

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Comm. Michael Pacheco
Comm. Roberto Carrillo
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Comm. Daniel Chavez
Comm. Ricardo Medina
Comm. Itza Flores

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan, City Manager
David Friedlein, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, ACM/City Clerk
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Jamison Merrick, Interim Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, Asst. 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
Melanie Cano, O.S.E. Director
Oscar De Leon, Asst. Public Utilities Director
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Victoria Brewster, CDBG / Public Affairs
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Peña, I.T. Director
Danny Ramirez, E.M.S. Chief
Michael Martinez, Asst. Chief Comm. Officer
Cynthia Gutierrez, Public Health Director

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

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

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

David Friedlein, Assistant City Manager, led the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. PROCLAMATIONS

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MARCH 13, 2024 AS NATIONAL PROCUREMENT PROFESSIONAL'S DAY

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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Mayra Gomez, Purchasing Director, introduced staff and thanked Commission for the proclamation.

Comm. Pacheco read proclamation proclaiming March 13, 2024 as National Procurement Professional's Day and presented proclamation Mayra Gomez, Purchasing Director, and staff.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

B) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, called upon Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, for a report on city events.

Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, reported the Pharr Business Workshop would be taking place on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at Pharr One from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. She further reported the Dr. Seuss Celebration would take place on March 7, 2024 at the Development and Research Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

1. EMS AMBULANCE DONATION TO RIO GRANDE VALLEY COLLEGE

Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, presented a video recap on the donation of Pharr EMS ambulance to Rio Grande Valley College.

Dr. Anabelle Palomo thanked the City Commission for the donation of an ambulance and stated this would enhance the vocational nursing students training. Furthermore, stated the Rio Grande Valley College was a vocational nursing school in Pharr and it was the 2nd Texas institution who educated the largest students in the field of nursing.

Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, presented a video recap on the St. Patrick's 5K Run/Walk and announced there were over 2,000 participants this year. She also presented a video on the Tri-City Pedestrian Sidewalks Improvement Phase I Project.

Vanessa Soto, Special Events Manager, further reported the South Texas Senior Duchess 2024 Pageant that was held in Harlingen, Texas and Pharr resident Gloria Limas had participated and won the pageant.

Gloria Limas thanked the Commission for the support and sponsorship towards her participation in this year's pageant.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2024 - REGULAR CALLED MEETING AND FEBRUARY 26, 2024 - SPECIAL CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY (ADMINISTRATION)

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- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR INSPECTION, MATERIAL TESTING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR THE I ROAD PROJECT (RANCHO BLANCO ROAD TO US 281 (MILITARY HWY)).THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (ENGINEERING)
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE I RD. PROJECT ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND HIKE AND BIKE TRAIL (RANCHO BLANCO TO MILITARY HWY.) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE (ENGINEERING)
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT WITH ACCELA GOVERNMENT AT CARAHSOFT FROM RESTON, VA FOR THE ACCELA CIVIC PLATFORM AND CITIZEN ACCESS THROUGH TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES (DIR) CONTRACT NO. DIR-TSO-4288. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (PURCHASING)
- E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE MARKETING SERVICES FOR TEAMPHARR.NET WITH DE SARO PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC. INC. FROM MCALLEN, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (PURCHASING)
- F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-2020-06 TO ADOPT NEW AND UPDATED PERSONNEL POLICIES. (3RD AND FINAL READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (HR)
- G) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O-2021-38 TO ADOPT AN UPDATED PURCHASING POLICY MANUAL. (3RD AND FINAL READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (PURCHASING)
- H) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW PROCUREMENT CARD POLICY MANUAL. (3RD AND FINAL READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE (PURCHASING)
- I) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:
 - 1. RIO DELTA ENGINEERING, REPRESENTING LA FRONTERA RE DEVELOPMENT, LLC., OWNER, REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C) TO LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (L-I). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 6.61 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 7, BLOCK 6, A.J. MCCOLL SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 1401 WEST WARREN STREET. COZ#240104 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.
 - 2. PIZZA PROPERTIES, INC., D/B/A PETER PIPER PIZZA #63, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1, PLEASANTON SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 1715 SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD. CUP#060104 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.
 - 3. SHOTS MAIN EVENT, LLC., D/B/A MAIN EVENT ENTERTAINMENT, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND LATE HOURS PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 1.34 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 4A, REPLAT OF VACATED CAR-MEL SUBDIVISION, VACATED EL CENTRO MALL NO. 3 & 4 SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 500 NORTH JACKSON ROAD, SUITE C. CUP#140101 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.

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PLATS:

1. HALFF, REPRESENTING JAIME GARZA, BEBO DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, INC., A TEXAS CORPORATION, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED LOT 1 DSV SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 36.458 ACRES OUT OF LOT 403, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 1100 BLOCK OF WEST PRODUCE DRIVE. SUB#231130 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the consent agenda and recommended approval.

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

Ordinance No's. O-2024-05, O-2024-06, O-2024-07 and O-2024-08 are filed with the City Clerk's Office.

At this time, Mayor Pro Tem Chavez 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

The time being 4:20 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Chavez 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 4:49 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Chavez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS DIVISION FOR THE LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM (LBSP). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve. Mayor Pro Tem Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2024-15 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE OPERATION STONEGARDEN GRANT PROGRAM (OPSG-2023) TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY DIVISION - GRANT #3173109 / OPSG 2023. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-16 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO OFFICER OF THE GOVERNOR, HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS DIVISION - OPERATION LONE STAR GRANT PROGRAM. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-17 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR-CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION: PHARR BORDER BULLET RESISTANT SHIELDS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-18 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING LIAISON PROJECT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-19 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- F) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION FOR CRIME VICTIM'S LIAISON PROJECT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (POLICE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-20 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

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- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT WITH LIFE SCAN WELLNESS CENTERS TO PROVIDE ANNUAL MEDICAL PHYSICALS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (FIRE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, RATIFYING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE CITY OF PHARR FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR DRIVER RECORD SERVICES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY (FIRE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

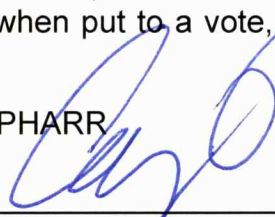
- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND MARIELA RUIZ, CPA, PLLC FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (ADMINISTRATION)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Carrillo moved to adjourn. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR


AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 4th DAY OF MARCH 2024 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: April 1, 2024