

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Thursday, September 19, 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
Comm. Itza Flores

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez

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

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 BOARD

Mayor Pro-Tem Carrillo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

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

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, led in the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE DAY FOR MURDER VICTIMS

Robert Garcia, Families of Murdered Victims, stated they provide assistance and advocacy to families in the court and thanked the commission for their leadership and understanding. Mr. Garcia encouraged the community to visit them and invited everyone to attend their 7th Annual Candlelight Vigil on September 25, 2019 at the Pharr Events Center from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo expressed his deepest condolences to the families and read proclamation proclaiming National Day of Remembrance Day for Murder Victims. Proclamation was presented to Robert Garcia.

B) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MANUFACTURING DAY

Karina Lopez, PEDC Business Retention Expansion Manager, introduced Belinda Vargas, Mike Willis, Victor Perez and PEDC Board Members. She explained the proclamation was to bring awareness of the manufacturing industry and the many career opportunities the industry brings. Ms. Lopez further acknowledged the partnerships with PSJA ISD and the South Texas Manufacturers Association which allows them to continue supporting the growing innovative industry such as manufacturing. Mike Willis thanked the commission for the recognition and spoke about the many components of the manufacturing industry and various partnerships.

Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo read the proclamation proclaiming Manufacturing Day and presented proclamation to Karina Lopez.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Pedro Garcia, Interim CEO and Artistic Director for Pharr Community Theatre, spoke about agenda item 9-B. He stated the theatre had a very successful 2018 and 2019 years and thanked the City of Pharr for the continued support.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING: SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON 2019 EDWARD BYRNES MEMORIAL JUSTICE GRANT (POLICE)

Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo opened the public hearing. There being no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

ITEM 5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) SUBMISSION OF SALES TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2019 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and reported sales tax for the month of September 2019 has shown an overall positive trend in the amount of \$2,813,033 from this point last year, for an increase of 15.40%.

B) SUBMISSION OF TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 2019 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and stated current tax collections as of August 2019 were \$18,323,336 or 95.75% collected out of this year's levy which was a 0.13% decrease compared to last year.

C) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Alex Meade, City Manager, reported the Pharr Economic Development Corporation and the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the 2nd Annual Pharr International Trucking Expo on Saturday, September 21, 2019. He stated this was a free event open to the public and invited everyone to attend.

Alex Meade, City Manager, extended an invitation to the public to join the City of Pharr in celebrating the Pharr First Responders Festival on Saturday, September 28, 2019 in downtown Pharr. He stated this was a free community festival featuring live music, raffle prizes, carnival rides, fire prevention tips, family games, free school supplies, and much more.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 REGULAR CALLED MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING (ADMINISTRATION)**
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPLICATION FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR IDEA OWASSA (IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS) WALK-A-THON ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 FROM 7:30 A.M. TO 9:45 A.M. (ADMINISTRATION)**
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AGGREGATE AND INDIVIDUAL STOP LOSS INSURANCE FOR SELF-FUNDED MEDICAL PLAN (PROJECT 1819-01-526-S038-047) (HR)**
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION RATIFYING ONE-YEAR EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH STAR SECURITY FOR PHARR EVENTS CENTER IN-HOUSE SECURITY SERVICES (PROJECT NO.1819-01-530-IPQ018-001) (EVENTS CENTER)**
- E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH LHOIST NORTH AMERICA OF TEXAS, LTD. FOR TYPE B LIME SLURRY (PROJECT #1819-01-517-SP001-001) (PURCHASING)**
- F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND CONTRACT WITH CERES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. FOR CATASTROPHIC EVENT DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES (PROJECT NO. 1415-01-517-0022) (PUBLIC WORKS)**
- G) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF PEDC II LINE OF CREDIT WITH LONE STAR NATIONAL BANK (PEDC II)**

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval of the consent agenda.

Comm. Guajardo moved to approve as recommended. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING TAX RATE FOR FY 2019-2020 (ADOPTION ON 1ST READING) (FINANCE)**

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He stated this was adoption of first reading and as per Texas Local Tax Code Chapter 26, cities need to officially make a motion to adopt a tax each fiscal year.

Alex Meade, City Manager, further recommended the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of tax rate of .7176¢ which is effectively and 11% increase in the tax rate. Mr. Meade stated this would allow the City of Pharr take on additional debt to help us with infrastructure improvements.

Comm. Guajardo briefly stated the reason for the increase was mainly for necessary infrastructure improvements needed as experienced by the last two heavily impacted flooding events.

Comm. Caballero, Comm. Chavez, Comm. Flores and Comm. Medina echoed Comm. Guajardo comments. Mayor Pro Tem Carrillo stated once these issues were addressed, the commission would bring the tax rates back down. Lastly, Mr. Meade explained the increase to the average household within the City of Pharr would be approximately forty-eight dollars a year.

There being no further discussion, Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate; Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate; Comm. Caballero **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate; Comm. Chavez **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate; Comm. Medina **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate; and Comm. Flores **moved** to approve the proposed tax rate increase of .7176¢ which is effectively a 11% increase in the tax rate. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. O-2019-39 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROVING BUDGET FOR YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019 ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 (ADOPTION ON 1ST READING) (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and stated cities were required to prepare and adopt an annual budget as part of Texas Local Government Code Chapter 102. He stated the budget was in their packets and Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, was available for any questions. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion.

Comm. Medina requested information on the final budget for each department. He stated he was interested in knowing what their needs were and would like to have the information in writing to review. Alex Meade, City Manager, stated this was discussed during the budget workshop but will provide him the information as requested.

There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote and it carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. O-2019-40 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING ADVERSE INCIDENT PAY POLICY (1ST READING) (HR)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this policy was created to establish a special compensation provision for the impact period of an adverse incident such as an unforeseen hurricane or flooding. He added exempt and non-exempt employees would be paid at time and a half pay during these events. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Medina **moved** to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCES O-2011-27 AND O-2011-52 RENAMING NEWCOMBE AVE. TO ITS ORIGINAL STREET NAME PARK AVE. (1ST READING) (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-2018-37 (RENTAL OF CITY FACILITIES) (2ND READING) (PARKS)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE(S) TO THE HIDALGO COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2020-2021 (ADMINISTRATION)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended Albert Cardenas as candidate to the Hidalgo County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Comm. Medina **moved** to nominate Albert Cardenas as recommended. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2019-47 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING BUDGET FOR PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II FOR FY 2019-2020 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING BUDGET FOR TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE NO. 1 FOR FY 2019-2020 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING BUDGET FOR TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE NO. 2 FOR FY 2019-2020 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

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

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING BUDGET FOR PHARR HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION FOR FY 2019-2020 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo moved to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING BUDGET FOR PHARR HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION JACKSON PLACE APARTMENTS FOR FY 2019-2020 (FINANCE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo moved to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CAXCAN S.A DE C.V INGENIEROS CIVILES TO CONDUCT FIELD STUDIES AND CONCEPTUAL PLAN COST ESTIMATES FOR BRIDGE EXPANSION PROJECT (TWIN BRIDGE/SECOND SPAN) IN MEXICO (PROJECT # 1819-70-510-S034-001) (BRIDGE)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this was for a study to assist with the expansion of the bridge both on the Mexican and the United States side. He further recommended approval subject to legal review.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

G) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE LAS MILPAS ROAD LEFT TURN LANE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT (PROJECT NO. 1819-39-510-C009-516) (ENGINEERING)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item and stated the change order amount was \$37,348.64 and recommended approval.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

H) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, REJECTING SOLE BID FOR THE PHARR PORT OF ENTRY NORTHBOUND LANES EXPANSION AND 2ND BSIF EXIT AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO RE ADVERTISE FOR BIDS (CSJ# 0921-02-385 & 0921-02-383) (ENGINEERING)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly explained one bid was received on June 27, 2019 but it was disqualified due to not meeting the requirements of

the bid solicitation. He further recommended approval to reject bid and re-advertise project for bids.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to reject bid. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 9. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN PHARR PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (TLETS) (COMMUNICATIONS)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the agreement would allow Pharr Public Safety Communications to have its own TLETS services and recommended approval.

Comm. Medina **moved** to approve. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE PHARR COMMUNITY THEATER FY2019-2020 (PROJECT #1718-01-520-IPQ054-001) (LIBRARY)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the agreement was for the cultural program in the amount of \$35,000 and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF PRODUCT LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH NEARMAP US INC. FOR HIGH RESOLUTION AERIAL IMAGERY (PROJECT #1718-01-528-IPQ049-001) (ENGINEERING)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the cost was \$10,000 and recommended approval.

Comm. Medina **moved** to approve. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES FOR THE MYCIVIC 311 MOBILE APPLICATION, SOURCEWELL CONTRACT#110515-TTI (PROJECT #1819-01-518-IPQ070-003) (IT)

Alex Meade, City Manager, introduced the item. He explained this mobile application would allow us to identify pot holes and other problems throughout the city and would be available to the entire community. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Flores **moved** to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

ITEM 10. 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 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING BELOW

None

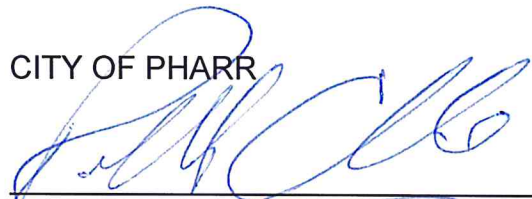
ITEM 11. RECONVENE

None

ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Guajardo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



ROBERTO "BOBBY" CARRILLO
MAYOR PRO TEM

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 19th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **REGULAR CALLED MEETING** 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: October 7, 2019