



MINUTES
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

A meeting of the Civil Service Commission was held Tuesday, September 25, 2018. Chairperson Dolores Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 South Cage Blvd., 2nd Floor, Pharr, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairperson, Dolores Rodriguez
Vice-Chairperson, Mario Lizcano
Board Member, Vittorio Puente

STAFF PRESENT:

Civil Service / HR Director, Anali Alanis
Civil Service / HR Coordinator, Bea Fuentes
Asst. Police Chief Edward Chavez/Miguel Yerena

ITEM 1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Rodriguez called the meeting to order.

(a) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Roll call established a quorum.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. KC Fletcher called attention to the screen regarding picture of the old Costco fire lane. The problem is City Wide, its illegal, International Fire Code 503.2 for fire lanes not stenciled appropriately you may give a ticket however non-prosecutable. This problem is important in his neighborhood and Costco because of the trucks coming in and making noise, light and vibration nuisance along with the equipment outside which is a noise nuisance, is closer than the required 26 feet in fire lanes to deploy outriggers because every commercial fire will have a ladder truck present. Costco is endangering themselves, their customers and the public at large by not labeling the curb properly and allowing people to park there. This is a City-Wide public safety issue. These meetings are for the rank and file and the rank and file has to follow leadership and if such poor leadership in the Fire Department. The City Manager position is responsible and sworn to uphold, according to city charter all laws, so the City Manager by knowing about this and not acting upon it is part of the problem. There is a hierarchy problem that I have encouraged the city employees, especially rank and file civil service commission to resist any unlawful orders from above. If you knowingly under code of office tell somebody to do something that is not their job description, you are violating official oppression.

ITEM 3 (a) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON APPROVAL ON MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018.

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano moved to approve minutes as submitted. Board Member Puente seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 @ 4:00pm

ITEM 4 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (PD AND FD)

Asst. Police Chief Edward Chavez reported they currently have (4) cadets attending the Police Academy at South Texas College and are scheduled to graduate November 2018. After graduation they will begin their training phase at Pharr Police Department. Pharr PD has hired (6) certified Peace Officers, of which (4) have successfully completed the training phase and are now patrolling the City of Pharr, the remaining (2) will complete their training phase in November and will too begin patrolling the City of Pharr. In the last 3 months (2) long time Peace Officers retired to pursue other careers. During the month of August, (3) Lieutenants successfully completed a Law Enforcement Leadership training. In September, PD promoted (3) Sergeants and attended a two-week Texas Sergeant Academy Course, making the total number of Sergeants (16) that work for the department. The remaining (13) Sergeants will be attending a leadership, supervisory course that will take place in the month of October. PD has entered a new Memorandum of Understanding with PSJA ISD, where they requested (5) additional school reserve peace officers and are happy to comply with request, these (5) individuals applied and expressed interest in this program and are currently in Corpus Christi, Texas at a state mandated course that is required so that they can take on this role within the school district. Pharr Night Out was a success and coming up on October 31st is the Pharr Phall Phestival to be held at Parks and Rec facility and invite the commission to attend.

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano commented there were great things happening at the City of Pharr, Thanks to the Mayor and elected officials. It is important for the community to keep up to date with what is being provided and that the Civil Service Commission continues to meet monthly even though there are not actual things to vote on, the meeting can continue to provide information to the community on the events as such. Hats off to Pharr Night Out that was a great success and the Phall Phestival brings in a lot of kids, this is a safe haven for the kids to go instead of going out in the streets, hats off to Police and Fire department, Keep up the good work.

Chairperson Rodriguez inquired on the number of vacancies at PD, Asst. Chief Chavez estimates 5-6 in all.

Member Puente commented on the great turnout and his participation at the 2nd Annual Pharr Memorial 5K.

ITEM 5 CIVIL SERVICE COMMENTS

Vice-Chairperson Lizcano recommended Fire department meeting with the Grants department in search of grants or efforts that might be available for the covering of equipment and Fire Apparatuses that are exposed since it affects our city insurance rates. He makes this comment after driving past the fire stations and understands the new station under development will be equipped to house some apparatus's, but not all. Mr. Lizcano would also like to be informed of upcoming civil service testing so that they may be in attendance.

ITEM 6 CIVIL SERVICE DIRECTORS REPORT

Civil Service Director Alanis announced the re-appointing of Vice-chairperson Lizcano on August 12, 2018. The upcoming scheduled entry level firefighter exam for October 13, 2018 and the Deputy Chief promotional exam for October 29, 2018. Ms. Alanis also mentioned the update to the reading material for police and fire promotional exams.

ITEM 7 CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT MAY MEET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA, INCLUDING ITEM(S) 3-8 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076 AND 551.084

The time being, Chairperson Rodriguez stated the commission would be entering a closed session.

ITEM 8 RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

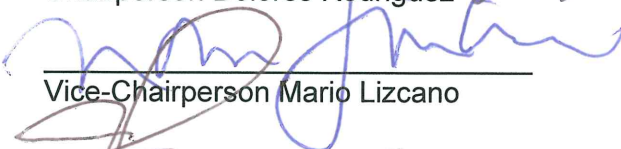
The time being_____, Chairperson stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

No Action

ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before, Vice-Chairperson Lizcano moved to adjourn. It was seconded by Board Member Puente and when put to a vote the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.


Chairperson Dolores Rodriguez


Vice-Chairperson Mario Lizcano


Board Member Vittorio Puente