

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2021
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, December 20, 2021 and following is the record of attendance.

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Edward Wylie, Interim City Manager
Annie Reeves, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Juan Villescascas, Municipal Judge
Andy Harvey, Police Chief
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Roland Gomez, Interim Dev. Svcs. Director
Olga Garza, Public Works Director
Melanie Cano, O.S.E. Director
Ruben Rosales, Public Utilities Director
Isaac Escobedo, Asst. Parks & Rec. Director
Cynthia Garza, CDBG/External Affairs
Mike Singleterry, Asst. Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Ignacio Amezcua, Purchasing Director
Danny Ramirez, E.M.S. Chief
Marcela Beas, Chamber President
Yuri Gonzalez, Communications Officer
Kenneth Ennis, Public Safety 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 (ADMINISTRATION)
Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, led the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY
There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS
A) PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES

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Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, opened the public hearing. There being no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed.

ITEM 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reported the Pharr First Responders Blue Santa Toy Give Away would be held today, December 20, 2021 at EMS Headquarters from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. He stated this was a drive-thru event and invited the public to attend.

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, further reported the New Year's Eve Ball Drop event would be held on Friday, December 31, 2021 in Downtown Pharr from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. He further stated admission was free and invited everyone to attend.

At this time, Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, called upon Yuri Gonzalez, for a couple of reports.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, reported the Christmas Posada held on Saturday, December 11, 2021 had been a great success and showed a recap video.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, showed a recap video of a recent trip to Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. Luis, Bazan, Bridge Director, stated the Pharr International Bridge and COMCE Noreste (Consejo Mexicano de Comercio Exterior) had signed an agreement that formalizes a long-standing relationship between the two groups and allows the Bridge to have direct access to major importers and decision makers from the Northeastern Region of Mexico.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, further stated the memorandum of understanding with COMCE Noreste would allow COMCE partners to prioritize the Pharr International Bridge as their primary port of trade with the United States. He further stated the direct relationships are crucial to comply with free trade agreements such as USMCA (United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement).

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated this has been a successful year, from dealing with COVID-19 pandemic to great projects such as the bridge expansion, broadband project, and new Pharr EMS Department. He stated this could not be done without the Commission's continued support and thanked them and staff for great teamwork.

A) SUBMISSION OF SALES TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2021

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, stated the City of Pharr showed an increase of 21.20% year-to-date true growth compared to last year and 13.02% compared to last December 2020.

ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 4, 2021 REGULAR CALLED MEETING; OCTOBER 18, 2021 REGULAR CALLED MEETING; NOVEMBER 1, 2021 REGULAR CALLED MEETING; NOVEMBER 15, 2021 REGULAR CALLED MEETING; NOVEMBER 22, 2021 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING; NOVEMBER 30, 2021 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING; AND DECEMBER 6, 2021 REGULAR CALLED MEETING (ADMINISTRATION)**
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM HEALING HANDS INTERNATIONAL FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE FOR THEIR WALK FOR WATER EVENT ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022 FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. (ADMINISTRATION)**

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

1. MELDEN & HUNT, INC., REPRESENTING ERICKSON CONSTRUCTION LLC., OWNER, 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 15.455 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 91, KELLY PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED AT 701 WEST MINNESOTA ROAD. COZ#211069 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)
2. JUVERA PROPERTIES, LTD., LLP., OWNER REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C) TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY DISTRICT (R-MF). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 1.11 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 2, DE ALBA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE 900-1000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD COZ#211070 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)
3. JUVERA PROPERTIES, LTD., LLP., REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C) TO TOWNHOUSE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-TH). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 0.42 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 2, DE ALBA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE 900-1000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD. COZ#211071 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

PLATS:

1. R. GUTIERREZ ENGINEERING CORPORATION, REPRESENTING ALFREDO PALACIOS AND DINA PALACIOS, OWNERS, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED RE-PLAT OF LOT 24, SING'S SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 3.05 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 24, SING'S SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 3000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CANNA STREET. SUB#200926 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

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

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

Comm. Carrillo expressed his concern with items C.2 and C.3 and asked why residential zone was put on a major commercial thoroughfare.

Roland Gomez, Interim Development Services Director, explained the area was currently zoned commercial and the properties to the west were zoned Residential Multi-Family High Density District. He stated the property for item C.2 was designated as multi-family use in the Land Use Plan and the property for item C.3 was designated as commercial in the Land Use Plan.

After a brief discussion, Comm. Guajardo amended his motion and moved to remove items C.2 and C.3 for further consideration and approve the remaining items. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. O-2021-66 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

At this time, Mayor Hernandez stated they would deviate from the agenda and go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 9. 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

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The time being 4:21 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 10. RECONVENE

The time being 5:25 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

2. JUVERA PROPERTIES, LTD., LLP., OWNER REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C) TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY DISTRICT (R-MF). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 1.11 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 2, DE ALBA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE 900-1000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD COZ#211070 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)
3. JUVERA PROPERTIES, LTD., LLP., REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C) TO TOWNHOUSE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-TH). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 0.42 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 2, DE ALBA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE 900-1000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD. COZ#211071 (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, reintroduced the item.

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

Ordinance Nos. O-2021-66 and O-2021-67 are filed with the City Clerk's Office.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-2021-57 RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS WITHIN THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS (2ND READING)

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 RESOLUTION CANCELING/RESCHEDULING THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING OF MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022 (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated the meeting of January 3, 2022 needed to be rescheduled due to the upcoming Christmas and New Year's holidays. He recommended the meeting be rescheduled to Monday, January 10, 2022.

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

Resolution No. R-2021-73 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

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C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING NINE (9) MEMBERS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE (ADMINISTRATION)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated the terms of board members shall be staggered year terms and recommended reappointment of all members.

Comm. Carrillo moved to reappoint Alma Caso, Hector Trevino, Rudy Beltran, Aaron Garza, Hernan Figueroa, Roberto Carrillo, Jr. Isaac Smith, Mario Guajardo, and Ben Cantu to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2021-74 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 7. PURCHASING

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL PERMEABLE PAVERS THROUGH A SOLE SOURCE VENDOR TRUEGRID OUT OF HOUSTON, TX TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF PHARR AS OWNER FURNISHED MATERIAL TO THE AWARDED CONTRACTOR FOR THE VARIOUS PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (ENGINEERING)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly stated this was for additional parking lot at the Hike and Bike trail in the amount of \$115,560 and recommended approval.

Comm. Chavez 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 THE PURCHASE OF IP ADDRESSES FOR FIBER PROJECT THROUGH A SOLE SOURCE VENDOR CAPCON NETWORKS LLC OUT OF AUSTIN, TX, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000.00 (IT)

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

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

ITEM 8. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON FINAL RECONCILIATION OF QUANTITIES DEDUCT CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 AND FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE PHARR-REYNOSA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE EXPANSION & RENOVATIONS PHASE II PROJECT AND RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,464.06 (ENGINEERING)

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

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

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF ELSA TO HOUSE AN AMBULANCE AT THE ELSA FIRE DEPARTMENT. (EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES)

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

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

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH RIO GRANDE VALLEY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT (RGV 9-1-1) AND CITY OF PHARR FOR USE OF 9-1-1 SERVICES (COMMUNICATIONS)

Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and 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, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH FRONTERA MATERIALS OUT OF ELSA, TX FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF HMAc AND CALICHE (PURCHASING)

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

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

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH RIO VALLEY PIPE, LLC DBA CAPA OUT OF PALMVIEW, TX FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF HMAc AND CALICHE (PURCHASING)

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

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

F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A TIME AND SUPPLEMENTAL FEE EXTENSION FOR TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD PROJECTS 2020 (ADMINISTRATION)

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

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

G) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROJECT ARTIC (PEDC II)

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

H) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROJECT CIP (PEDC II)

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

ITEM 11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Carrillo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 20th DAY OF DECEMBER 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:



HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: January 10, 2022