.
- Post City Council and Committee meetings.
- Assist and provide computer software and hardware maintenance to the Mayor and City Council.
- Provide Mayor and City Council with purchases of necessary supplies and equipment.
- To issue beer and wine licenses. Each license application must be processed and an application delivered to eleven (11) divisions of the City for approval. The divisions are: building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, parking requirements, zoning, historic preservation, health, police, fire, and tax. Then it is followed up with all of the departments on their responses, whether they approve or disapprove of the application.
- Update the Code of Ordinances book every two (2) years.

Web Page Functions

- To provide upkeep and update of the City of Laredo homepage: Agenda's, City Council and Committee agenda's, minutes, City Charter, Code of Ordinances, historical, statistical and geographical data; job opportunities, departmental information, city directory, City Council district maps, police and fire exams publications.
- To provide webpage videos of Laredo areas.
- To provide all other internet links on our webpage, receive/reply and/or forward daily e-mail requests for information and many other features that are seen on the webpage.
- To provide research to the public, Mayor, City Council and all city departments, we are a customer service department.

Goals

- To continue the conversion of agenda books into CD.
- To continue to add new features to the webpage and to provide search of minutes in both internet and intranet.

Mayor Flores congratulated Mr. Guevara for doing a good job as webmaster, one of his many duties, for the City of Laredo.

32. Quarterly report to the City Council by the Laredo Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Don Raulie, Convention and Visitors Bureau Director, made the presentation before the Council.

Convention and Visitors Bureau Quarterly Report

Revenue - Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax

- Total tax collections for the first three quarters of FY 98-99 were up \$23,790 or 1.5% over the same period in the preceding year.
- Tax collections figures for the fourth quarter were not available in time for this report, but a report produced by the Tax Department on or about the 1st of September indicated collections were up 3.7% YTD.

Hotel/Motel Occupancy/ADR

- The LCVB tracks occupancy and average daily rate (ADR) on Laredo's nine largest hotel/motel properties, which represent approximately 53% of Laredo's total room inventory.
- Based on a hotel/motel survey conducted in September, August occupancy was 77.38% "up" 11.58% over August 1998. August ADR was \$64.70, "down" \$2.59 compared to August 1998.

Inquiries

- Laredo consumer ads continue to generate inquiries in record numbers. Through September, the LCVB has responded to 33,566 inquiries in this fiscal year, compared to 11,501 during the preceding year, an increase of 22,065 or 192% .
- The enormous increase is due largely to the impact of one publication (Modern Maturity), which alone has generated over 17,000 inquiries. However, even if we omit the Modern Maturity inquiries completely, our inquiries are still "up" 41% over the preceding year.

Meeting and Convention Leads/Bookings

- The LCVB issued a total of twenty-six leads during FY98-99. Of those, eleven were converted to bookings and a decision on five of the leads is still pending.
- The goal for FY 99-00 is 48 leads with a 50% conversion rate.

Group Tour Leads/Bookings

- The LCVB issued a total of eleven group tour leads during FY98-99. Of those, nine were converted to bookings and a decision on one of the leads is still pending.
- The goal for FY99-00 is 40 leads with a 67% conversion rate.

October Fiesta

- Excellent cooperation among nine City departments currently participating in the project.
- Many details to be worked-out, but no major problems at this time.
- Promotion to begin with a news conference tentatively scheduled for October 11, 1999 at 11:00 a.m.

Millennium Celebration

- The Millennium Committee held its first meeting on September 21st.
- Initially the Committee will concentrate on developing a Millennium Eve celebration. When that task is completed, the Committee will formulate plans for a year-long recognition of the new millennium.
- There was a consensus among Committee members that:
 - the Millennium Eve event should be in Los Dos Laredos Park;
 - the event should include name entertainment, food and beverage vendors and enough carnival rides to create a festive environment;
 - there will be an international bridge ceremony in the middle of Bridge I, to conclude at midnight;
 - a spectacular fireworks presentation will be staged on the river following the bridge ceremony.

1999-2000 Action Plan

With the beginning of the new fiscal year, the LCVB has begun implementation of its 1999-2000 "Action Plan".

The development of the Plan began in April, with a day-long work session involving the LCVB Advisory Board and staff. Staff requested and received input from members of the Hotel/Motel Association. The Advisory Board's Budget Committee met in July to consider various events and activities for inclusion in the Plan. The Advisory Board's Marketing Committee met in August to review a draft of the Plan and to make recommendations regarding revisions. The LCVB Advisory Board reviewed the Plan during its September meeting; recommended minor changes and approved the Plan.

The result is a comprehensive document, which will serve as a valuable guide for virtually everything the LCVB will do during FY99-00. It summarizes all the trade shows, consumer shows, projects, events and advertising, which the LCVB expects to accomplish during FY99-00.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- a.) Luisa Campillo, from the Lions Club, Recycle for Sight Region Chairperson, asked for unwanted eyeglasses to help someone see better.

Mayor Flores read a proclamation proclaiming October 1999 as World Sight Month and presented it to Ms. Luisa Campillo.

- b.) Cm. Bruni submitted a partial report for the month of September from Southwest Texas Rain Enhancement Association as follows:

Flight Activity for

September 1999

<u>Flight #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Counties</u>
43	9/5/99	Webb
44	9/5/99	LaSalle and Dimmit
45	9/6/99	LaSalle and Dimmit
46	9/6/99	Webb
47	9/8/99	Webb and LaSalle
48	9/9/99	Dimmit and LaSalle
49	9/13/99	LaSalle, Dimmit, Webb
50	9/14/99	Webb and LaSalle

Total: 8 Flights

Counties are listed as greatest coverage to least coverage.

The "No Seed Area" for Zavala County was terminated on September 20, 1999.

(End of Report)

XI. CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

33. Requests by Mayor and City Council members for presentation and discussion.

A. Request by Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores

1. Presentation by the Library Board.

Robert Ochoa and Robert Simpson made the presentation before Council.

Laredo Public Library
Advisory Committee Presentation
FY 2000

Laredo Public Library
Advisory Committee

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>District #</u>	<u>Councilmember</u>
Mary Lou Mendiola	Mayor	Elizabeth G. Flores
Robert Simpson	1	Alfredo Agredano
Aileen Newman	2	Louis H. Bruni
Olga Gentry	3	John Galo
Martha Villarreal	4	Cecilia Moreno
Juan Homero Sanchez	5	Eliseo Valdez
Robert Ochoa	6	Joe Guerra
Laura Peters	7	Mario Alvarado
Cynthia Earle	8	Consuelo Montalvo

Main Library Service Hours
(Effective October 1, 1999)

1120 E. Calton Road

Monday through Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

70 Service Hours/Week

Santo Niño Branch
(Effective October 1, 1999)
2200 Zacatecas Street

Monday through Friday	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
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40 Service Hours/Week

Bruni Plaza Branch
1120 San Bernardo Avenue

Tuesday through Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
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40 Service Hours/Week

An overview of the Main Library's services compared to the previous year:

Circulation increased	33%
Visitors increased	15%
Programs increased	471%
Program Attendance increased	122%
Room Users increased	192%
Reference Questions increased	40%
Processing Books increased	104%
Public Service Hours increased	64%

The Santo Niño Branch Library overview compared to the previous year:

Circulation increased	28%
Visitors decreased	11%
Programs decreased	32%
Program attendance decreased	44%
Computer users increased	61%
Reference Questions increased	28%

Robert Simpson stated that they are planning on adding 5,000 sq. ft. to the South Laredo Library Branch. The bookmobile has over 34,737 books in circulation and it had over 11,000 visitors at 187 locations an average of 62 people every time the bookmobile stops somewhere.

Priorities

- Develop a master plan for the library
- Increase Resources

SER-Jobs for Progress
Texas Workforce Center

Generation of Labor Market Figures

- Formerly generated by the Texas Workforce Commission in Laredo
- Currently generated by a Labor Market
- Analyst at the TWC Austin Headquarters

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

- August 1999: 73,300 Total Persons in Labor Force
 - Employed - 67,800
 - Unemployed - 5,500
 - Unemployment Rate - 7.5% (The lowest in the 1990's)

Major Industries in Laredo

- Local Government
- Services
- Trade
- Transportation, Communications, and Utilities

The Two Most Dynamic Industries

- Services
 - Medical Services sector comprises approximately one-half of service industry
- Transportation, Communications and Utilities
 - Communications and Utilities has remained constant at about 1,700

Texas Metropolitan Statistical Area Ranking

- Indicates, from lowest to highest, the Unemployment Rates of 26 Texas Metropolitan Areas
- Laredo is ranked 21 out of 26 Metropolitan Areas for the month of August.

B. Request by Council member Alfredo Agredano

1. Status report on a South Laredo COPS Substation with possible council action to transfer present police officers.

Motion to table.

Moved : Cm. Agredano

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council member Louis H. Bruni

1. Status report on a recommendation made to Mr. Fernando Roman, Utilities Department Director by the Water Issues

Committee, for Requests for Qualifications for our secondary source of drinking water, with possible action. (Co-sponsored by Joe A. Guerra and John C. Galo)

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, gave a brief overview status report before the Council.

Groundwater Development Program

Diversification of the Water Supply

- Foster Economic Development
- Protect Against Catastrophic Events
- Insure Continued Growth

Project Goals

- Find groundwater in desired quantify
- Determine long term yield and sustainability
- Lock-in pumping rights for the future
- Plan financial aspects
- Develop implementation strategies
- Construct facilities by 2002

Past Decisions

- City Council decided to proceed independently of Senate Bill
- City commissioned a feasibility study
- Project procurement has evolved three times

Today's Situation

- Feasibility study:
 - Identifies potential sources
 - Identifies potential costs
- Procurement mechanism not defined
- Magnitude of project not defined

Options Explored

- In-house. Original idea, City does it all
- Bidding. Two or more suppliers make bidding possible
- Negotiation. Turn project over to one firm for planning and execution

In-house Strategy

- Prioritize potential sources
- Negotiate pumping rights with land owners
- Conduct field tests to verify yield and sustainability
- Execute long-term agreements
- Construct Facilities
- City's Expense and Timetable

Bidding Strategy

- Identify qualified bidders
- Test bidders' water supply information through City consultants
- Bid and award project
- Lowest Cost, Lowest Risk

Single Entity Negotiation

- Select one firm based on certain criteria
- Firm locates and verifies supply, makes agreements, presents proposal to City
- City must evaluate, negotiate, and agree with project costs
- No Motivation to give lowest cost
- Burden of Vigilance on City

Decisions

- Decide procurement mechanism
- Decide level of service
- Decide final qualifying criteria for bidders

Recommendation

- Maintain a competitive environment
- Insist on water source verification through good science
- Establish a baseline demand
- Increase pumping gradually throughout life of contract

Potential Cost/Additional Expenses

Capacity	Capital	Annual Cost
5 MGD	\$58M	\$4.72 Million/yr
10 MGD	\$65M	\$5.80 Million/yr
15 MGD	\$73M	\$6.89 Million/yr
20 MGD	\$80M	\$7.97 Million/yr

Motion that the request for qualifications include the recommendations from the Water Issues Committee as follows:

1. Financial capability
2. Experience
3. Selection
4. Interested parties shall confirm to the satisfaction of the Offeror, that either directly or through affiliates or parent companies that they meet the pre-qualification criteria.
5. In the event of a consortium, information, details and documentation should be attached for each consortium member, indicating the percentage participation of each member in their respective consortium.
6. The applicant must confirm that its provision of services includes the following:
 - a. Experience in the implementation of a Design, Build and Operate project of a Water Treatment Plant with capacity of not less than 50 MGD within the United States.
 - b. Experience in drilling wells in Webb County and surrounding area in Texas.
 - c. Total market capitalization of \$1 billion or more in the water business.
7. In case of a consortium, it will be considered

sufficient that one member of the consortium satisfy any criteria, as long as the same member owns and maintains a shareholding of at least 30% of the consortium, for at least the term of the shareholder's agreement; and that within 10 days Mr. Roman go out to the public sector for the request for qualifications.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council member John C. Galo

1. Discussion on the possibility of hiring a helicopter service to do aerial inspections on a regular basis to supplement our land inspections for code violations. (Co. sponsor Eliseo Valdez)

Larry Dovalina, Assistant City Manager, reported that they are in the process of bringing forward a dumping ordinance that is being revised in order to be able to take care of some of those issues; and they will consider getting a helicopter to service the areas on a timely basis.

2. Discussion on parking violations at various locations in District III with possible action.

Cm. Bruni reported that on two specific areas there were cars being parked facing the wrong way, cars parked on both sides of the streets leaving space for one car to drive by, and cars parked too close to the corner, which is a violation of "minimum distance from the corner".

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

34. Public hearing amending Article II, Sewers and Sewage Disposal, Division I, 31-16, definitions, by adding definitions; amending 31-20 by granting enforcement authority to utilities director; deleting 31-22 through 31-25; deleting division III, use of public sewers, 31-51 through 31-67 and replacing with new Division III, same Title 31-51 through 31-68; repealing all conflicting ordinances; providing a penalty; providing for severability, publication and an effective date.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending Article II, Sewers and Sewage Disposal, Division I, 31-16, definitions, by adding definitions; amending 31-20 by granting enforcement authority to utilities director; deleting 31-22 through 31-25; deleting division III, use of public sewers, 31-51 through 31-67 and replacing with new Division III, same Title 31-51 through 31-68; repealing all conflicting ordinances; providing a penalty; providing for severability, publication and an effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cw. Moreno

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Fernando Roman, Utilities Director, made the presentation before the Council.

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cw. Moreno

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 35. Public hearing amending the City of Laredo's 1999-2000 annual budget by increasing estimated revenues and appropriations in the Paseo Del Antiquo Laredo fund by \$225,000 from \$1,352,198 to \$1,577,198 which includes a \$200,000 contribution from Transit and a \$25,000 transfer in from the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF), and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget, providing for an effective date.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the City of Laredo's 1999-2000 annual budget by increasing estimated revenues and appropriations in the Paseo Del Antiquo Laredo fund by \$225,000 from \$1,352,198 to \$1,577,198 which includes a \$200,000 contribution from Transit and a \$25,000 transfer in from the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF), and authorizing the City Manager to implement said budget, providing for an effective date.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.


Adjournment time: 8:00 p.m.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cw. Moreno
For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I hereby certify that the above Minutes contained in pages 01 to 26 are true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Meeting held on the 4th day of October, 1999. A certified copy is on file at the City Secretary's Office.



Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

Minutes approved October 18, 1999