

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, August 5, 2024 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Comm. Michael Pacheco
Comm. Roberto Carrillo
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Comm. Daniel Chavez
Comm. Itza Flores

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Comm. Ricardo Medina

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Flores, City Manager
Cynthia Garza, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, Assistant City Manager
Imelda Perez, City Clerk
Maria Rangel, Interim City Engineer
Fabiola Sanchez, Asst. Finance Director
Ashley Melendez, Assistant HR Director
Juan Villescas, Municipal Court Judge
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Roland Gomez, Code Compliance Director
Kimberly Mendoza, Dev. Srvcs. Director
Luis Marin, Public Works Director
Melanie Cano, O.S.E. Director
Oscar De Leon, Asst. Public Utilities Director
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Mayra Gomez, Purchasing Director
Danny Ramirez, EMS Chief
Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Comm. Officer
Kenneth Ennis, Public Safety Comm. Dir.
Cynthia Gutierrez, Public Health Director
Frank Nunez, Special Events 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. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Mayor Hernandez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:32 p.m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

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

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ITEM 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

B) RECOGNITION OF PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT - TOP SWAT OPERATOR.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Juan Gonzalez, Police Chief, recognized Sargeant Jorge Guerra for receiving overall Top SWAT Operator award for the South Texas region area for three years in a row. He stated the Tactical Teams Skills Training was held in Brownsville and it included local and federal teams. Chief Gonzalez mentioned this training was geared towards challenging the team's skills, strength, endurance, weapons proficiency, decision making and teamwork.

Sargeant Jorge Guerra thanked Police Chief Juan Gonzalez and Deputy Chief Michael Rodriguez for the recognition and their ongoing support in allowing them to continue competing.

Juan Gonzalez, Police Chief, further recognized K9 Handler Officer Emilio Gonzales and K9 Storm for receiving 1st Place - Top Explosive K9 award. He stated they competed at K9 Competition for K9 Officers from all over the state of Texas to showcase their skills. Chief Gonzalez stated K9 Storm was a hard at work K9 for large gatherings at special events as he detects a variety of explosive materials and both play an important role in our comprehensive security measures.

K9 Handler Officer Emilio Gonzales thanked the City Commission and Police Chiefs for the recognition and support for the Pharr Police Department K9 Unit.

C) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, called upon Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, for a report on upcoming city events.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, presented video recaps of the Donations Acceptance Program (DAP) 15 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Parks & Recreation Seussical Junior Play, Detroit Health Conference, and a promotional video on upcoming Pharr Night Out Event.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, further reported the Pharr Night Out event would take place on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at Pharr Town Center - Main Event parking grounds located at 500 N. Jackson Road from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. She stated this was a back-to-school event and mentioned there would be vendors, food, activities and music. She further extended an invitation to the public to attend.

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ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 15, 2024 - REGULAR CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (ADMINISTRATION)
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THERMOPLASTIC MARKINGS FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (PURCHASING)
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AMEND SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE DIRECT INTERNET ACCESS WITH SMARTCOM TELEPHONE, LLC THROUGH THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS) CONTRACT NO. 230105. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (PURCHASING)
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH SOUTH TEXAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE USE OF THE CITY OF PHARR SPORTS COMPLEX PARKING LOT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (PARKS)
- E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:
 - 1. 7-ELEVEN INC. DBA 7-ELEVEN CONVENIENCE STORE'S AND STRIPES STORES, REQUESTED A 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 BEING LOT 2, NEWT'S CORNER, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED AT 10701 SOUTH CAGE BOULEVARD. CUP#240614 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.
 - 2. KHANH NGUYEN, D/B/A SNOW BITE, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND LATE HOURS PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION IN A GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 0.078-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 L-2. CUP#190536 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.
 - 3. VELCH VENTURES LLC., D/B/A ALTAMAR SEAFOOD BAR, REQUESTED RENEWAL OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION IN A LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (L-I). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 0.092 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 1, SPAMER BUSINESS PARK SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 8001 SOUTH JACKSON ROAD, SUITES 1 & 2. CUP#210427 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.
- F) PLATS:
 - 1. WESTWOOD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC., REPRESENTING K.V. CHOWDARY, MANAGER OF KVS DEVELOPMENT, L.L.C., REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED MAJESTIC INTERNATIONAL TRADE PORT PHASE 2 SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 79.022 ACRE TRACT OUT OF LOTS 47 AND 48, BLOCK 15, LOTS 49 AND 50, BLOCK 16, LOTS 51 AND 52, BLOCK 17, LOTS 53 THROUGH 55, BLOCK 18 AND A PORTION OF A 40 FOOT ROAD, SHOWN ON THE RE-SUBDIVISION OF LOTS 1 AND 5 TO 32, INCLUSIVE OF THE SAN JUAN PLANTATION SUBDIVISION AND OUT OF LOTS 3 AND 4, AS SHOWN ON THE RE-SUBDIVISION OF CLOSNER SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 9000 BLOCK OF SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD. SUB#231025 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.

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

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

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE APPROVING A MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF PHARR. (ADOPTION ON ONE READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (ADMINISTRATION)**

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.

Ordinance No. O-2024-28 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF PHARR'S ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2024 AND ITS 2024-2028 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND STRATEGY TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL-QUALITY OF LIFE. (GMCD)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

Resolution No. R-2024-44 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MEMBERS TO THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (ADMINISTRATION)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item. He stated current members were Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez as Primary member and Commissioner Daniel Chavez as Alternate member. He further recommended adding Maria Rangel, Interim City Engineer, as the designated proxy.

Comm. Carrillo moved to designate Maria Rangel, Interim City Engineer as proxy to the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2024-45 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

At this time, Jonathan Flores, City Manager, stated they would deviate from the agenda and go to agenda Item 8A. There was no objection.

ITEM 8. PURCHASING

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE PURCHASE OF FIVE-HUNDRED FIFTY (550) LAPTOPS FROM BEST BUY STORES, L.P. FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$174,900.00 UTILIZING OMNIA CONTRACT R201203. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (IT)**

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Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 9. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR EXTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR CITY OF PHARR AND COMPONENT UNITS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (FINANCE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended awarding contract to Raul Hernandez & Company.

Comm. Carrillo moved to award contract to Raul Hernandez & Company. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT FOR NETWORK CABLING SERVICES AT CITY FACILITIES WITH TELEPRO COMMUNICATIONS FROM MISSION, TEXAS THROUGH THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS) CONTRACT NO. 230105 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (PURCHASING)**

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.

- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES FOR AVOCADO FESTIVAL WITH AAE HOLDINGS INC DBA ALL AMERICAN ENTERTAINMENT FROM DURHAM, NC. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 10. CLOSED SESSION

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.

Mayor Hernandez entered the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 4:32 p.m.

ITEM 11. RECONVENE

The time being 5:46 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 7. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

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Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and stated no action was needed.

ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Carrillo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Chevez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



 AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 5th DAY OF AUGUST 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, **IMELDA PEREZ, CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:



 IMELDA PEREZ, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: August 19, 2024