

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, October 5, 2023 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Comm. Daniel Chavez
Comm. Roberto Carrillo (Teleconference)
Comm. Michael Pacheco
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Comm. Ricardo Medina

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Comm. Itza Flores

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan, Interim City Manager
David Friedlein, ACM
Hilda Pedraza, Interim ACM/City Clerk
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Juan Villescás, Municipal Court Judge
Juan Gonzalez, Police Chief
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Roland Gomez, Code Compliance Director
Kimberly Mendoza, Dev. Svcs. Director
Luis Marin, Public Works Director
Ruben Rosales, Public Utilities Dir.
Cynthia Garza, CDBG/External Affairs Dir.
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Mayra Gomez, Purchasing Director
Daniel Ramirez, E.M.S. Chief
Michael Martinez, Asst. Comm. Officer
Sara Salinas, Asst. Public Safety Dir.
Cynthia Gutierrez, Health Dir.

CITY ATTORNEY Ricardo Rodriguez, 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 4:11 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Comm. Medina moved to excuse absent member. Comm. Pacheco seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Comm. Chavez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:24 p.m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

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

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS:

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2-6, 2023 AS DIGITAL INCLUSION WEEK 2023

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Comm. Chavez read proclamation proclaiming October 2-6, 2023 as Digital Inclusion Week. Pharr Connect Team received the proclamation and thanked the Commission for the recognition.

B) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 5, 2023 AS WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Comm. Pacheco read proclamation proclaiming October 5, 2023 as World Teacher's Day. Ana Gonzalez, Teach for America Executive Director, and Rey Perez, Vanguard Academy, received the proclamation and thanked the Commission for the recognition.

C) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 8-14, 2023 AS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Comm. Caballero read proclamation proclaiming October 8-14, 2023 as Fire Prevention Week. Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief, and staff received the proclamation and extended an invitation to the Commission to attend their fire prevention week activities.

D) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 14, 2023 AS ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY

Mayor Hernandez read proclamation proclaiming October 14, 2023 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day. Maxine Vieyra received the proclamation and extended an invitation to the Commissioners to attend the Walk Alzheimer's on Saturday, October 14, 2023 in Pharr One.

E) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 23-31, 2023 AS RED RIBBON WEEK

Mayor Hernandez read proclamation October 23-31, 2023 as Red Ribbon Week. Chief Rolando Garcia and Mario Flores received the proclamation and extended an invitation to the Commission to attend their Red Ribbon Parade on Saturday, October 28, 2023 in San Juan.

F) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2023 AS COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

Comm. Chavez read proclamation proclaiming October 2023 as Community Planning Month. Kimberly Mendoza, Development Services Director, staff, Planning and Zoning Commission members, and Board of Adjustment board members received the proclamation.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and stated City Engineer was in the audience and questions could be entertained at this time.

Mayor Hernandez asked on the DAP15 and DAP16 bridge projects timeline. Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, briefly reported projects were on time.

B) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

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Jonathan, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and went over upcoming events. He reported the Start of the Produce Season would take place on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at the Pharr International Bridge. He further reported the Avocado Festival would take place on Saturday, October 21, 2023 in downtown Pharr.

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, further reported the Trail of Terror event would take place from October 27-29, 2023 at Pharr Vanguard Academy Nature Birding Center and a Trunk or Treat Drive-Thru event hosted by Pharr Police Department would take place on October 21, 2023.

Sergio Alanis, Parks & Recreation Director, approached the podium and presented a video recap of Games of Texas Bid that was awarded to the City of Pharr. He then introduced Christy Ann Inofeiro for being recognized as the Female Athlete of the Year and a state games qualifier.

At this time, Fred Brouwen, Bridge Director of Operations, was recognized for his retirement.

ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 REGULAR CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)**
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM PSJA ISD TO CLOSE KELLY AVENUE FROM GUMWOOD TO FIR FOR A COMMUNITY TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT ON OCTOBER 30, 2023 FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (ADMINISTRATION)**
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM PHARR-SAN JUAN-ALAMO ISD FOR ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE PSJA ISD MARCHING FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 7, 2023, AND THE UIL REGION 15 MARCHING BAND CONTEST (PIGSKIN) ON OCTOBER 14, 2023. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (ADMINISTRATION)**
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR SLUDGE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (PURCHASING)**
- E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CITY WIDE ON-CALL HVAC SERVICES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (PURCHASING)**
- F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR SERVICE TO GENERATE CHLORINE DIOXIDE, PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF SODIUM CHLORITE AND PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW EQUIPMENT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (PURCHASING)**
- G) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE SERVICE CONTRACT FOR CITY WIDE PEST CONTROL SERVICES WITH PRO-TECH EXTERMINATING SERVICES FROM MCALLEN, TX FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (PURCHASING)**
- H) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PSJA TRI-CITY**

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PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PHASE II (CSJ: 0921-02-432). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (ENGINEERING)

I) PLATS:

1. PABLO SOTO JR. P.E., REPRESENTING CARLOS JUVERA AND ROSITA JUVERA, OWNERS, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED JCR III SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A REPLAT OF LOT 2, DE ALBA SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 100 BLOCK OF WEST LESLIE AVENUE. SUB#210826 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

2. TREVIÑO ENGINEERING, REPRESENTING ALEJANDRO BARRERA, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CENTRAL MATERIALS II SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 9.57-ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 99, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 500 BLOCK OF EAST NOLANA LOOP. SUB#211245 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

3. ROBLES ENGINEERING, LLC, REPRESENTING JORGE A. ESPINO, OWNER, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED LA PIEDAD SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 0.684 ACRE OUT OF LOT 191, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 900 BLOCK OF EAST SAM HOUSTON AVENUE. SUB#211144 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Caballero moved to approve. Comm. Chavez 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 AUTHORIZING AND ALLOWING, UNDER THE ACT GOVERNING THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT (TMRS) SYSTEM, "UPDATED SERVICE CREDITS" IN SAID SYSTEM ON AN ANNUAL BASIS FOR SERVICE PERFORMED BY QUALIFYING MEMBERS OF SUCH SYSTEM WHO AT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ALLOWANCE ARE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF PHARR; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ORDINANCE. (1ST READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (HR)

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PETITION FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION, SETTING DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF SUCH PUBLIC HEARING, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE SERVICE PLAN FOR A 0.104 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, RE-SUBDIVISION OF CLOSNER SUBDIVISION LOCATED ON SOUTH VETERANS ROAD AND DOFFING ROAD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ), HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

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Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-59 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PETITION FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION, SETTING DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF SUCH PUBLIC HEARING, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE SERVICE PLAN FOR 1.71 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED ON THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SOUTH VETERANS ROAD AND DOFFING ROAD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ), HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-60 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PETITION FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION, SETTING DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF SUCH PUBLIC HEARING, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE SERVICE PLAN FOR A 241.56 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, OUT OF PORCION 71, LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF DOFFING ROAD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ), HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-61 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES TO THE HIDALGO COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2024-2025. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item and recommended Albert Cardenas.

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

Resolution No. R-2023-62 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 7. ADMINISTRATIVE:

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE PROPOSED TOLL FEE INCREASE FOR BOTH COMMERCIAL TRUCKS AND PASSENGER VEHICLES AT THE PHARR INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (BRIDGE)**

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Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 8. PURCHASING:

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) GASBOY FUEL PUMP FOR PUBLIC WORKS FROM JF PETROLEUM GROUP, INC. FROM EDINBURG, TX FOR \$94,871.89 THROUGH BUY BOARD COOPERATIVE CONTRACT # 673-22. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 9. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFFING SERVICES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT WITH PYRO SHOW OF TEXAS FOR THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR THE SALUTE TO VETERANS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE (FIRE)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT WITH KRONOS SAASHR, INC. FROM BRANCBURG, NJ FOR UKG KRONOS SUPPORT TIME AND ATTENDANCE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$45,741.70. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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 ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT FOR ROAD/TRAFFIC AND PROMOTIONAL COMMERCIAL ROUTE SIGNS IN REYNOSA WITH XOANA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY, INC. FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$33,000.00 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY (BRIDGE)**

Jonathan Flores, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

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Comm. Chavez moved to approve. Comm. Medina 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. Medina moved to adjourn. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 5th DAY OF OCTOBER 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: October 23, 2023