MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, February 17, 2020 and following is the record of attendance.

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Edward Wylie, Deputy City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, ACM/City Clerk
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer
Gary Rodriguez, Events Ctr. Director
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Anali Alanis, ACM/HR Director
Marissa Hernandez, Municipal Court Judge
Edward Chavez, Asst. Police Chief
Leonardo Perez, Fire Chief
Melanie Cano, Dev. Services Director
Pilar Rodriguez, Interim Public Works Dir.
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Santiago Salinas, CDBG
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Veronica Gutierrez, Purchasing
Daniel Ramirez, Comm. 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 Hernandez called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

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 ENGINEERS WEEK.

Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, introduced Maria Rangel, Moises Beas and Ivan Villalobos and stated National Engineers Week was a way to bring outreach to the community on what Engineers do and how they serve the community. Mr. Anzaldua also stated the City has had a great opportunity to work with PSJA Southwest High School, TSTEM Early College High School and PSJA North High School on three actual

real live projects for students to have hands-on experience and teach them what engineering is about.

Maria Rangel, Graduate Engineer and President for American Society of Civil Engineers (A.S.C.E.), stated A.S.C.E. was committed to promoting, encouraging and recognizing civil engineering excellence and professional growth through monthly meetings, networking opportunities, and scholarship awards. Ms. Rangel stated engineers were strong leaders that advance our communities by building a better quality of life and thanked the Mayor and City Commission for their continued support.

Mayor Hernandez read proclamation proclaiming February 16–22, 2020 as National Engineers Week and presented proclamation to Omar Anzaldua and staff.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, 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 FEBRUARY 2020

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and reported the City of Pharr had an increase of 9.6% compared from last year.

B) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported Anali Alanis, Assistant City Manager/H.R. Director, was appointed to the Texas Municipal Retirement System Board of Trustees. He stated the Board oversees the Texas Retirement System and is responsible for providing and securing a benefit plan for eligible employees to more than 800 cities.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported Kenneth Ennis, Assistant Communications Director, was named the Southern Regional Representative and Regional Training Coordinator for 911 Trainers. He stated Mr. Ennis was responsible for coordinating standardized training for all telecommunicators in the southern district, which is 32 counties.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported Danny Ramirez, Communications Director, was elected as Vice-chair of the Rio Grande Valley Healthcare Preparedness Coalition. He stated this Coalition was comprised of all the hospitals in the valley, EMS Services, Emergency Management and Long-Term care facilities. Mr. Wylie also stated the coalition was tasked with ensuring that members are working together on all issues including no notice disasters, pandemics and high consequent infectious controls.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported Jose Pena, IT Director, submitted an abstract presentation to the Texas Association of Governmental I.T. Managers for consideration as a topic of an upcoming conference. His presentation was accepted, and the focus was the City of Pharr's Parks Safety Project, which was done this past year. He stated Mr. Pena was chosen as one of the conference special presentations

that would be held mid-April and their project would be called Partners for the Future, A Smart City Comes to Life in the Rio Grande Valley.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported the Pharr Chamber of Commerce would be naming Miss Pharr HubPhest on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at the Pharr Events Center and the deadline to register was March 9, 2020.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported the Annual St. Patrick's Day 5K run/walk would take place on Saturday, March 14, 2020 and stated registrations could be done online or in-person. Sergio Alanis, Parks and Recreation Director, stated everything was ready and the deadline to register was March 13, 2020.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported the Pharr Municipal Court would be holding their amnesty program from February 17, 2020 to March 31, 2020. He stated failure to appear warrants and notices would be waived if fines were paid in full.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported Parks and Recreation and Public Works were working on drainage maintenance and everything was expected to be completed by May 2020 before the start of hurricane season.

Comm. Medina congratulated Mayor Hernandez for his recent appointment to the Cancer Research Institute Committee. Mayor Hernandez this committee had a budget of $3 billion for research on both the clinical side and the research arm for the entire state of Texas. He stated the committee would address the needs of the citizens and more importantly it was good to have someone from the Rio Grande Valley in the committee so everyone could get a fair share on funds distribution when it comes to patient care and research.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated due to renovations of City Hall 1st floor, the city would not be issuing any permits on Thursday, February 20, 2020 and Friday, February 21, 2020. He stated garage sale permits would not be charged for that weekend.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, called upon Danny Ramirez, Communications Director, to introduce the Code Red Notification System. Mr. Ramirez stated Code Red was a mass notification system to send alerts to the public in case of an emergency and encouraged everyone to register in preparedness for hurricane season.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 20, 2020 REGULAR CALLED MEETING (ADMINISTRATION)

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON SPONSORSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF $5,000 FOR IDEA DINNER AUCTION SCHOLARSHIP GALA 2020 ON THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020 (ADMINISTRATION)

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON SPONSORSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF $500 FOR THE PSJA ISD 8TH ANNUAL CANCER AWARENESS WALK TRACK OF HOPE ON FEBRUARY 22, 2020 (ADMINISTRATION)

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON LOCAL CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $5,000 TO LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR THE CENSUS 2020 REGIONAL MARKETING INITIATIVE (ADMINISTRATION)

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:

1. **XOTICAS, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESS LICENSE IN A LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (L-I). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS A 0.6081 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 100, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 4502 NORTH CAGE BOULEVARD. SOB#010105**

2. **LA VITAM-INA JAROCHA, LLC REQUESTED A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION IN A GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING ALL OF LOT 6, RAIDER PLAZA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 4005 NORTH VETERANS BOULEVARD. CUP#200103**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval of the consent agenda.

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

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated they would deviate from the agenda and go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 12. 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

The time being 3:15 p.m., Mayor Hernandez 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.

ITEM 13. RECONVENE

The time being 3:51 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE SETTING GUIDELINES AND FRAMEWORK FOR NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT ZONE/BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 2020-01 *(2ND READING)* (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

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

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CLOSURE OF US 281 (CAGE BOULEVARD) FROM CLARK AVENUE TO KELLY AVENUE AND BUSINESS 83 FROM BLUEBONNET AVENUE TO BIRCH STREET FOR THE HUB PHESTIVAL FROM THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020 AT 12:01 AM UNTIL SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020 AT 8:00 PM. (PUBLIC WORKS)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

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

Resolution No. R-2020-10 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PHARR MUNICIPAL COURT AMNESTY PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2020 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020 (MUNICIPAL COURT)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

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

B) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PHARR INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated no action was necessary.

ITEM 9. PURCHASING

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD SUPPLY CONTRACT(S) FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF STATION UNIFORMS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO MULTIPLE VENDORS (PROJECT #1920-01-515-SP006-268) (FIRE)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated two bids were received on January 31, 2020 and recommended awarding supply contracts to Galls, L.L.C and Casco Industries for best cost-effective pricing.

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

ITEM 10. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AMEND CONTRACT WITH THE WARREN GROUP, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $44,600 FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FACILITY EXPANSION AND RENOVATIONS PROJECT. (PROJECT #C1617-01-528-0080) (TABLED ITEM) (ENGINEERING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended to untable the item.

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

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, explained this was for architectural services only and the budget would be amended at a later time. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried by majority vote of (6) ayes and one (1) abstention. Comm. Chavez abstained from voting.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SESAC, LLC FOR PUBLIC PERFORMANCE RIGHTS (EVENTS CENTER)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and briefly stated SESAC was an organization that protects professional artists property rights and royalty compensation. He stated the fee was based on population and recommended approval.

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

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ACCEPTANCE OF FIRE STATION NUMBER 4 AS COMPLETE AND AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE RETAINAGE TO THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK (CMAR) (C1718-01-510-0023) (ENGINEERING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and briefly stated the project was complete and release of retainage was $112,000. He further recommended approval.

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

ITEM 11. LEGAL

A) CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING JACKSON PLACE APARTMENTS (LEGAL)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated no action was necessary.

ITEM 14. 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 3:54 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR

AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 17th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020 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, Teas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:

HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: March 16, 2020