Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Harlingen, Texas will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 09, 2020 at 1:30 P.M. via videoconference, while providing the public the ability to view the meeting via internet live streaming at www.myharlingen.us and the City of Harlingen Facebook Page.

In accordance with the order of the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City of Harlingen, Texas will conduct the meeting via videoconference and provide viewing for the public using live stream in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called "social distancing") to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). To view the City Commission meeting live, go to www.myharlingen.us and click on “CITY COMMISSION LIVE.”

The public will be permitted to offer citizen communication or participate in items listed as public hearings telephonically as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted for City staff to read aloud during the meeting.

To offer citizen communication or participate in scheduled public hearings telephonically, go to www.myharlingen.us and click on “PUBLIC HEARING AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FORM.” Fill out the form and indicate the item you wish to address, and submit the form.

Please indicate (1) the agenda item on which you wish to speak, (2) whether you prefer to speak on the item during citizen communication or at the time the agenda item is brought for consideration before the City Commission, and (3) a working telephone number at which you may be reached to submit your comments. The City will then call you when the item you wish to address is being considered. You will then address the City Commission through speakerphone, and your call will be made audible to the City Commission and to the public through the live stream. Please submit this request before 11 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

To submit written comments for City staff to read aloud during the meeting, go to www.myharlingen.us and click on “PUBLIC HEARING AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FORM” write your comments (limited to 400 words or less) and submit the form.

Please submit written comments before 11 a.m. the day of the meeting.

A recording of the meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

City of Harlingen meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary’s Office at (956) 216-5001 or write Post Office Box 2207, Harlingen, Texas 78550 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.
The Harlingen City Commission reserves the right, pursuant to the Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to enter into closed executive session on any item posted on the agenda if a matter is raised that is appropriate for closed discussion.

Call Meeting to Order

Citizen's Communication/Input

1. Consideration and possible action to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) to perform COVID-19 testing. Attachment (Health)

2) Consideration and possible action to cancel the City's Public Auction scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020 due to the current health crisis rising from COVID-19. Attachment (Finance Dept.)

3) Consideration and possible to establish a COVID-19 Financial Hardship Assistance Program for Harlingen residents to provide financial assistance for utility payments including water/sewer, gas and electricity and to provide financial assistance for rental or mortgage payments. Attachment (Gabriel Gonzalez, Asst. City Attorney)

4) Consideration and possible action to approve Public Services Contract with Loaves and Fishes to administer a portion of the CARES Act COVID Relief Funds for the City to provide assistance to Harlingen residents with utility, rent or mortgage payments for those who have experienced financial hardship resulting directly from the temporary or permanent loss of employment income from the Coronavirus Pandemic. Attachment (Gabriel Gonzalez, Asst. City Attorney)

5) Discussion and possible action in reference to STEC activation of additional resources; mutual aid level and EMTF-11 level. (Commissioner Puente & Commissioner Uribe)

6) Discussion and possible action on COVID-19 testing and Interlocal Agreement with the City of Brownsville. (Commissioner Puente & Commissioner Uribe)

Adjournment

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above Notice of the Regular Meeting of the Harlingen City Commission is a true and correct copy of said notice posted on the bulletin board at City Hall of said City of Harlingen, Texas in a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times and on the Corporation's Internet Website and said Notice was posted on Monday, July 6th 2020, at or before 10:45 a.m. and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the time of said meeting.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2020

Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary