

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 4a) Consider and take action to approve an ordinance on first reading amending Chapter 50: SOLID WASTE of the Harlingen Code of Ordinances to provide that no person or business may collect solid waste in the City of Harlingen without the approval of the City.

Motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to approve Item 4a. Motion carried unanimously.

For the record, the Caption of Ordinance No. 15-1 read as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 15-1

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 50; SOLID WASTE OF THE HARLINGEN CITY CODE; TO ESTABLISH A VIOLATION FOR UNAUTHORIZED COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE; AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

PASSED AND APPROVED on first reading this 17th day of December, 2014.
PASSED AND APPROVED on second reading this 7th day of January, 2015.

City of Harlingen
/s/ Chris Boswell

ATTEST:

/s/ Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

- 5) Discussion regarding the bid(s) received on the following properties from a tax resale conducted on July 2, 2014.
- a) Lot 15, Chapulepec, an addition of the City of Harlingen, Cameron County Texas, as described in Volume 14064, Page 197, Official Records of Cameron County, Texas, SAVE & EXCEPT; however, the West 5 feet thereof as described in Volume 737, Page 25, Deed records of Cameron County, Texas No. 16-3790-0000-1510-00;
 - b) North 67 ½ feet of Lots 1, and 2, Block 1, South Side Addition, an addition to the City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas, according to the map of plat thereof, recorded in Volume 12, Page 26, Map Records of Cameron County, Texas, Account No. 23-6660-0011-001-00;
 - c) East ½ of Lots 5, Block 42, Original Townsite, an addition to the City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas as described as in Volume 567, Page 634, Deed Records of Cameron County, Texas, Account No. 15-0000-0420-0051-00;
 - d) Lot 20, Block 1, Charleston Addition, and addition to the City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 7, Page 1, Map Records of Cameron County, Texas, Acct No. 16-4110-0010-0200-00; and
 - e) 0.0425 acre, more or less, situated in Lot 9, Block 36, Original Townsite Addition, and addition to the City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas, as described in Deed dated April 6, 1982, from Bessie B. Blackwell to Floyd Maples, Et. Al. in Volume 1273, Page 428, Deed Records of Cameron County, Texas, Account No.: 15-0000-0360-0090-01.

John Guevara, with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, and Sampson stated the properties were sold to the highest bidder at a tax resale conducted on July 2, 2014. A percentage of the funds collected would be distributed to the City of Harlingen. He recommended approval of the resolutions accepting the bids.

- 6) Consider and take action to approve resolutions for bid(s) received at the tax resale conducted on July 2, 2014 for the above referenced properties.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal and seconded by Commissioner Castillo to approve the resolutions as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- 7) Consider and take action to approve an ordinance on first reading creating three new positions at the rank of lieutenant in the Harlingen Fire Department.

Roy Rubio, Fire Chief stated the proposed amendment to the existing ordinance would reflect the increase for promotion of three (3) positions for fire lieutenants. The funds were allocated in the 2014-2015 Budget.

A brief discussion was held in regards to the position classification chart in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Rubio stated the chart reflected the change of classification from fire fighters to lieutenants as required by the Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Richard Bilbie, City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Castillo to approve the ordinance on first reading with the change as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.

- 8) Consider and take action to accept conditional gift deeds for vacant properties from the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council acquired through Round 2 Disaster Recovery Housing Program.

Tammy DeGannes, Community Development Director stated the Lower Rio Grande Development Council (LRGVDC) was the recipient of several lots. The Housing Opportunity Program (HOP) allowed homeowners who received hurricane damage and lived within the disadvantaged areas an opportunity to select a home in a more desirable location. In some cases, the homeowner would move to another location and the existing home would be demolished. The property was deeded to the LRGVDC and they would like to gift the properties to the City.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to approve the acceptance of the gift deeds as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9) Consider and take action to authorize the City Manager to extend a letter of offer on property tax foreclosures held by Cameron County, as Trustee.

Ms. DeGannes stated two properties had been vacant for many years. There was an opportunity for the City along with other taxing entities to bid on the properties.

Mr. Yerena stated the City would offer the bid of \$1,500 for the property located at the intersection of Finley & Lozano and \$1,000 for the property at 1014 North "D" Street. This was an opportunity to acquire additional properties for the continuation of the Habitat for Humanity Program to construct low to moderate income homes in the community.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mezmar and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal to authorize the City Manager to extend a letter of offer on the property tax foreclosures. Motion carried unanimously.

- 10) Consider and take action to accept bids and award contract for the TANIP Sidewalk Improvements Projects under Bid No. 2015-04.

Javier Zamora, City Engineer stated the City received sealed bids for the sidewalk improvements within Census Tract 110 Block Group 1 and 2. The improvements consisted of approximately 1,300 linear feet of sidewalk including wheel chair ramps. The streets affected were the east side of J Street from West Wright to Buchanan Avenue. The funds were allocated in the Community Development Block Grant Funds, One Year Action Plan. Staff recommended awarding the bid to the lowest bidder, Diamond Eight Industries for \$48,801.62.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Mezmar to accept the bid submitted by Diamond Eight Industries in the amount of \$48,801.62. Motion carried unanimously.

11) Board Appointments

Mayor Boswell

Richard Newman – Civil Service Commission
Chuck Mattingly – Civil Service Commission

Motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal to approve the board appointments of Richard Newman and Chuck Mattingly. Motion carried unanimously.

12) Executive/Closed Session on the following items:

- a) pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A., Texas Government Code Section 551.072 regarding the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.
- b) attorney consultation pursuant to Section 551.071 (2), Texas Government Code to provide legal advice and counsel in connection with the City's rights, duties, privileges, and obligations related to pending collective bargaining process as per Chapter 174, Texas local Government Code and related matters with the Harlingen Fire Department.

At 5:57 p.m., Mayor Boswell announced the City Commission would convene into executive session to discuss Item No. 12 (a) and (b).

Motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Uhlhorn to convene into executive session to discuss Item No. 12 (a) and (b). Motion carried unanimously.

At 6:21 p.m., Mayor Boswell announced the City Commission had completed its executive session and declared the meeting open to the public.

13) Consideration and appropriate action to approve a Collective Bargaining Labor Agreement between the City of Harlingen and Harlingen Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 3404 (HPFFA, IAFF Local 3404), the duly recognized majority bargaining agent for Fiscal Years 2014-2015 through 2015-2016 and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

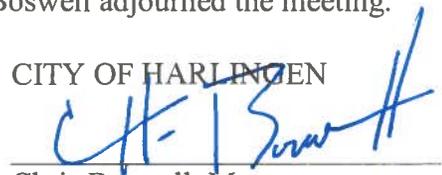
Motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Leal to approve the agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

14) Citizen Communication

None

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Boswell adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF HARLINGEN


Chris Boswell, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary