

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, March 6, 2023 and following is the record of attendance.

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager
Ed Wylie, Deputy City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk
Maria Rangel, Asst. City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Juan Villescascas, Municipal Judge
Juan Gonzalez, Interim Police Chief
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Roland Gomez, Code Compliance Director
Kimberly Mendoza, Dev. Svcs. Director
Luis Marin, Public Works Director
Jamison Merrick, OSE Dept.
Ruben Rosales, Public Utilities Dir.
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Cynthia Garza, CDBG/External Affairs Dir.
Adolfo Garcia, Library
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Mayra Gomez, Purchasing Director
Ben Martinez, Asst. E.M.S. Chief
Marcela Beas, Chamber President
Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Comm. Officer
Kenneth Ennis, Public Safety 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 Hernandez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Jose Pena, IT Director, led the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS:

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING LAURA NASSRI WARREN DAY (ADMINISTRATION)

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING

March 6, 2023

Comm. Caballero read proclamation proclaiming March 6, 2023 as Laura Nassri Warren Day. The Board of Commissioners recognized Ms. Warren for her outstanding work as an architect and as a role model for other women in architecture.

Ms. Laura N. Warren received the proclamation and thanked the Commission for the recognition. She briefly shared her success story, and an interview video was presented.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Esteban Cardenas spoke in favor of agenda item 5.D and stated more public transportation was needed in the Valley.

ITEM 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS**A) CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated the report was in their packet and Maria Rangel was present and questions could be entertained at this time.

Mayor Hernandez asked if the South Regional Detention Facility project was on time. Maria Rangel, Asst. City Engineer, responded project was on time and stated plans and specifications would be submitted to Texas Water Development Board on March 13, 2023 for review and approval. She further stated they would advertise for bids in May 2023.

B) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager, reported the Greater Pharr Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the HUB Market Days, honoring Women's International Day, on Saturday, March 11, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in downtown park. She stated the event would feature woman-owned businesses and there would be food, music, family fun, and free admission.

Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager, reminded the public about the 17th Annual St. Patrick's 5K run/walk on Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to take place at 1000 S. Fir Street.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2023 REGULAR CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)**
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO VACATE, ABANDON, AND CLOSE A 30 FT. BY 633.97 FT. STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY, CONSISTING OF 0.437 OF AN ACRE (19,019.10 SQUARE FEET) LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF LOT 1, PHARR LOGISTICS CENTER PHASE I SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS (3RD AND FINAL READING). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-2019-42 RENTAL OF CITY FACILITIES (3RD AND FINAL READING). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (ADMINISTRATION)**

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
March 6, 2023

- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO) IN SUPPORT OF THEIR APPLICATION FOR THEIR RIO GRANDE VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY FEASIBILITY STUDY (RGV RTA FEASIBILITY STUDY) APPLICATION UNDER THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S AREAS OF PERSISTENT POVERTY GRANT PROGRAM (AOPP). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (ENGINEERING)**
- E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE DOWNTOWN PARK STATUE. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (ENGINEERING)**

Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Guajardo moved to approve consent agenda items. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Ordinance Nos. O-2023-08 and O-2023-09 are filed with the City Clerk's Office.

At this time, Mayor Hernandez stated they would go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 8. 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 4:29 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 9. RECONVENE

The time being 4:53 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

Comm. Chavez left the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 4:54 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION:

ITEM 6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE CREATING THE PHARR HEALTH DEPARTMENT (1ST READING). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (ADMINISTRATION)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY HIRING IN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (HR)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
March 6, 2023

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

Resolution No. R-2023-12 is filed with the City Clerk's office.

- C) 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 A PUBLIC PURPOSE; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY; DETERMINING THE ESTATE TO BE ACQUIRED; ESTABLISHING FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO COMMUNICATE OFFERS TO OWNERS FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS BY CITY ATTORNEY; RATIFICATION OF PRIOR ACTS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (ENGINEERING)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-13 is filed with the City Clerk's office.

- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADOPTION AND APPROVAL OF TEXAS TERM SHEET FOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (LEGAL)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-14 is filed with the City Clerk's office.

ITEM 7. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE HIDALGO COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT WITH PYRO SHOWS OF TEXAS FOR THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR CITY OF PHARR INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000.00. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (FIRE)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
March 6, 2023

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,500 TO THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR THE CITY OF PHARR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY & WELLNESS PLAN. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (ENGINEERING)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON LEASE AGREEMENT WITH TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF PHARR. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (ADMINISTRATION)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

- E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR MARKETING SERVICES FOR TEAMPHARR.NET TO DESARO RODRIGUEZ, LLC FROM MCALLEN, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (PURCHASING)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

- F) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FRONTIER DIRECT CARE FOR EMPLOYEE HEALTHCARE BENEFITS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (HR)**

Mayor Hernandez introduced the item.

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

ITEM 9. 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 4:57 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
March 6, 2023

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 6th DAY OF MARCH 2023 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: March 20, 2023