

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, October 21, 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. Ricardo Medina
Comm. Itza Flores

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Flores, City Manager
David Friedlein, Assistant City Manager
Cynthia Garza, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, Assistant City Manager
Imelda Perez, City Clerk
Maria Rangel, Interim City Engineer
Jamison Merrick, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Juan Villescas, Municipal Court Judge
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
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
Ruben Rosales, 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
Ben Martinez, Assistant EMS Chief
Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Comm. Officer
Kenneth Ennis, Public Safety Comm. Dir.
Victor Perez, PEDC 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 Hernandez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Comm. Chavez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:03 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. PROCLAMATIONS

A) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 21, 2024 AS AUDREY ZARIAH GARZA DAY.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez expressed gratitude to Audrey for being active in the community and helping those in need.

Comm. Caballero read the proclamation proclaiming October 21, 2024 as Audrey Zariah Garza Day and presented proclamation to Audrey Z. Garza.

B) PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 24, 2024 AS MANUFACTURING DAY IN PHARR.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Victor Perez, Pharr Economic Development Corporation Director, thanked the Commission for their support and introduced individuals present.

Mike Willis, Executive Director for South Texas National Manufacturing Association, expressed the importance of the manufacturing industry and the public education provided to the public and students.

Karina Lopez, Economic Development Manager, stated they were partnering-up with Pharr-San Juan- Alamo Independent School District and IDEA School District to promote career advancement in the manufacturing industry available to students.

Belinda Vargas, PSJA ISD Career & Technical Education Coordinator, thanked the Commission for their partnership with the school district and stated the district was having an EXPO for students to introduce them to jobs available in the manufacturing industry.

Comm. Pacheco read the proclamation proclaiming October 24, 2024 as Manufacturing Day in Pharr and presented proclamation to Pharr Economic Development Corporation staff and partners present.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING: SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF 55.97 ACRES OF LAND AND RIGHT-OF-WAY OUT OF THE NARCISO CABAZOS SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 30, GENERALLY LOCATED ON SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD AND STATE HIGHWAY 365, AND ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF EAST U.S. HIGHWAY 281 (MILITARY HIGHWAY), APPROXIMATELY 800 FT. EAST OF SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ) IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY. (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) SUBMISSION OF SALES TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2024.

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Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and briefly reported the City of Pharr showed an increase of 2.38% year to date true growth. He further stated Jamison Merrick, Finance Director, was in the audience and questions could be entertained at this time.

B) RECOGNITION OF TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE - MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE "SHE'S MY HERO" AWARD

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Fire Chief Pilar Rodriguez.

Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief, stated they were proud to have received the Excellence Service Award for the "She's My Hero" program. He stated this was the third year sponsoring the program and stated this program was focused on recruiting young women in the hopes they would consider pursuing a career in the fire service. He further stated this entire program was ran by the twelve (12) females' firefighters in the department and it was geared on giving a real-life perspective of what it's like to be a female firefighter in the fire service.

C) RECOGNITION OF GOLD SCENIC CITY CERTIFICATION

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Development Services Director, Kimberly Mendoza.

Kimberly Mendoza, Development Service Director, introduced staff present and stated she was very proud to announce the City of Pharr's participation in the Scenic City Certification program which was an initiative of Scenic Texas. She stated they continue to be recognized for implementing high quality scenic standards for public roadways and open spaces and stated she was proud to announce the City of Pharr was a Gold recipient. She further stated they were recognized at the Scenic Texas Awards in Houston, Texas, which took place in October 2024.

D) 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 11th Annual Start of the Produce Season event, Avocado Festival, a wrap-up video on Fire Prevention Month and Rio Reforestation event.

Mari Caballero, Keep Pharr Beautiful Chairperson, extended a special thanks to the Commission from federal partners, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, for the continued support in this project. She also stated this event took place on fifteen acres in the South Pharr area and there was a total of 1,500 volunteers from all over the Rio Grande Valley who participated in this event.

Lastly, Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, reported on the upcoming Pharr Police Department Trunk or Treat event taking place on October 31, 2024 at the Moore Sports Complex located at 1901 S. Cage Blvd. from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. She further encouraged all families to attend this public event.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 7, 2024 - REGULAR CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

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- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O-2022-01 RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS WITHIN THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS. (3RD AND FINAL READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY. (HR)**
- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, OF THE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COUNTY (EDC) PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR LAS MILPAS ROAD, WEST FROM JACKSON ROAD TO CAGE BLVD. (CSJ# 0921-02-434). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**
- D) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PLATS:**
1. **SAMES, REPRESENTING LAZARO GUERRA, MANAGING MEMBER FOR PHARR HOUSING AUTHORITY, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CAMELLIA COURT APARTMENTS I SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 3.31 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 1 AND LOT 4, BLOCK D, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 900 BLOCK OF WEST AUDREY STREET. SUB#230412 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.**
 2. **SAMES, REPRESENTING LAZARO GUERRA, MANAGING MEMBER FOR PHARR HOUSING AUTHORITY, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CAMELLIA COURT APARTMENTS II SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 1.37 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF LOT 2, BLOCK C, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 900 BLOCK OF NORTH CAMELLIA STREET. SUB#230411 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.**

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

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

Ordinance No. O-2024-34 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 11. CLOSED SESSION

The time being 4:43 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 12. RECONVENE

The time being 6:07 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Chavez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

Mayor Hernandez left the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 5:54 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

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- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PRESENT CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PHARR, TEXAS AND ANNEXING NEW TERRITORY INTO THE CITY OF PHARR CONSISTING OF 55.97 ACRES OF LAND AND RIGHT-OF-WAY OUT OF THE NARCISO CABAZOS SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 30, GENERALLY LOCATED ON SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD AND STATE HIGHWAY 365, AND ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF EAST U.S. HIGHWAY 281 (MILITARY HIGHWAY), APPROXIMATELY 800 FT. EAST OF SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ) IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. (1ST READING) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY. (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING/RE-APPOINTING FOUR (4) MEMBERS TO THE TIERRA DEL SOL GOLF COURSE ADVISORY BOARD. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (PARKS)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended the reappointment of Jorge Gonzalez, Myla Anderson and Michael Pacheco as regular members to Tierra Del Sol Golf Course Advisory Board.

Comm. Medina **moved** to reappoint Jorge Gonzalez, Myla Anderson and Michael Pacheco as regular members to Tierra Del Sol Golf Course Advisory Board. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2024-58 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- C) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF PHARR ASSUMING JURISDICTION, CONTROL, AND MAINTENANCE OF TX-600 SPUR AND TX-29 SPUR. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, 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-2024-59 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A) **PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE STUDY. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (FINANCE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and stated no action would be taken on this item.

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ITEM 9. PURCHASING

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) NEW 2025/26 ALEXIS SPARTAN CHASSIS CRANE HEAVY RESCUE TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM SMJ EQUIPMENT, LLC. FROM SPRING, TX FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$1,986,427.00 THROUGH THE BUYBOARD PURCHASING COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 746-24. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 10. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH L&G ENGINEERING FROM MISSION, TEXAS FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING (CMT) SERVICES FOR THE NORTH WEST AND CENTRAL COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND LIFT STATION NUMBER 1, 29, AND 33 ELIMINATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,741.50. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,070.00 TO THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TRIMAD CONSULTANTS, LLC, FOR THE LIFT STATION NUMBER 23 RELOCATION AND SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS. THIS ITEMS SUPPORTS IF- INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Carrillo 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 AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF WESLACO FOR ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE. (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo 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 UNIFORMS AND ACCESSORIES WITH UNIFIRST CORPORATION FROM SAN ANTONIO, TX THROUGH BUYBOARD PURCHASING COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 670-22. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE -SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (PURCHASING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

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- E) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT AND SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED FOR LOT 1, BLOCK 14, PLANTATION SOUTH SUBDIVISION, UNIT NO. 6. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY. (LEGAL)**

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.

- F) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT TO SOUTHERN TRENCHLESS SOLUTIONS OUT OF LA FERIA, TEXAS FOR THE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF MANHOLES THROUGH BUYBOARD CONTRACT NO. 730-24 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$247,466.00 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (PUBLIC UTILITIES)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- G) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO RESCIND AWARD TO NM CONTRACTING, LLC, FOR THE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARKING AREA. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

- H) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARKING AREA TO IOC COMPANY, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,290,043.00. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

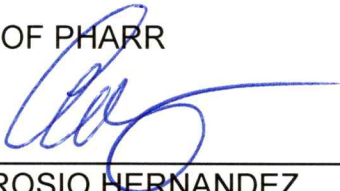
Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 13. 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 6:11 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
October 21, 2024

ON THIS THE 21st DAY OF OCTOBER 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: November 4, 2024