

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN COMMISSION

DATE:

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

TIME:

6:00 p.m.

PLACE:

San Juan Memorial Library
Multipurpose Meeting Room
1010 S. Standard
San Juan, Texas 78589

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mario Garza, Mayor
Pete Garcia, Mayor Pro-Tem
Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez, Commissioner
Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo, Commissioner
Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez, Commissioner
Ricardo Palacios, City Attorney

STAFF PRESENT:

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager
Diana Cavazos, City Secretary
Tirso Garza, Chief of Fire
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Leroy Gonzales, Director of Finance
Adelaida Cordero, Director of Human Resources
Armandina Sesin, Library Director
Patrick Willingham, Director of Parks & Recreation
Robert Escobar, Director of Planning
Juan Soto, Director of Sanitation/ Public Works
Rene Jaime, Purchasing/Risk Management
David Salinas, Director of Utilities
Mary Enriquez, Court Administrator
Pat Karr, Director of Information Technology

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Mario Garza called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

II. INVOCATION

Benjamin Arjona, City Manager led the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mario Garza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Update on:
Paving Project Phase 2
Hidalgo County – Urban County Paving Project 2017

Discussion: City Manager, Benjamin Arjona informed that Project Phase 2 has been completed and project is ready to be closed. On Urban County Paving Project 2017 City Manager informed that a notice has been given to proceed with a completion date of March 22nd.

- B. Presentation of Departmental Reports: Finance Department, Police Department, Municipal Court, Fire Department, and Utilities Department.

Discussion: Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked on the defer, if the full amount is paid on the citation, partial the court cost or nothing at all to which Mrs. Mary Enriquez, Court Administrator answered that the full amount is paid. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked how much time they have to complete the defensive driving course to which Ms. Enriquez replied

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90 days. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked who oversees the pretrial, Ms. Enriquez replied that Mr. Greg Treviño.

Commissioner Jesus “Jessie” Ramirez informed Police Chief Juan Gonzalez that he received an email regarding animal cruelty. An individual was calling animal control over animals or dogs being tied up for an extended amount of time. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked if Code Enforcement is aware of the Texas Law and if we are enforcing it. Police Chief Gonzalez answered that even though that particular call was out of jurisdiction it was referred to the county. In addition he further mentioned that the animal control officers are aware of the law.

Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez asked Roel Garza, Director of Sanitation/Public Works status on the brush pick-up. Mr. Garza replied that they are approximately 3 weeks behind. Mayor Mario Garza advised Mr. Garza to add another week to the quadrants just to be in the safe side.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCES

- A. Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider an Ordinance in First Reading for a Conditional Use Permit for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for On-Premise Consumption at Candilejas Event Center LLC. Located at 2103 N. Raul Longoria Road, legally described as Lot 11, Dos Arbolitos Plaza, as Requested by Looney Tunes Day Care Center, Inc.

Mayor Mario Garza opened the Public Hearing at 6:25 p.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez asked for the hours of operation to which Mr. Roberto Escobar, Director of Planning and Zoning replied 12:00pm – 12:00am Monday through Friday and Saturday’s 12:00pm – 1:00am. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked at what time the day care closed to which Mr. Escobar replied 3:30pm. Commissioner Ramirez doesn’t want the sale of alcohol while the day care is open.

Mayor Mario Garza closed the Public Hearing at 6:27 p.m.

Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez. Motion passed 5-0.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

- A. Consider Nomination for the City of San Juan to the 2019 Rio Grande Walk of Fame, as Requested by the City of Hidalgo.

Discussion: City Manager, Benjamin Arjona informed the commission that Cory’s Cake was nominated and was very thankful but she declined. Since she declined the honor to be nominated for the 2019 Rio Grande Walk of Fame it is brought back to the commission for nomination.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez nominated Juan Quiroz, he was very instrumental in the Park and Recreation Department seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed 5-0.

- B. Consider Removal and Appointment of Board Members related to the San Juan Memorial Library Advisory Board.

Discussion: City Secretary, Diana Cavazos informed the commission that we have Teresa Sloss from the San Juan Memorial Library Advisory Board who has missed the meetings more than 3 times. As part of the bylaws of the San Juan Library, if a member is absent more than 3 consecutive times, the individual should be automatically dropped from membership. Mayor Mario Garza asked City Secretary, Diana Cavazos if she has contacted Ms. Sloss to see why she’s been missing. Mayor Garza informed City Secretary that he thinks it’s because she teaches CCD.

Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez made motion to appoint Elizabeth Saldaña to replace Teresa Sloss, was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez. Motion passed 4-1. Mayor Mario Garza opposed.

- C. Consider Removal and Appointment of Board Members Related to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

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Discussion: City Secretary, Diana Cavazos informed the commission that this item is for the Parks and Recreation Board which consists of 7 members serving for 2 years staggered terms. According to the Parks and Recreation Bylaws, if absent more than 3 consecutive times, the individual is automatically dropped from the Advisory Board. The individual to be replaced is Laura Martinez due to assistance. Ms. Cavazos informed the commission that she hasn't contacted Ms. Martinez but Mr. Willingham, Director of Parks and Recreation has. Mr. Willingham informed the commission that initially they were having trouble getting a hold and when they finally did, she showed up to the meeting on May 2018. The meetings have been in conjunction with the parks plan and there's been monthly attempts reaching her and emailing her but there hasn't been any response

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to appoint Ralph Quintanilla to replace Lara Martinez was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez. Motion passed 5-0.

- D. Consider the Removal and/or Appointment of Board Member(s) of the San Juan Economic Development Corporation.

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to remove Mayor Mario Garza and Pedro Contreras and appoint Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez and Rolando Casas was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo. Mayor opposed (4-1). Business as usual

VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ALL THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- A. Discussion and Possible Action to Award the Annual Water Treatment Chemicals to the Most Responsible Bidder and Authorize the City Manager to Execute all Related Documents and Budget Amendment as Needed.

Discussion: David Salinas, Director of Utilities came forward (*technical issues*)

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to approve and was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia. Motion passed 5-0.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize the Mayor to Execute a Lease Agreement with US Bancorp to Purchase two (2) 2019 Doggett Freightliner Peterson M2-106 SRA Grapple Trucks, two (2) 2019 Doggett Freightliner M2-106 SRA Brush Trucks, one (1) 2018 Rush Truck Peterbilt 520 Neway Front Loader, one (1) 2020 Rush Truck 520 Pac Mor Side Loader and one (1) 2018 Romco Equipment Volvo L35GS Grapple Loader.

Discussion: Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez asked when the equipment would be available to which Mr. Roel Garza, Director of Sanitation responded: the brush truck would be available in two to three weeks, the grapple truck in three to four months and the Volvo side loader in two months.

Rick, Palacios, City Attorney advised to motion for staff recommendation

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to approve staff recommendation and was seconded by Commissioner Ernesto "Neto" Guajardo. Motion passed 5-0.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize the City Manager to Purchase (2) 2019 Doggett Freightliner, Peterson M2 – 106 SRA Grapple Trucks for the Purchase Price of (\$303,004), (2) 2019 Doggett Freightliner M2 -106 SRA Brush Trucks for the Purchase Price of (\$184,735.44), (1) 2018 Rush Truck Peterbilt 520 Neway Front Loader for the Purchase Price of (\$250,939.19), (1) 2020 Rush Truck 520 Pac Mor Side Loader for the Purchase Price of (\$237,768.47), (1) 2018 Romco Equipment Volvo L35GS Grapple Loader for the Purchase Price of (\$97,313.00).

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez. Motion passed 5-0.

- D. Discussion and Possible Action to consider Amending the Sanitation Budget for Fiscal 2018-2019 to Add the Position of Receptionist/Clerk.

Discussion: Roel Garza, Director of Sanitation informed the commission that this position will help our customer service and our administrative work and traffic.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez. Motion passed 5-0.

- E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Exchange between the City of San Juan Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) Approximately 559 Acres and a Portion of the City of Pharr ETJ Approximately 654 Acres.

Discussion: Dr. Ambrosio Hernandez, Mayor of City of Pharr came forward and explained that the City of Pharr is proposing land swap acre for acre of useable land with City of San Juan. He explained that he understands that the utility expense for the City of San Juan is very expensive however the City of Pharr is putting an infrastructure in that area which can cross over. He further mentioned that it is pretty expensive for the City of San Juan to go under floodways and put infrastructure in so it's not ideal but Pharr is prepared. Dr. Hernandez introduced Jesse Zambrano, EDC Attorney for the City of Pharr. He informed that the deal is legally feasible and it can be done as long as the cities are in agreement, and that the land is relatively about the same.

Mayor Hernandez informed the Commission that the City of Pharr was not there to take advantage of the City of San Juan or any Municipality or Government. They are there to work in partnership with the City. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked what terms will City of San Juan get after the investment is paid to which Dr. Hernandez replied that they are open to any legal entities and any fair and accountable deal. Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez asked Dr. Hernandez how is it equitable for the City of San Juan if it will be out of ten million dollars. Dr. Hernandez replied that he's fully aware of the math, what City of Pharr has proposed in writing already multiple times, there are needs in the City of San Juan that we will be happy to help with. City Attorney, Rick Palacios informed that there are still terms that need to be flushed out and ironed out; we are still waiting for more information regarding which road the linear feet of the paving to verify whether it would be dollar for dollar. Mr. Palacios informed that the only property mention to entertain at this time would be motion to have the City Manager further negotiates these terms, and under the charter it will require 4/5 of votes of the entire council.

Commissioner Jesus “Jessie” Ramirez asked Benjamin Arjona, City Manager if he ever took steps to do a study on our behalf for Tax Collection. Benjamin Arjona replied that he's just waiting on instructions whether to do it or not. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked if there were any other questions. Commissioner Ernesto “Neto” Guajardo asked for a guarantee that the houses or the projects that are going to be built are going to be completed. Dr. Hernandez replied that the developer has every intention of starting but he's not going to lift a finger until he knows he's getting the structure. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia asked how much the City of San Juan will receive from the value of the CCN. The Mayor of Pharr replied CCN is separate from the land deal or an infrastructure deal. Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Garcia informed that this item is being brought up so that we can decide whether to proceed or not with the agreement.

Mayor Pro Tem Pete Garcia made motion to accept the negotiation of the exchange of the extraterritorial jurisdiction with the City of Pharr and was not seconded. Motion died 1-4.

Mayor Mario Garza made motion to deny the request due to insufficient information and was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo “Lenny” Sanchez motion. Motion passed 4-1.

Mayor of Pharr Dr. Ambrosio Hernandez added that their infrastructure and their development in South Pharr across I Rd will go forward without the City of San Juan.

IX. CONTRACTUALS/RESOLUTIONS

- A. Consider the Approval of the Work Plan for Fiscal year 32 (2019) for the Hidalgo County Urban County Program.

Discussion: Roberto Escobar, Director of Planning and Zoning informed that this is the final work plan due on the 15th. The total amount Urban County is providing us with is \$295,584.00

Mayor Pro-Tem made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Jesus “Jesse” Ramirez. Motion passed 5-0.

- B. Consider Resolution Issuing Order and Notice of City General Election, Appointing and Determining Polling Locations.

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Discussion: City Secretary, Diana Cavazos came forward... *(Technical issues)* Mayor Garza verified that on Election Day we have two locations: Carmen Elementary and Fire Station No. 2. Commissioner Ramirez asked that if April 22, 2019 if County works after Easter because District doesn't. Ms. Cavazos replied that she hasn't called them directly but she knows that the cities all across and the ones hiring the county have the same early voting dates that are on the resolution but that she will still call to confirm.

Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez made motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo "Lenny" Sanchez. Motion passed 5-0.

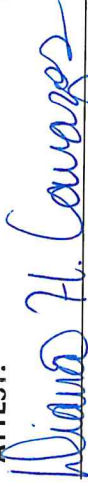
X. ADJOURNMENT 6:42 P.M.

Commissioner Ernesto "Neto" Guajardo made motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Jesus "Jesse" Ramirez. Motion passed 5-0.

CITY OF SAN JUAN, TEXAS

Mario Garza, Mayor

ATTEST:



Diana H. Cavazos, City Secretary