

September 26, 2016

A Special Meeting of the Harlingen Elective Commission was held on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 1:30 p.m., City Hall, Town Hall Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 118 E. Tyler Street Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Mayor and Commissioners

Mayor Chris Boswell  
Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Mezmar, District 3  
Tudor Uhlhorn, Commissioner District 2  
Ruben De La Rosa, Commissioner District 4  
Victor Leal, Commissioner District 5

ABSENT

Richard Uribe, Commissioner District 1

Staff Present

Dan Serna, City Manger  
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary  
Richard Bilbie, City Attorney

Mayor Boswell called the meeting to order and stated a notice of the meeting was duly post according to State law. The following proceedings were held.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1a) Consider and take action to close Jackson Street between 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Commerce Street for the upcoming Jackson Street Market Days for Year 2017 on the following days.

<u>January 7, 2017</u>	<u>July 1, 2017</u>
<u>February 4, 2017</u>	<u>August 5, 2017</u>
<u>March 4, 2017</u>	<u>September 2, 2017</u>
<u>April 1, 2017</u>	<u>October 7, 2017</u>
<u>May 6, 2017</u>	<u>November 4, 2017</u>
<u>June 3, 2017</u>	<u>December 2, 2017</u>

- b) Consider and take action to approve the following requests from the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District Athletic Office in regards to the Pigskin Jubilee, Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. for four (4) marked police vehicles:

- a) Two (2) Units to be station at the Intersection of 13<sup>th</sup>/Jefferson Street and 13<sup>th</sup>/Harrison Street;
- b) One (1) unit on Jefferson Street between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Business 77 Sunshine Strip;
- c) One (1) Unit around Boggus Stadium Area; and
- d) Barricade 13<sup>th</sup> Street between Jefferson Street and Harrison Street as the same manner as the street is barricaded for high school footballs events; and
- e) Barricade Jefferson Street between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Business 77 Sunshine Strip.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner de la Rosa to approve Items 1 (a) & (b) under the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Consider and take action to approve the revision to the Base Rates charged by South Texas Emergency Care Foundation, Inc. (STECF) for ambulance services and approve the Schedule of Base Charges as set out in the existing contract for services.

Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager stated South Texas Emergency Care Foundation, Inc. ("STECF"), provides emergency and non-emergency ambulance services and emergency medical services to person within the City of Harlingen. STECF was also requesting a minor increase in the base rates.

Randy Whittington stated they were asking for an increase in the STECF base rate charges of \$55.00 for each level of service such as advance or critical care. There have been

only two adjustments to STECF's base rates in the last 7 to 8 years. He briefly highlighted the STECF's base rates in comparison to other cities' charges located in and out of the Rio Grande Valley. Their base charges are comparable to other cities or lower throughout the valley with the exception of Brownsville and rates for critical care and advance life support are less than half of the charges in McAllen. Their current contract with the City requires obtaining consent from the City Commission to increase the base rate charge. The rate increase would not affect the patients that were on Medicare or Medicaid. These charges were established by federal and state law.

Commissioner Uhlhorn asked if the poaching problem had improved.

Mr. Whittington responded no and stated he did not have the exact number, but was still a problem. Part of the reason for the request was due to the volume of calls, particularly the non-emergency. Calls were down compared to last year because of so many ambulance companies operating in the City in violation of the ordinance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mezmar to approve the revision to the Base Rates charged by South Texas Emergency Care Foundation, Inc. (STECF) for ambulance services and approve the Schedule of Base Charges as set out in the existing contract for services. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Boswell recommended that staff review the poaching issue and send mail letters of notifications to those ambulance companies that were violating the ordinance.

Mr. Gonzalez stated he would meet with the Police Chief to discuss the poaching issue and hopefully resolve this issue.

Mr. Whittington stated the contract requires that notification letters be mail on a yearly basis to the EMS providers who are the poachers. It has been two or three years since the last notification was mailed.

Mayor Boswell thanked and congratulated Joe, Bill and staff for their leadership support.

- 3) Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A., Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, and 551.072 regarding the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property and to possibly seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding this matter.

At 1:40 p.m., Mayor Boswell announced the City Commission would convene into executive session to discuss Item No. 3.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mezmar and seconded by Commissioner de la Rosa to convene into executive session to discuss Item No. 3. Motion carried unanimously.

At 2:30 p.m., Mayor Boswell announced the City Commission had completed its executive session and declared the meeting open to the public.

- 4) Consider and take action to authorize City Manager to proceed as discussed in executive session.

This was not discussed.

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

CITY OF HARLINGEN

  
Chris Boswell, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary