

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, July 6, 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, Interim City Manager
Anali Alanis, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, ACM/City Clerk
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Gary Rodriguez, Events Center Director
Marissa Hernandez, Municipal Court Judge
Edward Chavez, Assistant Police Chief
Leonardo Perez, Fire Chief
Pilar Rodriguez, Interim Public Works Dir.
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Raul Garza, CDBG Director
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Ignacio Amezcua, Purchasing Director
Daniel Ramirez, Communications Director
Karina Lopez, Interim Chamber President

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 4:03 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION.

Comm. Guajardo led in the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING CLEFT AND CRANIOFACIAL AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

Comm. Caballero read proclamation proclaiming the month of July 2020 as Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month. He presented proclamation to Dirsoll Children's Hospital representatives Laura Cortez, Maria Connie Gonzalez, Cynthia Figueroa, and Dora Pulido.

Maria C. Gonzalez stated Dr. Vanessa Dimas and Dr. Kevin Hopkins were the surgeons who treat children born with clefts and other craniofacial conditions and their clinics were in McAllen, Harlingen, and Brownsville. She further thanked the Commission for the recognition.

Mayor Hernandez thanked them for their services and dedication to Children's Hospital by helping and supporting children and their families.

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

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, deviated from the agenda and go to Item 5 (B). There was no objection.

B) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

At this time, Municipal Court Judge Marissa Hernandez briefly went over the many accomplishments during her tenure as Municipal Court Judge and recognized her staff for their great work and dedication. She further thanked the Mayor and Commission for the opportunity of serving the City of Pharr.

Mayor Hernandez and Commissioners thanked Ms. Hernandez for her service and wished her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

At this time, Mayor Hernandez called upon Hector and Deborah Cruz to approach the podium. Mayor Hernandez stated the couple got married on June 8, 2020 at downtown park and recognized them for being the first couple to get married in a city park. They were congratulated and presented with a wedding gift by the City Commission.

A) CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He stated projects were on track and questions could be entertained at this time.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 12, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AND JUNE 15, 2020 REGULAR CALLED MEETING (ADMINISTRATION)

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:

1. RAUL FONG, D/B/A JUNCTION CAFE, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION IN A BUSINESS DISTRICT (C-2). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1 AND THE S7' OF LOT 2, BLOCK 1, J.T. DOSTER SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 11 SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD. CUP#911291

PLATS:

1. JAVIER HINOJOSA ENGINEERING, REPRESENTING ILSE A. VIDAURRI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR PHARR BRIDGE INVESTMENTS COMPANY, LP, REQUESTED PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED PHARR BRIDGE BUSINESS PARK PHASE III SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 7.78-ACRE TRACT OF LAND, BEING PART OR PORTION OF LOT 378, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 900 BLOCK OF WEST ZARAGOSA DRIVE. SUB#200517

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

Comm. Carrillo **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 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-2007-06 AND ADOPTING A NEW AND UPDATED ORDINANCE KNOWN AS "SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES" (2ND READING) (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

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.

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-2019-50 RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS WITHIN THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS (1ST READING) (ADMINISTRATION)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the number of Lieutenant positions were increased by one and the patrol division positions were decreased by one. He further recommended approval.

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

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL JUDGE AND ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL JUDGE(S) FOR THE CITY OF PHARR (ADMINISTRATION)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to appoint Criselda Rincon-Flores as Municipal Judge and Rodolfo Martinez as Alternate Judge for the Pharr Municipal Court. He briefly stated the second Alternate Judge was not needed at this time due to slowdown of

pandemic crisis. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Mayor Hernandez briefly stated Judge Robert Garza had done an excellent job and had no deficiencies but due to an unforeseen issue he was not eligible for reappointment. He stated a judge must be a resident of Pharr to be in compliance with city charter.

Ordinance No. O-2020-19 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM THE U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR A 0.57AC ACCESS EASEMENT FOR THE NEW 2ND BSIF EXIT LOCATED AT THE PHARR-REYNOSA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (ENGINEERING)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the new exit from bridge to the Border Safety Inspection Facility (BSIF) was crossing city ditch and recommended approval.

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

- B) CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE CITY'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (ADMINISTRATION)**

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

ITEM 9. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HALFF ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY-WIDE DITCH WIDENING PROJECT NO. 1920-01-528-S020-001 (ROTATION LIST) **TABLED** (ENGINEERING)**

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

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

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, recommended no action.

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SIGLER WINSTON & GREENWOOD, LLC FOR PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITYWIDE DITCH WIDENING PROJECT NO. 1920-01-528-S020-001 (ROTATION LIST) (ENGINEERING)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated plans were needed to widen the city ditches and the cost was approximately \$74,000. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo **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 AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE WARREN GROUP, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN OF THE NORTH SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER (PROJECT NO. 1920-01-528-S015-001) (ROTATION LIST) (PARKS)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated the city had secured the property and preliminary plans were in place to start construction. He stated the cost was in-line with other projects at a 7% and was approximately \$525,204. He further stated the project was to be completed by April or May 2021 and recommended approval.

Mayor Hernandez requested that the architect acknowledged the timeline of the project. Comm. Medina asked if there were other architect firms that were capable to do this type of work.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, explained the Warren Group was already vested with the City of Pharr and understood the goals of the city. He further stated they had done the preliminary plans pro bono and stated this was why staff was recommending this firm.

There being no further comments, Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR, CITY OF SAN JUAN, CITY OF ALAMO, AND THE PHARR-SAN JUAN-ALAMO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PSJA TRI-CITY PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PHASE I (ENGINEERING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He stated the City of Pharr was the lead entity for the project and would be doing all the engineering work. He stated the total financial commitment estimated for the city was \$315,823.96.

Mayor Hernandez stated PSJA Independent School District would prioritize and select where the sidewalks would be placed.

There being no further comments, Comm. Guajardo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD ANNUAL SUPPLY CONTRACT FOR CITYWIDE DITCH EXCAVATION HAULING SERVICES (PROJECT# 1920-60-582-S033-171) (PURCHASING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was the actual excavation of the ditches. He recommended Saenz Brothers for a project cost of \$2,472,500.

Comm. Chavez **moved** to approve as recommended. Mayor Hernandez seconded the motion.

Mayor Hernandez asked staff where the dirt would be placed. Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated there were two options placed in contract. The first option was 0-5 miles and the second option was 5-10 miles and an alternate would be placed in the contract if needed.

Comm. Medina asked staff if the decision to award contract to Saenz Brothers was the right decision since they were not the lowest bidder.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated the City was getting the best value and the recommendation was from Engineering and Procurement Departments. He stated the criteria was based on previous work done with the City and work of this type. He further stated the other company did not have work of this magnitude.

Comm. Guajardo asked if additional companies would be needed to expedite this project. Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated Saenz Brothers was the general contractor and needed to meet the 90-day deadline. He stated if they need to procure another company, the general contractor then will hire sub-contractor to assist with the project.

There being no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote and it carried by majority vote of six (6) ayes and one (1) abstention. Comm. Carrillo abstained from voting.

F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE PHARR CITY HALL 1ST FLOOR RENOVATION PROJECT (PROJECT #1920-40-510-C008-755) (PURCHASING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this was a 207-day construction project and recommended N&M Contracting of McAllen, Texas in the amount of \$2,349,203.

Mayor Hernandez stated there would be no further change orders for the project and contractor understood this was the final budget for project.

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

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.

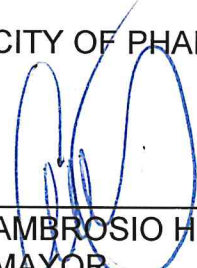
ITEM 11. RECONVENE

None.

ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Carrillo moved to adjourn. Comm. Guajardo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 6th DAY OF JULY 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, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:



HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: July 20, 2020