

SPECIAL MEETING

CITY COMMISSION

HARLINGEN, TEXAS

AUGUST 24, 2011

A Special Meeting of the Harlingen Elective Commission was held on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall, City Hall, 118 E. Tyler Street, Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Mayor and City Commission

Jerry Prepejchal, Mayor Pro Tem, District 4
Gustavo C. Ruiz, Commissioner, District 1
Robert Leftwich, Commissioner, District 2
Kori Marra, Commissioner, District 3
Joey Trevino, Commissioner District 5

Absent

Mayor Chris Boswell

Staff Present

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary
Roxann P. Cotroneo, City Attorney
Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Roel Gutierrez, Finance Director

Mayor Pro-Tem Prepejchal called the meeting to order, a quorum was established. He stated a notice of the meeting had been duly posted according to state law and the following proceedings were held.

- 1) Second Public Hearing to hear comments for or against the proposed City Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Roel Gutierrez, Finance Director informed the City Commission that two public hearings were held to solicit public comments on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The first public hearing had been held and this was the second public hearing. He stated the projected revenues were at \$3.6 million and expenditures were reduced by \$3,045,191 and revenues were increase to \$642,304. At the last meeting staff was instructed to place the budget on the city's website and as of today it was available online for public viewing.

Mayor Pro-Tem Prepejchal declared the public hearing opened to the public.

Bill Reagan, Executive Director for Loaves and Fishes understood the big task that the City Commission had to approve a balanced budget. He requested additional funding for their organization. The funds allocated to Loaves and Fishes were used for rent, utilities and prescriptions for individuals who requested assistance for their medications. They were anticipating a high turnout of participants due to President Obama's Stimulus Program through a program called HPRP (Homes Prevention Rapidly Program). A grant of approximately \$15,000 a month was allocated to their organization to assist individuals to pay their bills. Loaves and Fishes would not be receiving these funds anymore.

There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Pro-Tem Prepejchal declared the public hearing closed.

- 2) Second Public Hearing to hear comments for or against the proposed tax rate of \$0.588827 per \$100 in value for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Roel Gutierrez, Finance Director highlighted the proposed tax rate and stated the proposed tax rate had remained the same for the past two years. This was also the rate that was budgeted to balance the budget with the allocation of the property tax revenues. Tax Code

required taxing units to hold two public hearings to adopt a tax rate that exceeded the effective tax rate. The first public hearing was held on August 17, 2011 and this was the second public hearing.

Mayor Pro-Tem Prepejchal declared the public hearing opened to the public.

Gail Moore, resident of 709 Town Lane Drive stated the Commission needed to move on with this item.

There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Pro-Tem Prepejchal declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leftwich and seconded by Commissioner Trevino to convene into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

On August 24, 2011 at 5:38 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Prepejchal announced the Harlingen City Commission would convene in closed session to discuss the following item.

- 3) Closed/Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D., V.T.C.A. Government Code, Sections 551.087 and 551.071 regarding commercial and financial information from a business prospect with which the City Commission is conducting economic development negotiations and/or to discuss and deliberate financial or other incentives with the business prospect known as Project Green to seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding this subject.

At 6:17 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Prepejchal announced the Harlingen City Commission had concluded its executive session and declared the meeting opened to the public.

No action taken during executive session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leftwich and second Commissioner Trevino to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Jerry Prepejchal, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:

Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary