

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, January 21, 2025 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, 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 Dept. Director
Danny Ramirez, EMS Chief
Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Comm. Officer
Sara Salinas, P.S. Comm. Asst. Dir.
Abel Molina, Interim Special Events Director
Elizabeth Diaz, Grants Management 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.

Mayor Hernandez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:15 p.m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

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

ITEM 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) SUBMISSION OF SALES TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR JANUARY 2025.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and briefly reported the City of Pharr showed a 2.89% 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 RODOLFO MARTINEZ FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Municipal Judge Juan Villescas for a special recognition.

Juan Villescas, Municipal Judge, expressed words of gratitude for Judge Rodolfo "Rudy" Martinez's for his commitment and 20 years of service with the City of Pharr. He further stated Judge Martinez retired in December and presented him with an appreciation plaque.

Rodolfo Martinez thanked the Mayor and City Commission for allowing him the opportunity to serve as a Municipal Judge for the City of Pharr. He also thanked the court staff and all departments for their unwavering support and commitment in serving the community of Pharr.

The City Commission expressed words of gratitude and kindness and further thanked Judge Martinez for his service and congratulated him on his retirement.

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 Pharr Fire Department staff deployed to California for wildfire assistance and the City of Pharr 116th Birthday Celebration.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, further reported the Zumba & Food Distribution event would take place on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at Jones Box Park located at 1201 W. Rosa Lane at 6:00 p.m. She stated this was in collaboration with the Food Bank and encouraged the public to attend.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, reported the Walk With the Mayor event would take place on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at P.S.J.A. Stadium located at 703 E. Sam Houston Street at 6:00 p.m. She extended an invite to the public so they could continue to stay active and continue logging those points through Healthier Texas App.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, reported the "Say I do" Valentines Day Weddings would take place on Friday, February 14, 2025 at Pharr One – French Garden located at 1121 E. Nolana Loop from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. She stated those interested in getting married were encouraged to get their wedding license seventy-two (72) hours in advance and stated there would be photo ops, free food and free photography services.

Lastly, Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, reported the Night Under the Stars – Cupid Edition event would take place on Friday, February 14, 2025 at Pharr One Amphitheater located at 1121 E. Nolana Loop at 7:30 p.m. She stated this would be a ticketed event and would provide additional information later when tickets were available for pick up at our Special Events Office.

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ITEM 4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 06, 2025 - REGULAR CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (ADMINISTRATION)**
- B) **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 22.94 ACRES MORE OR LESS, BEING PART OR PORTION OF LOT 255, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION OF PORCIONES 69 AND 70, LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF EAST JAVELINA DRIVE, APPROXIMATELY 1,700 FEET WEST OF SOUTH VETERANS BOULEVARD, IN THE CITY OF PHARR'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ) IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. (3RD AND FINAL READING) (TABLED) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY. (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**
- C) **PLATS:**
 - 1. **MELDEN & HUNT INC., REPRESENTING LEAH MARIE WISE, MANAGER FOR LEAH WISE ENTERPRISES, LLC., A TEXAS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, REQUESTED FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CRASH GIRL SUBDIVISION. THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING 1.441 ACRES OUT OF LOT 100, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 4500 BLOCK OF NORTH INTERSTATE HIGHWAY-69C. SUB#240925 THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, recommended to un-table Item 4.B.

Comm. Chavez moved to un-table Item 4.B. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

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

Comm. Chavez moved to approve as recommended. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried by majority vote of six (6) ayes and one (1) abstention. Comm. Pacheco abstained from voting on Item 4.C1.

Ordinance No. O-2025-02 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 8. CLOSED SESSION

The time being 4:24 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 5:14 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 5. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING/RE-APPOINTING ONE (1) MEMBER TO THE GOLF COURSE ADVISORY BOARD. (TABLED) THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (PARKS)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, recommended to un-table item.

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

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, recommended the appointment of Eraquio Benavidez to the Golf Course Advisory Board.

Comm. Medina **moved** to appoint Eraquio Benavidez to the Advisory Golf Course Board. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2025-03 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWO (2) MEMBERS TO THE PHARR MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY. (LIBRARY)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended the appointment of Maricela Cortez and Joly Sanchez to the Pharr Memorial Library Board.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to appoint Maricela Cortez and Joly Sanchez to the Pharr Memorial Library Board. Comm. Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2025-04 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 6. ADMINISTRATIVE

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

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

ITEM 7. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AMENDMENT NO. 1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,520.00 TO THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TRIMAD CONSULTANTS, LLC, FOR LIFT STATION NUMBER 10, 18, & 40 ELIMINATION PROJECT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

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- B) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AMENDMENT NO. 2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$547,250 TO THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GDJ ENGINEERING, LLC, FOR THE MOORE ROAD PROJECT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF- INFRASTRUCTURE. (ENGINEERING)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez asked for the project timeline. Maria Rangel, City Engineer, stated the City of Pharr would break ground in 2026.

There being no further comments, 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 NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE SERVICE CONTRACT WITH JORDAN JOHNSON INC. FROM SAN ANTONIO, TX. FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES FOCUSED ON PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE. (OSE)**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item.

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

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Medina **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 21st DAY OF JANUARY 2025 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: February 3, 2025