

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COMMISSION

HARLINGEN, TEXAS

March 5, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Harlingen Elective Commission was held on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall, City Hall, 118 E. Tyler Street Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Mayor and Commission

Danny Castillo, Mayor Pro-Tem District 1
Tudor Uhlhorn, Commissioner District 2
Mike Mezmar, Commissioner District 3
Basilio "Chino" Sanchez, Commissioner District 4
Victor Leal, Commissioner District 5

Absent

Mayor Chris Boswell

Staff Present

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary
Richard Bilbie, Interim City Attorney
Dan Serna, Assistant City Manager
Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager

Invocation/City Commissioner Victor Leal

Commissioner Leal gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed those in attendance.

1) Public Announcement of Events

a) City Events

David Ralph, Public Information Officer announced the following events:

- 1) Harlingen Mayor's Prayer Breakfast - "Hope for the Community"- Harlingen Community Center - Wednesday, March 6, 2014, 7:00 a.m.;
- 2) Spanish Movies - "La Hija Del Engaño", sponsored by the Consulate of Mexico of Brownsville - Harlingen Public Library Auditorium, Thursday, March 6, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.;
- 3) Bark for Life hosted by American Cancer Society - McKelvey Park - 7 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.;
- 4) Autism Awareness hosted by Harlingen Police Department - Lon. C. Hill Park - Saturday, April 5, 2014, T.B.A.;
- 5) 3rd Annual Kid Fit Festival & Fun Run hosted by the Junior Service League - Lon C. Hill Park, Saturday April 12, 2014 and;
- 6) Valley Praise "Egg Drop" Event - Sports Complex Adult Softball Field on Wilson Road, Saturday, April 19, 2014, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mr. Ralph reported 647 Bicycle Riders and 401 Runners/Walkers participated in the 24th Annual Jalapeño 100 held at Fair Park on February 22, 2014. He concluded by stating the Neighborhood Clean Sweep was scheduled for March 8, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon from Hale to Glasscock on Falcon Street including Houston, Bonham and Bluebonnet Streets.

- b) Presentation by Bea D. Salazar, Crime Victim's Assistance Program Coordinator regarding Crime Victim's Resource Expo for National Crime Victim's Week, April 11, 2014, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at H.E.B. off of frontage Road, Harlingen, Texas.

Monica Lopez and Bea Salazar, Crimes Victims Assistance Coordinators with the Cameron County District Attorney's Office of Brownsville gave a video presentation regarding the Crime Victim's Program and invited the community to attend the 9th Annual Crime Victim's Resource Expo in honor of National Crime Victim's Week, Friday, April 11, 2014 - 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at H.E.B. off the Frontage Road in Harlingen.

2) Drawing for prizes for citizens who filled out the Comprehensive Plan Survey.

Jesse Robles, President of the Harlingen Community Improvement Board stated they concluded the public input process on the City's Comprehensive Plan. Four (4) public forums were held to seek input from the citizens on the following areas: citizen community image, sense of place, quality of life, infrastructure, and future growing needs for the community for the next 20 years. The plan also included the Downtown District and economic development opportunities for the creation of jobs and community growth. Citizens were invited to fill out a survey and make recommendations and suggestions. Citizens participating in the survey would be eligible to participate in a drawing for prizes and awards. The public input process was completed, but the Comprehensive Plan was still in draft form. Citizens still had an opportunity to submit their input through public hearings. He recognized some of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee members and thanked them for their attendance and participation.

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo and Mr. Robles conducted the drawing and announced the following winners and prizes.

1. James Loftree - Free (6) months lease – climate controlled unit/Jonah Storage;
2. Crystal Sandes - Framed Print/Beyond Arts Gallery;
3. Maria Jimenez - BBQ-Gas Grill/Jonah Storage;
4. Mauricio Echavaria - Student Internship/Digital Print Shop;
5. Minerva Garza - Kindle Notepad/Beyond Arts Magazine;
6. Michelle Marnitah - X-Box 360/Boggus Ford;

Three (3) Scholarships to TSTC

7. Felix Castro - \$500 Digital Media/Beyond Arts;
8. Rogelio Valdez - \$500 Medical/Medland & Associates Day and Night Clinic;
9. Ed Frasier - \$1,000 Medical/Dr. Sanusi; and

10. Elvira P. Gutierrez - 55" Flat Screen/Boggus Ford

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo thanked Mr. Robles and the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee members for their efforts in putting together all the necessary elements to finalize the Comprehensive Plan.

3) Proclamation - proclaiming March 12, 2014 as "Anniversary of the Signing of the Charter for Lions Clubs."

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo read and presented the proclamation to Ms. Helen Muse and Harlingen Amigas Lions Club Members, proclaiming March 12, 2014 as the "Anniversary of the signing of the Charter for the Texas Lions Camp."

Ms. Muse stated a free "Spot Pedia Vision Screening" would be held at Our Lady of Assumption Church, Wednesday, March 12, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Referrals would be offered to optometrists in case of abnormalities if detected. Harlingen Amigas Lion Club members would be available to provide transportation to doctor's visits, if needed. The organization offers camp services to children with physical disabilities. Applications must be obtained and returned for approval. This was an opportunity to serve the community as a Lion Club Member.

Martha Kramer, President of the Downtown Lions Club of Brownsville invited the public to join the bicycle ride to spread awareness of the Pedia Vision Event.

4) Special Recognition of several Parks Department Employees who participated in the 2014 Texas Recreation & Parks Society Maintenance Rodeo.

Jeff Lyssy, Parks and Recreation Manager stated six employees from the Parks and Recreation Department participated in the 2014 Texas Recreation & Parks Society State Maintenance Rodeo in the following categories: truck/trailer course, mower obstacle course, backhoe, nail drive, and backpack blower. He made a Power Point presentation of the events that the city employees competed in with other members from other parts of Texas. Mr. Lyssy recognized Juan Barron for forty years of service in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo presented the 2014 Texas Recreation & Parks Society State Maintenance Rodeo Championship trophies to Mr. Pedro Rangel for first place in the Nail Drive Competition and Mr. Robert Chavez, third place in the Mower Obstacle Course Competition. He thanked them on behalf of the City Commission for representing and showcasing their talents for the City of Harlingen.

5) City of Harlingen Community-Wide Trash-Off Day held February 22, 2014 at the Pendleton Park Parking Lot – Grimes Street.

Carlos Yerena, City Manager reported the Community-Wide Trash-Off Day was held February 22, 2014 at the Pendleton Park Parking Lot, 14.10 tons of debris and 248 tires were collected. He thanked the Marine Military Academy, other volunteers and Code Enforcement staff for their assistance. The next Community-Wide Trash - Off Day was scheduled for May 24, 2014.

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo presented Certificates of Appreciation to Sgt. Maj. Ford Kingsley to present to the Marine Cadets that participated in the Trash-Off Day and to Cadet Vedishey. He thanked the Military Marine Academy for their participation.

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo changed the order of the agenda and proceeded with the following items.

12) Executive/Closed Session on the following items:

- a) Attorney consultation pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Gov't. Code to receive legal advice and counsel in connection with the City's rights, duties, privileges and obligations related to the recognition of an exclusive bargaining agent for the City's police officers as per the provisions of Section 174.102, Texas Local Gov't. Code, and related legal issues.
- b) Attorney consultation pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Gov't. Code (Personnel Matters) regarding the City's legal rights, duties and obligation regarding the appointment of the Interim Fire Chief.
- c) Attorney consultation pursuant to Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Gov't. Code (Personnel Matters) regarding the City's legal rights, duties and obligation regarding the appointment of the Public Safety Director.

At 6:15 p.m., Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo announced the City Commission would convene into executive session to discuss Items No. 12 (a), (b) and (c).

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to convene into executive session to discuss Items No. 12 (a), (b) and (c). Motion carried unanimously.

At 7:08 p.m., Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo announced the City Commission had completed its executive session and declared the meeting opened to the public.

Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo announced that due to the unexpected absence of Mayor Chris Boswell and him presiding the meeting, he would not vote on these issues, not unless his vote would serve as a tie breaker. He entertained a motion to table Items No. 14 and 15 for the next meeting until a full Commission was present in order for him to have an equal vote on both items.

14) Consider and take action to confirm the City Manager's appointment of a department head of the Harlingen Fire Department effective immediately and until another Fire Chief is appointed by the City Manager and confirm by the Harlingen City Commission.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mezmar and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to table Item No. 14. Motion carried unanimously.

- 15) Consider and take action to confirm the City Manager's appointment of a Public Safety Director for the Police and Fire Departments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mezmar and seconded by Commissioner Leal to table Item No. 15. Motion carried unanimously.

- 13) Consideration and appropriate action under Section 174.102, Texas Local Gov't. Code to recognize the Harlingen Police Officers & Law Enforcement Association (HPOLEA) as the exclusive bargaining agent for the police officers of the City of Harlingen Police Department.

Efren Fernandez, Human Resources Director stated staff received the petition and legal counsel and staff reviewed the petition and all signatures were valid.

Rick Navarro, Legal Counsel recommended approval of the Harlingen Police Officers and Law Enforcement Association to be the exclusive bargaining agent.

Yolanda Shoffeitt, P.O. Box 697, stated she was in support of the officers choosing their own collective bargaining agent.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Leal to approve and recognize the Harlingen Police Officers & Law Enforcement Association (HPOLEA) as the exclusive bargaining agent for the Harlingen Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6) Approval of Minutes

- a) February 19, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Uhlhorn to approve the minutes with a correction on Page 5, Line 21 to change the name of "Billie to Bilbie." Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7a) Second and final reading to approve and adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 11-27 for a request to amend the Specific Use Permit (SUP) issued to George Dawi to allow the existing bar/lounge "The Point" to expand services to the second floor of the building in a General Retail ("GR") District located at 115 E. Harrison bearing a legal description of Lots 17 & 18, Block 70, Harlingen Original Townsite. Applicant: George Dawi.
- b) Second and final reading to approve and adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 09-34 for a request to amend the Specific Use permit (SUP) issued to Herminia Cervantes for an adult business (Pokey's Planet) for 1111 and 1113 W. Tyler Avenue to allow for the expansion of the adult business to include 1109 and 1107 W. Tyler Avenue and with the request to remove the annual audit, bearing a legal description of the East 5 ft. of Lot 2, all of Lots 3-6 and the East 10 ft. of Lot 7, Block "B" Boggus-Rowsey Subdivision. Applicant: Herminia Cervantes.
- c) Second and Final reading to approve and adopt an ordinance for a Specific Use Permit to allow a call center at the building located at 2200 Haine Drive in an Office ("O") District bearing a legal description of Lot 1, Block 1, Haney Medical Capital Subdivision and Lot 2, Block 1, Haney Medical Capital II Subdivision. Applicant: Robert Gandy.
- d) Second and final reading to approve and adopt an ordinance amending the City of Harlingen Zoning Ordinance No. 07-27, Section 17.05, Specific Use Permit Process to establish standard conditions for a call center in an Office ("O") District. Applicant: Planning and Zoning Commission.

- e) Second and final reading to approve an ordinance adopting the 2012 International Codes and 2014 National Electric Codes.

- f) Consider and take action to approve a request from the Downtown Improvement District to close Jackson Street from Commerce to 4th Street and crossroads "A", 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets from alleyway to alleyway crossing Jackson Street for the 7th Annual Jackson Street Classic Car Show, Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For the record, the caption of the following ordinances read as follow:

ORDINANCE NO. 14-5

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 07-27) OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN TO AMEND THE EXISTING SPECIFIC USE PERMIT (ORD. 11-17) ISSUED TO GEORGE DAWI TO ALLOW AN ADULT BUSINESS (BAR/LOUNGE) ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING IN A GENERAL RETAIL ("GR") DISTRICT LOCATED AT 115 E. HARRISON, BEARING A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LOTS 17 & 18, BLOCK 70, HARLINGEN ORIGINAL TOWNSITE SUBJECT TO: (1) PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING THE REQUIRED OFF STREET PARKING SPACES, AND PROVIDING DOCUMENTATION TO ALLOW SHARED PARKING IN THE ADJACENT LOTS (2) CONTINUING TO PROVIDE A LICENSED SECURITY GUARD DURING PEAK HOURS OF OPERATION, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY FROM 9:00 P.M. TO 2:00 A.M. (3) CONTINUING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE LIGHTING AROUND ALL BAR/LOUNGE BUILDING ENTRANCES AND EXITS (4) CONTINUING TO PROVIDE SURVEILLANCE VIDEO AND MAINTAINING A 30 DAY RETENTION OF THE VIDEO (5) MAINTAINING TABC LICENSE AND CONTINUING TABC COMPLIANCE; AND (6) COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS ADMINISTERED BY THE PLANNING, BUILDING INSPECTIONS, HEALTH, POLICE AND FIRE PREVENTION DEPARTMENTS; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-6

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 07-27) OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN TO AMEND THE EXISTING SPECIFIC USE PERMIT ("SUP") (ORD. 09-34) FOR AN ADULT BUSINESS (POKEY'S PLANET) ISSUED TO HERMINIA CERVANTES FOR 1111 AND 1113 W. TYLER AVENUE TO ALLOW FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE ADULT BUSINESS TO INCLUDE 1109 AND 1107 W. TYLER AVENUE, AND WITH THE REQUEST TO REMOVE THE ANNUAL AUDIT, BEARING A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE EAST 5 FT. OF LOT 2, ALL OF LOTS 3-6, AND THE EAST 10 FT. OF LOT 7, BLOCK "B", BOGGUS-ROWSY SUBDIVISION, SUBJECT TO: (1) PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING THE REQUIRED OFF-STREET PARKING IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY REGULATIONS; (2) PROVIDING AND MANTAINING A SOLID FENCE IN THE REAR OF THE PROPERTY; AND (3) COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS ADMINISTERED BY PLANNING AND ZONING, BUILDING INSPECTIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, FIRE PREVENTION, AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-7

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 07-27) OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN TO ISSUE A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT TO ROBERT GANDY IV TO ALLOW A CALL CENTER AT THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 2200 HAINE DRIVE, IN AN OFFICE ("O") DISTRICT, BEARING A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, HANEY MEDICAL CAPITAL SUBDIVISION; AND LOT 2, BLOCK 1, HANEY MEDICAL CAPITAL 11 SUBDIVISION SUBJECT TO: (1) PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING THE REQUIRED OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY REGULATIONS; (2) SUBMIT A TRAFFIC IMPACT ANALYSIS PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY; (3) MUST PASS A FIRE INSPECTION PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY; (4) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS ADMINISTERED BY THE BUILDING INSPECTIONS, ENGINEERING, PLANNING AND ZONING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS; AND (5) IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS A CHANGE OF USE IN THE BUILDING, OR ANY PORTION OF THE BUILDING CHANGES TO A USE OTHER THAN A CALL CENTER AND THE NEW PROPOSED USE REQUIRES A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT IN THE OFFICE DISTRICT, THEN A NEW SPECIFIC USE PERMIT WOULD BE REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-8

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN (ORDINANCE NO. 07-27) SECTION 17.05 SPECIFIC USE PERMIT PROCESS, TO ESTABLISH STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR A CALL CENTER IN AN OFFICE ("O") DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

PASSED and APPROVED on first reading this the 19th day of February, 2014.
PASSED and APPROVED on second and final reading this the 5th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF HARLINGEN
/s/ Danny Castillo, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:
/s/ Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

ORDINANCE NO. 14-9

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 08-15 WHICH ENACTED THE PREDECESSORS OF THE FOLLOWING CODES, AND ADOPTING THE 2012 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE INCLUDING APPENDIX CHAPTERS C, D, AND APPENDICES F THROUGH K, THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE INCLUDING APPENDIX CHAPTERS A THROUGH E, AND APPENDICES G, H, J, M, N, AND P; THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE INCLUDING APPENDIX CHAPTERS C THROUGH F, THE 2012 ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE INCLUDING APPENDIX CHAPTERS A THROUGH J, THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE INCLUDING APPENDIX CHAPTER A, ALL PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC. AND THE 2014 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE IS ADOPTED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO SAID CODES AS DESCRIBED IN EXHIBITS 'A' AND 'B' ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, REPEALING CONFLICTING PROVISIONS IN OTHER ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

PASSED and APPROVED on first reading this the 5th day of February, 2014.
PASSED and APPROVED on second and final reading this the 5th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF HARLINGEN
/s/ Danny Castillo, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:
/s/ Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to approve the items under the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- 8) Consider and take action to approve an ordinance on first reading amending Ordinances 85-108, 00-83 and 08-46 establishing new rental rates, supplemental charges and policies for Casa De Amistad; providing for publication and ordaining other matters related to the foregoing.

Joel Humphries, Arts and Entertainment Director stated this item was discussed at a previous meeting. Discussion was held in regards to reducing the rental rates at Casa de Amistad. He highlighted "Exhibit A" of the proposed ordinance which included the proposed rates for rentals, supplemental charges and requirements for residential and non-residential, commercial, and security rate. Lessor would be subject to the requirements of the TABC. Staff recommended approval of the proposed rental rates and polices for Casa de Amistad.

Commissioner Mezmar inquired about the \$40.00 for the rental of chairs and tables.

Mr. Humphries responded the proposed ordinance provided a fee of \$5.00 per table which included eight chairs for each table and a fee of forty cents for each additional chair.

Richard Bible, Interim City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve the ordinance on first reading with the exception of Item No. 9, Sections (c) and (e) of the supplemental charges and requirements, relating to the cost of the tables and additional chairs. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9) Consider and take action to approve a resolution amending the Harlingen Downtown Improvement District 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget.

Elvia Trevino, Finance Director stated the amendment was for an increase of \$4,655.00. The funds were budgeted and encumbered last fiscal year, but the funds were paid this current fiscal year. Total revenues were \$240,975.00 and expenditures were \$238,908.00. She recommended approval of the resolution.

Commissioner Sanchez stated he had requested to the City Manager that every director submit a report for the City Commission's review on what was being done and spent in each department.

Mr. Yerena responded this information was inclusive in his City Manager's report. The report was distributed to the City Commission every Friday on a weekly basis.

Motion was made Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to approve and adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- 10) Consider and take action to approve an Agreement for Administrative Services between the Harlingen-San Benito Housing Finance Corporation and the City of Harlingen to provide ongoing business administration for the Corporation and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Mr. Yerena stated the agenda item would allow the Harlingen-San Benito Housing Finance Corporation to reimburse the City of Harlingen \$12,260.18 for the performance of all clerical and administrative duties for the ongoing support of the Corporation. He recommended approval of the agreement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mezmar and seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve the agreement between the City of Harlingen and the Harlingen –San Benito Housing Financing Corporation. Motion carried unanimously.

- 11) Board Appointments

Commissioner Leal re-appointed Michael Lamon to the Development Corporation of Harlingen, Inc.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to approve the re-appointment of Michael Lamon to the Development Corporation of Harlingen, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

- 16) Citizen Communication

Yolanda Shoffeitt, P.O. Box 697, stated she was organizing a group of citizens, tax- payers and registered voters to recall current board members of the Harlingen City Commission because she was disappointed with what was going on.

Jose A. Ruedas Jr., 2614 Blake Street, strongly felt the City Commission should consider taking time to review the matters in regards to the Interim Fire Chief and appointment of the proposed Public Safety Director. By allowing themselves additional time they would review all concerns and choose a qualified individual to lead the department.

Kathy Ledesma, 1213 W. Jefferson Avenue, spoke on the dreams of serving as a fire fighter, how the trust and dreams of the city's firemen had been shaken because of the way the fire chief was removed. She questioned how the firemen were supposed to work without the support and more importantly the trust of the city administrators. The appointed position should come from within the Harlingen Fire Department.

Darrell Loftus, 809 E. Jim Hogg, commended the City Commission for tabling Items No. 14 and 15. The individuals present from the police and fire departments represented academics and experience. No incidents or mishaps were known and hoped that consideration be given to the many experienced individuals within the departments.

Jose Rubio, Jr, 2309 Hacienda Road, introduced Officer George Moreno who felt he was a victim of the collective bargaining process. Mr. Moreno was the only officer to pass the civil service exam for the sergeant promotion. He was passed 2 times for the position and hoped that in

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the upcoming collective bargaining process the City Manager would reinstitute a right way of promoting people. He liked for staff to view the face book page of the Interim Police Chief Steve Mayer regarding the manner in which he was showcasing himself, it was embarrassing what he was doing to the City of Harlingen.

Raymond Reyes, 706 Nantucket Drive stated one thing that had not changed was the Downtown Improvement District. He felt the area was rather empty and vacant. The drama in regards to the Fire Chief should be acted on with principles and integrity. We are behind progress compared to the cities of Weslaco and Mercedes.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

City of Harlingen



Danny Castillo, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:



Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary