

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP SESSION
AUGUST 9, 2019
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Workshop Session Meeting on Friday, August 9, 2019 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Roberto "Bobby" Carrillo
Comm. Eleazar Guajardo
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Comm. Daniel Chavez
Comm. Ricardo Medina

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Comm. Itza Flores

STAFF PRESENT: Alex Meade, City Manager
Edward Wylie, Deputy City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer
Gary Rodriguez, Events Center Dir.
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Anali Alanis, HR Director
Marissa Hernandez, Municipal Court Judge
Leonardo Perez, Fire Chief
Jose A. Luengo, Police Chief
Melanie Cano, Dev. Services Dir.
Ricardo Pedraza, Public Works Director
Jose Villescas, Public Utilities Director
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Raul Garza, GMCD Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Veronica Gutierrez, Purchasing
Daniel Ramirez, Communications Dir.

CITY ATTORNEY Patricia Rigney, City Attorney

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Comm. Guajardo moved to excuse the absent members. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 2. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) WELCOMING REMARKS BY CITY MANAGER AND/OR MAYOR

Alex Meade, City Manager, welcomed everyone in attendance and briefly went over this year's budget process.

B) DISCUSSION OF PENDING AND/OR PROPOSED CITY PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTAL DIVISIONS, DUTIES, ROLES, STRUCTURE, EVALUATION; DISCUSSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 THRU FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET FOR ALL CITY GENERALLY AND INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES: TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ); TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE II (TIRZ II); PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II (PEDC); PHARR HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION (PHFC); PHARR HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION JACKSON PLACE APTS.; AND PHARR PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; DISCUSSION ON CAPITAL PURCHASES, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, PERSONNEL, AND DEBT

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, for presentation on the city-wide budget.

Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, gave an overview of the proposed budget FY 2019-2020. She went over the 2019 certified property values and stated fiscal facts for this current FY 2018-2019 including the average increase of in sales tax was 15% and 3% increase in property taxes.

Comm. Chavez entered the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 9:14 a.m.

Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, went over the general fund revenues and expenditures and stated the overall budget increase for FY2019-2020 was 6.4% and stated the increase was personnel and benefits, and capital outlay projects. She went over the proposed personnel and the list of capital outlay projects.

Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, went over the utility fund. She stated the average collected was \$13.5 million in water and sewer combined yearly and the proposed utility fund was still subject to water rate study consideration.

Ms. Saavedra gave an overview of the revenues and expenses for the Pharr Events Center and the Tierra Del Sol Golf Course and stated there were no significant changes. She further reported the long-term debt was \$97 million of which \$55 million in the last four years was for infrastructure, parks, streets, public safety, and recreation. She mentioned \$19 million would be issued in FY19-20 to complete the 3-year debt financing plan for many city projects.

Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, presented the unfunded projects and stated the estimated cost was \$15.9 million. Ed Wylie, Deputy City Manager went over the projects which include North Canna St., MPO Projects, 5th Year Repaving Program, North Knights/Raiders Drive, North Cypress, South Sugar Road, and North Side Library.

Lastly, Ms. Saavedra reported the total city-wide budget was \$109,353,000 excluding capital projects and stated the proposed budget was balanced.

At this time, Alex Meade, City Manager, called upon Angie Flores from Raftelis for a presentation on the water rate study.

Ms. Flores presented the water rate study. She went over the rate and revenue stability, financial plan at existing rates, bond issuances, commercial and residential bill comparison with other cities, and proposed rate increases.

Discussion ensued on the different scenarios for water rate increases.

3. CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE PHARR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT MAY MEET IN A CLOSED (NON-PUBLIC) EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA, INCLUDING ITEM 2

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The time being 10:36 a.m., Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo stated the commission would be entering into closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

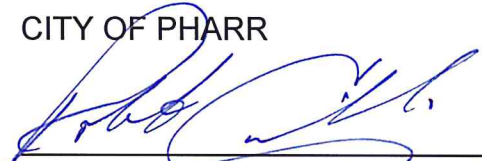
4. RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY, ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

The time being 11:54 a.m., Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Guajardo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Budget Workshop adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

CITY OF PHARR



ROBERTO "BOBBY" CARRILLO
MAYOR PRO TEM

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 9th DAY OF AUGUST 2019 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **BUDGET WORKSHOP** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2nd Floor, Pharr, Texas. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, subject, hereof, having been posted in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) and there being present a quorum, I, **HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:



HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: August 19, 2019