

**HARLINGEN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT BOARD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2011**

A meeting of the Harlingen Community Improvement Board of Directors was held on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the Harlingen Public Library Meeting Room, located at 410 '76 Drive, Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Present:

Jesse Robles – President
Paul Durant – Vice President
Gina Cano-Monreal - Secretary
Dean LaFever - Treasurer
Joe Rubio
Daniel Araiza

Mayor & Commission

Chris Boswell - Mayor
Gus Ruiz – Commissioner District 1

Staff Present:

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Roel Gutierrez, Director of Finance
Elena Garza, Assistant City Secretary

President Jesse Robles called the meeting to order and stated the agenda had been posted accordingly.

- 1) Consider and take action to approve the minutes of May 26, 2011 meeting.

President Robles pointed out a correction to Page 3, Line 10. It should read "Mr. LaFever stated." not President Robles stated.

Motion was made by Joe Rubio and seconded by Paul Durant to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Presentation of financial status report.

Roel Gutierrez, Finance Director reported the August 2011 cash assets to be \$1,765,973. Accounts receivable from sales tax are at \$88,702. Total assets are at \$1,854,676 which is also the Fund Balance. Under Revenues and Expenditure, total revenues for the year came in at \$1,076,638 with the year to date Fund Balance at \$1,854,676. He reported on the Cash Flow Projection for year ended September 30, 2011. The cash balance as of August 31, 2011 is at \$1,765,973 with additional cash

expected by year end for one month to be \$88,702. The total estimated cash balance by September 30, 2011 is \$1,854,675. The total approved commitment project expenditures is at \$1,585,762. Fiscal year 2011-2012 budgeted revenues if at \$1,197,517.

Mr. Gutierrez continued with the September 2011 cash assets to be \$1,837,865. Accounts receivable from sales tax are at \$95,124. Total assets are at \$1,932,989 which is also the Fund Balance. Total revenues for the year are at \$1,172,663 expenditures are at \$1,308,079 for the year. Revenues over expenditures for the year are at \$135,417. The year to date Fund Balance is at \$1,235,552.

Brief progress report was discussed on some of the Projects.

- 3) Public Hearing by the Harlingen Community Improvement Board in accordance with the Development Act of 1979, Article 5190.6, Section 4B(n) to hear comments for or against funding the following project:

- a) Project 2011-07 Veterans Memorial at Pendleton Park

Frank Hale stated a group of citizens have come together and formed a Committee to establish memorial recognition for individuals who have given so much to this wonderful country. The Veterans Committee is asking for City support to construct this memorial. They have raised around \$46,000. They are still trying to get the community involved and if anyone is interested they need to contact the Veterans Committee.

Art Cohan briefed everyone on the cost of the pavers. He stated the Musek recorded message that was to be installed at the memorial was removed from the cost due to vandalism the total cost cut was \$25,000. Corporate donations are also being sought. Mr. Cohan presented a handout describing the features of the memorial project.

Frank (last name unknown) stated since the Veterans Committee is willing to work with the City on this project. The Committee would like to see commitment from the City.

Robert Ruiz commented on the Veterans Memorial Project budget and stated the Committee not to exceed the capital dollars that were bid out on the project.

At 6:15 p.m. President Robles opened the public hearing to solicit comments from the public on the above Project.

Ruben Rendon stated they are very grateful to be where they are at with this project. Once this project is completed the level of enthusiasm will increase. They are grateful the Mayor has always supported this project.

Ron Lozano spoke about going out for bids on this project and not agreeable. This a Veterans issue not a City Project. The money for the Veterans Memorial should

be made available up front, since this is for Veterans. Let's make this a welcome memorial for all veterans.

Roy Maggard stated he had researched a previous veterans project that he was trying to setup. It takes quite a large amount of money to go forward. The Community wants this project funded by the City. He is asking for the City to assist with the project.

John Grimes, VFW Commander spoke in favor of the City assist in funding this Memorial Project. He asked to please give the Veterans the honor they deserve and dedicate this memorial in their honor.

Ryan Busse with Rocking Realty stated he is not a veteran. He feels very humble being here tonight with such a large group of veterans. He considers them celebrities. He is in support of this memorial project and asking the Board to consider approving the funding for this project.

Erol Stone spoke in favor of the funding of this project. He stated everyone owes our veterans. He is asking the Board to bring this project forward for the future of this Community.

Sebastian Cruz stated he is a World War II Veteran and the City needs a memorial for all veterans.

Ernest Martinez stated he supports this Veteran Memorial Project and this is why all this veterans are here tonight. Everyone will come and visit this memorial once its built.

Gail Moore stated her husband and father served in the military and she supports the construction of the Veterans Memorial. Veterans volunteered their time in the military some return and some didn't. She is asking the Board to please approve the funding for this project.

Marilyn Peg supports the Veteran Memorial Project. Her father, brother and other family members served in the military. She considers it an honor to all veterans by constructing this memorial project.

Norman Rozeff stated he wrote a story on World War II and all the veterans that were killed. He considers this memorial very important and asked the Board for their support in funding this project.

Lupita Garza considers this a great project. She stated Gutierrez Park is named after her brother. She would like for the community to get involved to renovate this park. She urges the City Commission to refocus on Gutierrez Park. There can be two Veteran Parks in the City if everyone works together. She supports the memorial project.

Dottie Thompson stated there are quite a few Veterans that support this memorial project. It is a good project for the Community and is in favor of the project.

Kenneth Benton stated he was very proud of his father for having to fight the racial barrier back in his military years. He is not against the funding, but this is 4(B) funding and he considers it illegal funding. Why not look into Economic Development funds. He supports the Memorial project.

Commissioner Ruiz thanked all Veterans that were present for their support in the Memorial Project. He is also in support of this project.

Paul Durant asked for assistance on the project from the City Commission.

Carlos Yerena, City Manager stated the City is ready to go after consulting with the City Attorney.

There being no other comments, President Robles declared the public hearing close at 6:55 p.m.

Mr. Yerena suggested setting up a contract from the monies being allocated from the pavers and maybe get it approved by the City Commission

Joe Rubio stated he is in full support of funding this project.

Dean LaFever supports the Memorial Project. There was \$15,000 cash on hand and it seems the account hasn't grown. He would like for the City to manage the construction and encourages the Veterans Committee to offset the cost. He asked when the monies would be coming into the 4B Board.

Mr. Yerena stated the funding amount to be allocated for this project is \$593,000.

Mayor Boswell asked that everyone move forward with this project. The City will go out for bids on this project.

Discussion followed on the description of the pavers.

4) Consider and take action to approve funding for the following project:

a) Project 2011-07 Veterans Memorial at Pendleton Park \$593,986

Motion was made by Paul Durant to fund the project for \$593,986. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

Motion was made by Dan Araiza and seconded by Paul Durant that the Board make a commitment to refund up to \$200,000 on the project.

Motion carried as followed: FOR: Araiza, Durant, LaFever, Cano-Monreal
AGAINST: Rubio

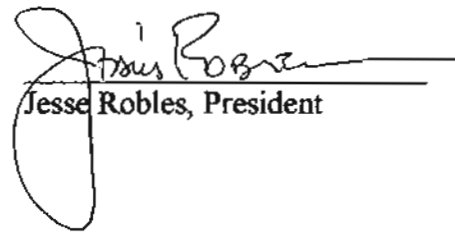
(Vote 4-1)

- 5) Consider and take action to approve the 2010-2011 budget amendments.

Item tabled

- 6) Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.


Jesse Robles, President

Attest:


Elena Garza, Assistant City Secretary