

REGULAR MEETING

CITY COMMISSION

HARLINGEN, TEXAS

March 1, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Harlingen Elective Commission was held on March 1, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., City Hall, Town Hall Meeting Room, 118 E. Tyler Street, Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Commissioners

Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Mezmar, District 3  
Richard Uribe, City Commissioner, District 1  
Tudor Uhlhorn, City Commissioner, District 2  
Ruben de la Rosa, City Commissioner, District 4  
Victor Leal, City Commissioner, District 5

Staff Present

Dan Serna, City Manager  
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary  
Alan Ozuna, Asst. City Attorney

ABSENT

Chris Boswell, Mayor

Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Mezmar called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was duly posted according to State law. The following proceedings were held:

Invocation/Michael Mezmar

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed those in attendance. He changed the order of the agenda and proceeded with the following item to allow Dr. Art Cavazos, Harlingen School Superintendent to be in attendance for the presentation of the proclamation.

2) Neighborhood Clean-Sweep held February 11, 2017 from N. "L" Street to dead ends, starting at Barton, W. Monroe, W. Madison, W. Jefferson; District 4.

Jose M. Aceves, Code Enforcement Officer reported the Neighborhood Clean-Sweep was held February 11, 2017 from N. "L" Street to the dead ends, starting at Barton, W. Monroe, W. Madison, and W. Jefferson from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The volunteers collected 5.12 tons of debris. He thanked the Delua Family, Tracy Fee, and MMA for their participation in the clean-up to beautify the community. The next cleanup is schedule for March 11, 2017 from Los Alamos to W. Lamb St., starting at Los Alamos, S. Estrellita Ave. and W. Lamb, Fair Park Blvd., District 3 from 8 a.m. – 12 noon.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar thanked Mr. Aceves and the volunteers for helping to make Harlingen a better place to live.

3) Approval of Minutes

a) Regular Meeting of February 1, 2017

Motion was made by Commissioner Uribe and seconded by Commissioner De La Rosa to approve the minutes of February 1, 2017 with a clarification on Page 5, Item 9 to include Rangerville Park in the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

1) Proclamation – proclaiming March 1, 2017 as "Harlingen High School Jazz Ensemble Day."

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar read and presented a proclamation to the Harlingen Jazz Ensemble, proclaiming March 1, 2017 as "Harlingen High School Jazz Ensemble Day".

Commissioner De La Rosa stated he attended the presentation in San Antonio, Texas and received great compliments about the Harlingen Jazz Ensemble. He thanked Ronnie Rios, Band Director and students for the great performance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar returned to the order of the agenda and continued with the following items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 4a) Second and final reading to approve and adopt an ordinance amending the Revenue and Expenditure Budget for the City of Harlingen, Texas, for Fiscal Year Oct. 1, 2016 through Sept. 30, 2017, total budget revenues will increase to \$70,226,932 and total budget expenditure will increase to \$74,608,738 respectively, providing for publication of the caption of this ordinance and ordaining other matters related to the foregoing.
- b) Consider and take action to approve a request from the Junior League of Harlingen to close down Fair Park Blvd. between "J" Street and "L" Street on Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for Kid Fit 2017.
- c) Consider and take action to approve a request from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church to close a section of "C" Street between Tyler Avenue and Polk Street (one block) Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 to midnight to hold their Fourth Annual Spring Fiesta at the Parish Main Parking Lot across the street from the Church Building.
- d) Consider and take action to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Contract between the Department of State Health Services and the City of Harlingen for use of the TER Remote System for issuance of birth certificates within the State of Texas.
- e) Consider and take action to approve an Agreement for Administrative Services between the City of Harlingen and Housing Finance Corporation Serving the Cities of Harlingen and San Benito to provide administrative services for the ongoing business administration of the Corporation and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.
- f) Consider and take action to approve the final replat of the proposed Reyna Heights Subdivision, consisting of an 11.25 acre tract of land out of Lot 1, Block 1, of the Harlingen Heights II Subdivision located on the west side of Harlingen Heights Drive, south of Teege Road. Applicant: Orlando Cruz of Cruz Hogan Consultants, Inc. c/o Ezequiel Reyna, Jr.

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

For the record, the caption of Ordinance No. 2017-11 Read as follow:

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS, FOR FISCAL YEAR OCT. 1, 2016 THROUGH SEPT. 30, 2017; TOTAL BUDGET REVENUES WILL INCREASE TO \$70,226,932 AND TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES WILL INCREASE TO \$74,608,738 RESPECTIVELY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF THE CAPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE AND ORDAINING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

PASSED AND APPROVED on first reading this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.  
PASSED AND APPROVED on second reading this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.

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

CITY OF HARLINGEN  
/s/ Chris Boswell, Mayor

- 5) Consider and take action to approve or deny the bids/offers received on the following properties struck off to Cameron County, for itself and other taxing jurisdictions from a tax resale conducted on November 1, 2016.
  - a) Legal Description: .315 of an acre out of Lot 1, Block Number Seven (7), Treasure Hills Country Club Subdivision Section 1, out of the Resubdivision of Block 1, 2, 6, & 7 Section 1, City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas according to map thereof

recorded in Cabinet 1, Page 1070-A of the Map Records, Cameron County, Texas (Account No.: 24-5649-0070-0010-00) & .0240 of an acre out of Lot 1, Block Number Seven (7), Treasure Hills Country Club Subdivision, Section 1, out of the Resubdivision of Blocks 1, 2, 6, & 7, Section 1, City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas according to Map thereof recorded in Cabinet 1, Page 1070-A of the Map Records, Cameron County, Texas (Account No. 24-5649-0070-0011-00).

- b) Legal Description: Lot 2, Block 7, Treasure Hills Country Club Subdivision, Section 1, City of Harlingen, Cameron County, Texas, according to the Map or Plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet 1, Slide 1070-A, Map Records of Cameron County, Texas, (Account No. 24-5649-0070-0020-00).

Mr. John D. Guevara, Attorney for Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, LLP, stated these 2 (two) properties were placed for sale, but they received no bids. The properties were struck off the taxing entities in trust for one another, Cameron County, Harlingen Consolidated School District, and the City of Harlingen. In November, 2016 the same properties were placed for sale and they received two bids. The School District approved the request and the County Commissioners Court will consider this item on Monday, March 6, 2017.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uribe and seconded by Commissioner Leal to approve the bids/offers received for the above mentioned properties struck off to Cameron County, for itself and other taxing jurisdictions from a tax resale conducted November 1, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6) Consider and take action to approve a resolution approving or denying the bids/offers received on the tax resale conducted on November 1, 2016 for the above referenced properties.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner De La Rosa approve the resolutions for Items No. 5 (a) & (b). Motion carried unanimously.

- 7) Consider and take action to approve a Lease Agreement between the City of Harlingen and City of Matamoros, Tamaulipas to lease a portion of office space at the Lon C. Hill Building located at 502 E. Tyler Avenue for the creation of an official Matamoros, Mexico Office and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.

Carlos A. Sanchez, Asst. City Manager stated the City approved an agreement to lease a portion of office space at the Lon C. Hill Bldg. with the previous administration from Matamoros, Mexico. The new Administration is requesting the same agreement to be renewed for a term of two years. Staff will bring this item before the City Commission for consideration and approval of the additional year.

Mr. Serna stated the agreement was part of the Sister City Agreement and staff is requesting to continue the relationship with Matamoros.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Uribe to approve the Lease Agreement between the City of Harlingen and City of Matamoros, Tamaulipas to lease a portion of office space at the Lon C. Hill Building located at 502 E. Tyler Avenue for the creation of an official Matamoros, Mexico Office and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

- 8) Consider and take action to approve a Facility Use Agreement between the City of Harlingen and the Texas Youth Football Association (TYFA) Harlingen Wolfpack for use of the fields at Vestal Park and Wilson Sports Complex. Applicant: Isabel Kellogg.

Javier Mendez, Parks & Recreation Director recommended renewing the Facility Use Agreement with the Texas Youth Football Association (TYFA) Harlingen Wolfpack. The agreement was the same as the previous one with the exception of a change in location. Vestal Park will be used during the month of March through October and Wilson Sports Complex from November through February due to daylight savings time. They will be sharing the fields. Currently, the Adult Soccer League is using the fields on Sundays. There are no conflicts in the schedules.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Uribe to approve a Facility Use Agreement between the City of Harlingen and the Texas Youth Football Association (TYFA) Harlingen Wolfpack for use of the fields at Vestal Park and Wilson Sports Complex. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9) Consider and take action to approve a resolution to submit a grant through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) 2017/2018 Grant Year and designate the City Manager as the grantee's authorized official with the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the City.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar pointed out that a correction on the agenda item should to read "designate the Mayor" instead of the City Manager.

Cirilo Rodriguez, Assistant Fire Chief stated the Fire Department is in the process of applying for an \$85,000 grant for specialized equipment for the Regional Haz-Mat Team with no match from the City. Out of the \$85,000, \$65,000 would for a specialized chemical identification Haz-Mat hand held device use to identify chemicals quicker. This equipment can also be used to detect explosives/bombs and during a demolition process through the use of a robot. The robot take a sample of the chemical and staff identifies the sample on site without having to take it out of the hot zone to be analyzed. The equipment is equipped with an extensive library that will quickly identify the chemical or explosive device. The Lower Rio Grande Valley Homeland Security Committee approved the City of Harlingen to apply for the grant. Staff recommends approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Uribe to approve a resolution to submit a grant through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) 2017/2018 Grant Year and designate the Mayor as the grantee's authorized official with the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the City. Motion carried unanimously.

- 10) Consider and take action to approve an ordinance on first reading to designate "No Parking Zones" along the west side of Morgan Blvd., 125 feet from the intersection of Washington Avenue extending north 700 feet to Chaparral Lane and along the east side of Morgan Blvd., 260 feet from the intersection of Washington Avenue extending north 700 feet to 816 Morgan Blvd., and on the north side of Washington Avenue from Morgan Blvd. to Citrus Terrace Drive a distance of 565 feet.

Mr. Sanchez presented a PowerPoint presentation identifying the locations for the proposed "No-Parking Zones." A parking lot was constructed by the property managers/owners of the Call Center ACT for their employees. The traffic volume on Morgan Blvd.; the number of driveway openings which is significant for this type of roadway; and the street configuration which has a curvature on the roadway has impacted significantly for vehicles that are trying to exit the property at both sides of the roadway. Staff was approached by the Redelco, Inc. representatives and the property manager where the Call Center is located. Staff contacted the church pastor/management and Rocking K Realty to discuss this situation to hopefully resolve these issues. Each of the property owners expressed their concerns and the Engineering Department took the configuration on the roadway and recommended to resolve the issues with "No Parking Zones" on both sides of the road way on Morgan Blvd. and do a "No Parking Zone" on Washington Street from the intersection of Morgan Blvd. back to Citrus Terrance Drive.

Discussion was held regarding the parking issues and Mr. Louis Martin and Eric Polley representatives from Redelco, Inc. stated the "No Parking Zones" would eliminate the parking off of Washington Street and Morgan Street on both sides. They are short of parking. The Call Center ACT has approximately 830 employees working 5 shifts a day, 24/7. They spent a lot of money for the parking lot. They worked on a building that is located south and to the east of Lonnie's.

Dan Serna, City Manager stated we are trying to address a safety concern, not only for the Call Center Act, but for everyone involved in this matter, plus the citizens that are entering and exiting some of parking lots. He recommended tabling the item to allow Mr. Sanchez to review other options and bring this item back to the City Commission at a future meeting date.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leal and seconded by Commissioner Uribe to table the item to allow staff to meet with the Redelco, Inc. representative to continue discussing this item and report to the City Commission at a later date. Motion carried unanimously.

- 11) Board Appointments

Commissioner De La Rosa

Rodrigo Rodriguez - Veterans Advisory Board

Commissioner Leal

Michael Lamon - Economic Development Corporation (re-appointment)

Motion was made by Commissioner Uhlhorn and seconded by Commissioner Uribe to approve the appointment of Rodrigo Rodriguez to the Veterans Advisory Board and re-appointment of Michael Lamon to the Economic Development Corporation. Motion carried unanimously.

12) Citizen Communication

Rosie Elizarde Cavazos, 4515 Grimes Road requested consideration of a public forum to discuss Veterans' health issues.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Mezmar adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF HARLINGEN

  
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Michael Mezmar, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

  
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Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary