

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Comm. Eleazar Guajardo
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Mayor Pro Tem Roberto "Bobby" Carrillo
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 Anzaldúa, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Andrew Harvey Jr., Police Chief
Leonardo Perez, Fire Chief
Melanie Cano, Development Services Dir.
Pilar Rodriguez, Interim Public Works Dir.
Ruben Rosalez, Public Utilities Director
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Cynthia Garza, C.D.B.G./External Affairs Dir.
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Ignacio Amezcua, Purchasing Director
Daniel Ramirez, Emergency Comm. 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 BOARD

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

**B) Mayor Hernandez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:02 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION**

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

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING APRIL 5-8, 2021 AS CDBG WEEK (GMCD)

Comm. Medina read proclamation proclaiming April 5-8, 2021 as CDBG Week.

Santiago Salinas, CDBG Manager, thanked the Commission for the proclamation and announced the City recently received funds for various programs from CARES Act funding.

Cindy Garza Reyes, External Affairs Director, spoke about the COVID funding and the utilization of the Utility Assistance Program and Housing Program. She stated these programs required guidelines that need to be strictly adhered to by staff and thanked the Commission for the proclamation.

B) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING APRIL 4-10, 2021 AS NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2021 (LIBRARY)

Comm. Flores read proclamation proclaiming April 4-10, 2021 as National Library Week 2021.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, thanked the Commission for the proclamation and recognized his staff for all their hard work and dedication to the library.

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated they would deviate from the agenda to item 2.D. There was no objection.

D) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING APRIL 2021 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH (GMCD)

Mayor Hernandez read proclamation proclaiming April 2021 as Fair Housing Month.

Santiago Salinas, CDBG Manager and Mario Guajardo, Pharr Housing Board Chairman received the proclamation. Mr. Guajardo thanked the Commission for the recognition and for their continued support to provide adequate housing for the citizens of Pharr.

C) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING APRIL 11-17, 2021 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK (COMMUNICATIONS)

Mayor Hernandez read proclamation proclaiming April 11-17, 2021 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Kenneth Ennis, Interim Communications Director, and staff received the proclamation. Mr. Ennis stated he was very appreciative of his staff and the City Commission for their continued support.

Mayor Hernandez and Comm. Caballero commended staff for an outstanding job briefly spoke about the future EMS ambulance services in the City of Pharr.

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

ITEM 11. CLOSED SESSION

The time being 4:33 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 12. RECONVENE

The time being 4:56 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

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

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Sergio Alanis, Parks & Recreation Director, to report on Arbor Day Foundation – Tree City USA.

Sergio Alanis, Parks & Recreation Director, Isaac Escobedo, Assistant Director and Lily Martinez, Urban Ecologist, announced the City of Pharr was awarded the 2020 Tree City USA by the Arbor Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management for the fourth consecutive year. Mr. Alanis stated the city achieved this recognition by meeting the program's four requirements and by continuing to be proactive to ensure the quality of life for the future generations.

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, called upon Police Chief, Andy Harvey.

Andrew Harvey, Chief of Police, reported Bola Wrap company introduced a new tool for police officers to consider using new less than lethal tool. He presented a one-minute video on the new tool and stated this was the direction the Pharr Police Department was headed.

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager stated he would deviate from the agenda and go to item 7.C. There was no objection.

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE CREATING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF PHARR (ADOPTION ON 2ND READING) (ADMINISTRATION)

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

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

Ordinance No. O-2021-19 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL, AND OR COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS SUCH AS TEXAS DIR, TIP, BUYBOARD FOR THE CITY WIDE FIBER OPTIC NETWORK PROJECTS (ENGINEERING)

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.

ITEM 10. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ENGAGEMENT OF PFM FINANCIAL ADVISORS, LLC OUT OF AUSTIN, TX FOR FINANCIAL ADVISOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF \$41,000,000 COMBINATION TAX & REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2021 FOR BRIDGE EXPANSION (FINANCE)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated the City of Pharr was ready to begin working on the second bridge expansion project. He stated the City obtained the Presidential Permit for this project and project was currently in the design phase. He further stated it would take sixty (60) to ninety (90) days to obtain the funding and recommended PFM Financial Advisors.

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, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH MILITARY HIGHWAY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and briefly stated this was to supply water inside the 17,000-acre extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) service area. He further stated a sub-committee of two (2) members by Military Highway Water Supply Corporation, two (2) members by the City of Pharr and one (1) member at-large would be created to oversee the project and recommended approval.

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

Mayor Hernandez left the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 5:07 p.m.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, RATIFYING RESOLUTION NO. R-2021-19 (ADMINISTRATION)

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO ADVERTISE FOR A SUPPLY CONTRACT TO PURCHASE SAFETY BOOTS AND SHOES (PUBLIC WORKS)

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:

1. GILMA T. RIVAS REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM AGRICULTURAL AND/OR OPEN SPACE DISTRICT (A-O) TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY DISTRICT (R-MF). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 10.00-ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 119 KELLY PHARR TRACT, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 3800 NORTH SUGAR ROAD. COZ#210214
2. TELECOM STEWARDSHIP, L.L.C., D/B/A BRANDWOOD WIRELESS INC, REQUESTED A LIFE OF THE USE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW A NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER IN A GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 0.01-ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 8, JOHNSTONE SUPPLY SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 971 WEST SHARM DRIVE. CUP#210215
3. MAURICIO JARAMILLO, D/B/A REGENCY FIESTA, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE 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 LOT 1, REGENCY SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 1020 WEST FERGUSON AVENUE. CUP#071271

PLATS:

1. PABLO SOTO, JR., P.E., REPRESENTING RAMON GUAJARDO, JR., OWNER, REQUESTED A FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FERGUSON PLAZA SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 1.00-ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 147, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO

COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 429 EAST FERGUSON AVENUE. SUB#200824

2. LINFIELD, HUNTER & JUNIUS INC., REPRESENTING GORDON & CATHERINE JENKINS FAMILY LTD. PARTNERSHIP REQUESTED A FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED LOPEZVILLE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 1.739 ACRE TRACT OF LAND IN THE ANTONIO VELASCO SURVEY, ABSTRACT AND BEING A PORTION OF LOT 96, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT THE 5200 BLOCK OF NORTH VETERANS BOULEVARD ("I" ROAD). SUB#190101

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

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

Ordinance No. O-2021-15 and Resolution No. R-2021-19 are filed with the City Clerk's Office.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-82-13 APPENDIX A, ZONING ORDINANCE (3RD AND FINAL READING) (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the amendment was for multi-family zoning and recommended approval.

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

Ordinance No. O-2021-16 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-2020-38 RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS WITHIN THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS. (3RD AND FINAL READING) (HR)**

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this was to increase an Engineer position in the fire department and recommended approval.

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

Ordinance No. O-2021-17 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING O-2017-13, CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE III OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF PHARR; DECLARING THAT THE CITY OF PHARR WILL BE THE SOLE PRIMARY PROVIDER OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY (ADOPTION ON 1ST READING) (ADMINISTRATION)**

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

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

Ordinance No. O-2021-18 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY HIRING IN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly explained the city charter prohibits increasing personnel or payroll for any department within sixty days before an election. However, some departments were vital to the city's operations and were requiring staffing. He further recommended approval.

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

Resolution No. R-2021-20 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION DETERMINING A PUBLIC NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY; GIVING NOTICE OF AN OFFICIAL DETERMINATION TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO COMMUNICATE OFFERS TO OWNERS FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, APPROPRIATE FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDING BY CITY ATTORNEY, CONTINGENT ON AVAILABLE FUNDING (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated there was a need to acquire property for a road from South Sugar Road to Military Highway and recommended approval.

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

Resolution No. R-2021-21 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AMENDING THE PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECT ROTATION LIST FOR ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTS (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended adding Gallegos Project Management to the rotation list for professional services.

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

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR PROJECT ADVANCED LEARNING (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly explained the City would be entering into a contract for the building of a higher education facility in the city of Pharr. He stated an architect was needed for the renderings and preliminary plans and recommended approval.

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

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE CITY WIDE DITCH EXCAVATION HAULING SERVICES PROJECT AND RELEASE OF FINAL BALANCE WITH RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$237,625.00 (ENGINEERING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the project was completed and recommended approval.

Comm. Chavez moved to approve. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried by majority vote of five (5) ayes and one (1) abstention. Comm. Carrillo abstained from voting.

ITEM 9. PURCHASING

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) CURRENT MODEL JOHN DEERE 310SL BACKHOE LOADER FROM DOGETT EQUIPMENT OUT OF SAN JUAN, TX IN THE AMOUNT OF \$104,785.40 UTILIZING BUYBOARD CONTRACT #597-19 (PUBLIC WORKS)

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

Comm. Flores 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, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD A PURCHASE OF TEN (10) 2021-2022 CITY VEHICLES THROUGH CALDWELL COUNTRY CHEVROLET FROM CALDWELL, TX USING BUYBOARD CONTRACT #601-19 (PURCHASING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He stated this was for seven (7) police units, two (2) pick-up trucks for Public Works Department and one (1) sport utility vehicle for Media Department. He further stated these vehicles were budgeted for and recommended approval.

Comm. Guajardo moved to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion.

Comm. Medina asked when the City of Pharr would be considering the purchase of electric vehicles. Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated there were no electric stations within the City of Pharr but would look at putting together a proposal for electric stations and electric vehicles.

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

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) DIAMOND BOOM MOWER - 30 REACH 50" DECK FROM JOHN DEERE OUT OF WESLACO, TX IN THE AMOUNT OF \$186,641.31 UTILIZING BUYBOARD CONTRACT #611-20 (PARKS)

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

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

ITEM 10. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CATASTROPHIC EVENT DEBRIS REMOVAL SERVICES (PUBLIC WORKS)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended awarding TRF Enterprises Inc. as the primary debris removal contractor and Ceres Environmental Services as the secondary debris removal contractor.

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

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR DEBRIS MONITORING AND RECOVERY PLANNING SERVICES (PUBLIC WORKS)

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

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

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH BORDER PACIFIC RAILROAD CO. OUT OF RIO GRANDE CITY, TX FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF STONE AGGREGATE (PURCHASING)

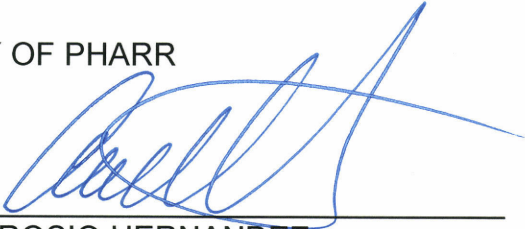
Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this was for a one (1) year extension with same terms and recommended approval.

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

ITEM 13. 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 5:16 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 5th DAY OF APRIL 2021 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:



for
HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: June 7, 2021