

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR CALLED MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M.  
118 SOUTH CAGE 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 and following is the record of attendance.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez  
Comm. Eleazar Guajardo  
Comm. Roberto Carrillo  
Comm. Oscar Elizondo, Jr.  
Comm. Edmund Maldonado, Jr.  
Comm. Ricardo Medina  
Comm. Mario Bracamontes

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Fred Sandoval, City Manager  
David Garza, Asst. City Mgr./Utilities Dir.  
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk  
Javier Rodriguez, C.D. Director  
Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer  
Ruben Villescas, Police Chief  
Jaime Guzman, Fire Chief  
Frank Marin, Parks & Recreation Dir.  
Roy Garcia, Public Works Director  
Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations  
Edward Wylie, Pharr Dev. Services Dir.  
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director  
Raul Garza, Admin. Services Director  
Gary Rodriguez, Public Information Officer  
Jason Arms, I.T. Director  
Roel Garza, Athletics Director  
Roy S. Garcia, Boggus Ford Events Center  
Tony Sandoval, EDC Asst. Director  
Sergio Contreras, External Affairs Dir.

**CITY ATTORNEY** Michael Pruneda, City Attorney  
**CITY ENGINEER** Bill Ueckert, City Engineer

**ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll Call established a quorum.

**A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY  
ABSENT MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

All present.

**B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION**

None.

**ITEM 2 CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS:**

- A) City Engineer's Report
- B) Submission of monthly report –Pharr Municipal Court
- C) Submission of April 2015 Tax Collection Report
- D) Submission of May 2015 Sales Tax Report
- E) City events of interest
- F) Legislative/Project Update

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated the City Engineer was present and any questions on projects could be entertained at this time.

Mayor Hernandez requested a list on on-going and future projects scheduled within the next 90 days to be presented to them at the next City Commission meeting.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated Judge Martinez was in the audience and questions on Pharr Municipal Court report could be entertained at this time. Judge Rudy Martinez congratulated the newly elected officials and welcomed any questions or concerns they may have.

Mayor Hernandez requested Judge Martinez to submit a report to him on Monday reflecting how many Judges are currently employed, how many days a week they work, how many hours they work and the volume of cases seen by each one.

There being no other comments, Fred Sandoval, City Manager, went over the April 2015 Tax Collection Report and stated it was in combination with the Finance Report and the Delinquent Tax Attorney Report. He further reported sales taxes were up by 9.4% and the City was second in the valley this month and number one year-to-date as the same time last year.

Frank Marin announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual PSJA Special Education Student Night was taking place on Saturday, May 23, 2015 at the Pharr Aquatic Center from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He presented a video of last year's event reporting there had been 120 persons in attendance.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, reported on three (3) bills being driven by the City of Pharr. He stated Senate Bill 797, filed by Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr., was a grant program to help with overtime paid to U.S. Customs and Border Protection to reduce wait times for agricultural inspections. He also reported House Bill 2515, filed by Representative Sergio Munoz, Jr. was related to the establishment of a foreign trade zone near the Pharr port of entry. Mr. Sandoval also reported House Bill 1887, filed by Representative Sergio Munoz, Jr., was to establish the Regional Center for Public Excellence in Pharr.

**ITEM 3 CONSENT AGENDA: (All items listed under consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Governing Body and will be enacted by one motion. Any Commissioner may remove items from the consent agenda by making such request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda)**

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY  
MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR CATASTROPHIC EVENT DEBRIS  
REMOVAL SERVICES**

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, REJECTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF FUEL FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FACILITY AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO RE-ADVERTISE FOR BIDS**
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS FOR BANK DEPOSITORY SERVICES**
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CHANGE ORDER #1 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ADD \$44,124.00 AND ADD 10 CALENDAR DAYS FOR THE CAPOTE & LAS MILPAS PARKS STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**
- E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PLANNING & ZONING CASES:**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Mario I. Ledezma, d/b/a La Frontera Bar, requested a Conditional Use Permit and Late Hours Permit to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premise consumption in a General Business District (C). The property is legally described as Lots 4 and 5, La Quinta Subdivision, Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas. The property's physical address is 5808 South Cage Boulevard. CUP#150431 (Tabled Item)
2. Luby's Bevco Inc. d/b/a Luby's Cafeteria, requested renewal of the Conditional Use Permit and Late Hours Permit to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premise consumption in a General Business District (C). The property is legally described as Lot 1, El Centro Mall No. 2 Subdivision, Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas. The property's physical address is 1900 West Expressway 83. CUP#130419

**PLATS:**

3. Sam Engineering & Surveying, representing Maria De La Luz Santana and Jose Luis Delgado, requested final plat approval of the proposed G & D Event Center Subdivision. The property is legally described as being a 2.20 acre tract of land, out of Lot 111, Kelly-Pharr Subdivision, Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas. The property's physical address is 1002 East Nolana Loop. SUB#131128
4. MGE, representing Pharr-San Juan-Alamo I.S.D., requested final plat approval of the proposed PSJA ISD Palmer Elementary Subdivision. The property is legally described as a 21.70 acre tract of land, out of Lot 232, Kelly-Pharr Subdivision, Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas. The property is located between the 1200 and 1600 Block of West Hall Acres Road. SUB#130820

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced items 3A through 3E (4) and stated no one had signed up to speak under the public hearing.

Comm. Elizondo moved to remove item 3C from the consent agenda. Comm. Maldonado seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously with one abstention. Mayor Hernandez abstained from voting.

Comm. Medina voiced his concern on item 3D and asked why the additional amount was needed. Bill Ueckert, City Engineer, explained the change order was needed for additional items such as lime stabilization as the caliche base material was inadequate. He further stated as installation of the sanitary sewer system on Lamar Drive was taking place they encountered sewer service connections approximately 1 foot deep below the existing pavement. In order to correct and continue with the paving of the street, the sewer lines needed to be lowered.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve items 3A, 3B, 3D, and 3E(1) to 3E(4) under the consent agenda. Comm. Elizondo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager introduced item 3C.

Comm. Elizondo asked for a report on the bank depository services proposal.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated there was a contractual agreement that would expire on May 22, 2015. He stated he had received notification from the bank that the agreement was no longer valid and the interest rate on the city's investments would go from a 2% to a 0%. He was asked to continue on a month-to-month basis, renew the contract, or go out for bids. Comm. Elizondo requested if negotiations could take place with the current banking institution.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve item 3C. Comm. Elizondo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously with one abstention. Mayor Hernandez abstained from voting.

**REGULAR AGENDA – OPEN SESSION:**

**ITEM 4 ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO.O-2012-33 ADOPTING THE CITY OF PHARR PURCHASING MANUAL (TABLED)**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended the item remain tabled.

**B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE CITY OF PHARR – TIF REINVESTMENT ZONE #2 (TABLED)**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended the item remain tabled.

**C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REVIEW OF TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY'S ("TGS") COST OF SERVICE ADJUSTMENT ("COSA") TARIFF**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Norma Perales, Representative for Texas Gas Service Company, explained the resolution was to allow the city's participation in a valley coalition group to hire legal counsel to review the company's Cost Service Adjustment. She further stated the filing submitted was for a rate increase of approximately \$0.29 per month for residential customers but still needed to be negotiated.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve. Comm. Elizondo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2015-28 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

**D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PHARR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE VICTIM COORDINATOR AND LIAISON GRANT PROJECT**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Maldonado seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2015-29 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

At this time Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated they would deviate from the agenda and discuss item 5A. There was no objection.

**ITEM 5 ADMINISTRATIVE:****A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, APPROVING LIST AND PUBLIC AUCTION OF CITY OF PHARR DEPARTMENTS SURPLUS AWARDED, UNCLAIMED AND SEIZED PROPERTY**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this process was done approximately every 18 months to 2 years to clear surplus equipment and auction the items. He further recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**B) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE CITY OF PHARR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AT ALL LEVELS, TO INCLUDE ALL EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ALL DIRECTORS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this item would be discussed in closed session.

**C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Elizondo stated public comments were removed due to some issues being experienced. He asked if public comments are brought back they needed to be organized and make sure the public understood what the purpose of public comments were for and not use the time to personally attack any of the elected officials.

Mayor Hernandez stated they would be straight forward and expect the public to speak freely and expect them to be respectful. He suggested there be a time limit for those wishing to speak and they would need to sign a document stating how they are to act and recommended it be held at the beginning of the meeting.

Michael Pruneda, City Attorney, informed the board that some cities hold their public comments at the end of the meeting or on a separate day and was up to the board to decide when they wanted the public comments to be held. He stated the reinstatement of public comments needed to be by ordinance and the way the item was worded on the agenda no action could be taken on it. He added he could prepare the recommendations and place the ordinance on the next City Commission Agenda.

Comm. Medina suggested that the public comments be placed at the beginning of the agenda allowing them to take the comments into consideration.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated no action would be taken on this item until the next scheduled meeting was held.

**D) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROJECT RELATING TO A BRIDGE TO CROSS A CANAL TO LINK THE NEIGHBORHOOD NORTH OF WEST LAS MILPAS ROAD TO JONES BOX PARK**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was an on-going project through an Interlocal agreement with Hidalgo County Precinct 2 and was waiting on the final numbers to be submitted by the county's engineer to be reviewed by the city.

Bill Ueckert, City Engineer, presented an update on the proposed bridge stating it would be a pedestrian bridge and presented the proposed location. He stated they were in the process of obtaining geotechnical information on the soil and stated the proposed cost was \$250,000. He added the design was being done in-house and would take approximately 30 days to have the plans ready and advertise for bids. He added the

entire timeline would take approximately 30 to 60 days to commence construction in September 2015.

Comm. Medina stated he was concerned with safety requirements since no sidewalks were in the area leading to the proposed bridge causing the pedestrians to walk on the street.

Bill Ueckert, City Engineer, stated sidewalks would be installed from the bridge leading to the first street intersection on both sides for an approximate distance of 1 block from the bridge.

Comm. Bracamontes asked if lighting could be taken into consideration on the plans as there was currently insufficient lighting in the area.

Comm. Elizondo agreed with Comm. Bracamontes that lighting would be needed. He expressed concerns with the area between LBJ School and North High School needing the extension of Raiders Drive (Fir Street) to Knights Drive or construction of a bridge for that area.

Comm. Elizondo moved to approve to include sidewalks and lighting subject to financing availability. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**E) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROJECT RELATING TO A LIBRARY AND RECREATION CENTER IN SOUTH PHARR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was an on-going project and was in the conceptual phase.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, went over the conceptals for the proposed library stating it would be a 5,000 square foot building to be located on several lots north of the Fire Department substation. He added this was the best location due to it being city owned, sidewalks and lighting were in place, security, and a fire and police substation were located in the vicinity.

Comm. Medina asked for the size of the property where the proposed facility would be constructed as it needed enough space for parking.

Mayor Hernandez stated a recreational center was also being requested to be attached to the library therefore this might not be the ideal location.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, presented a power point presentation of the proposed facility.

Comm. Bracamontes stated the most important thing for a library was not necessarily a big space but the right technology being installed such as wireless internet (WIFI). He added if installed, approximately 80% of the school children would use the library for research and the use of electronic books.

Adolfo Garcia, Library Director, stated this was a community effort and the Library Board was in consensus and was working with the county to help with funds and was in collaboration with the 4 different school districts he was looking forward to working with them. He added the architects for this project would be The Warren Group Architects.

After further discussion, Comm Elizondo moved to approve to include additional information base on financial viability. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**F) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF PHARR TO THE PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO VIDA, FROM \$50,000 TO \$100,000**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was something that was committed to.

Comm. Elizondo asked if a presentation could be given and if any other organization would be affected prior to voting.

Priscilla Alvarez, Director of Corporate and Educational Relations at VIDA, gave a brief presentation on the services offered by their organization. She stated VIDA was a non-profit organization dedicated to help the lower income families get out of poverty. She stated they provide tuition assistance, assistance with books, uniforms, tools if required by the program, transportation, and child care assistance. She stated the organization has been around for 20 years and was started by Valley Interfaith who had a vision to help low-income valley residents achieve to sustain their families. She stated their biggest funding comes from cities across the valley and stated between \$100,000 are spent on 10-12 students and the money received from each city is spent on student from that city only. She added 12% of the funds go to VIDA administration and the remainder goes to the students which average 95%-96% retention and graduation rate.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Elizondo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**G) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON LENDING AND PREDATORY LENDING ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS THAT IN FAVOR OF PROTECTING THE CITIZENS OF PHARR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated an ordinance was already in place therefore no action was needed.

**H) DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION ON CURRENT METRO TRANSPORTATION IN SOUTH PHARR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez stated he wanted to extend the public transportation services to south Pharr as many citizens could not afford transportation or vehicles.

Comm. Carrillo stated Mayor Palacios was a huge advocate of these services and was striving for the services to continue south to the bridge.

Javier Rodriguez, CDBG Director, stated for the past several months talks have been taking place to add additional routes in the south side of Pharr. He stated the current Route 30 serves approximately 27,000 riders for the Pharr area only. He added about 2 years ago an offer had been given to the city that if the City purchased a bus the bus service would extend a route 32 which would go all the way to the bridge in Hidalgo. He further stated some routes in the valley that were not being fully utilized and the vehicles were going to be pulled out and possibly used on route 32. He added CDBG currently funds Valley Metro with \$35,000 and he will be contacting Tom Logan to reactivate the offer and open Route 32.

Mayor Hernandez asked what the time frame would be to activate a route.

Javier Rodriguez, CDBG Director, stated it needed to go to the Development Council first to make sure they have the funding, vehicles, and drivers and if approved, the route could possibly be done at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Comm. Carrillo asked if the City of Hidalgo could be a part of this agreement as their citizens would also use the buses.

Comm. Medina stated the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council also participates with the funding when additional routes are requested.

**I) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF PHARR TO THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON METRO TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY OF PHARR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and added South Pharr as discussed.

Comm. Elizondo moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**J) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON CITY OF PHARR PAVING PROGRAM AND/OR PLANS, TO INCLUDE SOUTH PHARR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez clarified this was 4 year plan to pave the streets in the entire city and asked for the program in its entirety be presented.

Bill Ueckert, City Engineer gave a presentation of the original and revised plan identifying the streets and their condition.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, asked City Engineer to bring back the program in its entirety to be presented with data on citizen complaints included in the Matrix. He further requested it be based on the 4 year plan and the \$15 million dollar budgeted for the project.

No action was needed for this item.

**K) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CITY OF PHARR PAVING PROGRAM AND/OR PLANS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Elizondo moved to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**L) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION "UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM" TO BE IMPLEMENTED, IF POSSIBLE, THIS CURRENT FISCAL YEAR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez stated one of the issues discussed with the citizens was a utility program. He stated he had forwarded the information to the Chief Financial Officer who would explain how the proposed program would be implemented.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated he had looked at the proposed plan. He stated the need was to identify 20% cash on hand and any possible revenues and expenditures for the utility bill assistance program. He stated the plan can be done since the city currently has \$2.9 million dollars cash on hand and the revenues and expenditures have been breaking even. He added the reserve account needed for the daily city operations is a separate account which is not affected by the cash on hand account.

David Garza, Assistant City Manager, asked what criteria from the citizens would be required to help them with the assistance program and stated the plan needed to be done by Ordinance to be put in place. He requested to meet with Juan Guerra to discuss the city's cash on hand as some of those funds were committed to certain utility

projects such as for a lift station, force main and a clarifier at the wastewater treatment plant.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager asked Juan Guerra to get with David Garza to identify the projects that funds may be earmarked for and report back to Council.

Comm. Elizondo **moved** to approve subject to financial availability. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**M) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION "UTILITY RATE REDUCTION PLAN" TO BE IMPLEMENTED, IF POSSIBLE, THIS CURRENT FISCAL YEAR**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez stated this was an item he had researched and had his CPA Firm look at based on the financials provided by the city.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated the city had to meet bond covenants of \$1.25 million and the city was currently at \$1.4 million. He stated bridge funds could possibly be used to supplement some of the current operating expenditures and some of the debt service in the utility fund while meeting the \$1.25 million bond covenant with a 3% reduction but it would require an analysis to be done.

Comm. Medina **moved** to approve. Comm. Guajardo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**N) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION "PROPERTY TAX PLAN" FOR THE FISCAL YEAR STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2015**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez stated he looked at the data analysis, financials and audits for the past 5 years and it was reviewed by his CPA and came up with this plan which appears viable.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated this plan was the 50% of the growth in sales tax, property tax, and bridge toll collections. He explained 50% stays with the city for responsible growth and 50% is used for property tax rate reduction.

Comm. Elizondo **moved** to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**O) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION "CITY EMPLOYEE LIVING WAGE PLAN" FOR THE FISCAL YEAR STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2015**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Mayor Hernandez stated he had had done research and had his firm look into the cost to bring every employee to the minimum pay of \$11.00 an hour or higher.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated approximately 3 years ago the minimum wage was at \$9.16 an hour and the city implemented based on civil service contracts and the city is at almost \$10 an hour for minimum wage employees. He stated to implement this plan the city would rely a bit more heavy on bridge revenue.

Comm. Maldonado asked if the city could look into modifying the retirement benefit plan of employee deposits in the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS) where the city matches the deposits at a rate of 2-1 and replace it with a rate of 1-1.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated he would look into it.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Guajardo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**P) PRESENTATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE BASE AND TOTAL RATE OF PAY FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES IN COMPARISON TO SIMILAR CITIES IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and went over the current collective bargaining process and stated a presentation would be given at the next City Commission meeting.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated Pharr was a Civil Service and Collective Bargaining city and negotiations has just commenced with Collective Bargaining. He added an agreement was in place for Fire and Police Civil Service Employees and the process had commenced and a presentation would be given at the next City Commission meeting to show the status. He added they had begun negotiations with the Fire Department and was waiting on the Police Department to submit all of their fiscal proposals to begin negotiations. He stated this was a bargaining contract situation and extended an invitation to the board who would like to be a part of the process to then bring it back to the board for approval and it must meet budgetary requirements.

Mayor Hernandez stated he would like for two (2) Board Members to be present at the Collective Bargaining Meetings to help with the negotiations.

Comm. Medina stated he would like the city to try to be competitive with other cities to retain employees and no lose them to another city do to the pay rate.

Comm. Elizondo stated he would like for the pay increase to be across the board for all employees.

Comm. Medina moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**Q) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BASE AND TOTAL RATE OF PAY FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2015**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item no action was needed on this item.

**ITEM 6 CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:**

**A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING FOR THE CAGE BLVD. AND HELMER STREET SIDEWALKS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE SECTION 5310 PROGRAM**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was a grant match program which the city was participating in.

Comm. Elizondo moved to approve. Comm. Medina seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PHARR FOR CONCESSION SERVICES AT THE PHARR AQUATIC CENTER**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated the agreement with the previous concessionaire changed and they no longer wished to continue running it. The Boys and Girls Club representative was approached to take over the concessionaire of which they saw it as an opportunity to bring in revenues and agreed to take it over for one year and recommended approval.

Comm. Elizondo **moved** to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion.

Comm. Medina stated this was a good opportunity for the Boys and Girls Club to increase their revenues as they would be receiving 100% of the profit but feels that other entities should be allowed to take over so that the city can receive some of the revenues. He asked how much the city received in revenues from the previous concessionaire.

Frank Marin, Parks and Recreation Director, stated the city was receiving approximately \$23,000 per year in revenues.

The motion was put to a vote and it carried unanimously.

**ITEM 7 CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE PHARR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT WILL MEET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA, INCLUDING ITEMS 4 – 6**

Mayor Hernandez stated the time being 7:29 pm; the Board of Commissioners would be entering a closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

**ITEM 8 RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Hernandez stated the time being 9:06 pm; the board had completed its closed session and would be resuming the open meeting.

**ITEM 4E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to appoint Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez, Comm. Oscar Elizondo, Jr., Danny Smith, Ramiro Caballero, Comm. Edmund Maldonado, Comm. Ricardo Medina and Victor Carrillo, Jr. as members of the Pharr Economic Development Corporation II Board of Directors. Comm. Elizondo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2015-30 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

**ITEM 5B) PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, IF ANY, ON THE CITY OF PHARR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AT ALL LEVELS, TO INCLUDE ALL EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ALL DIRECTORS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, re-introduced the item and stated not action would be taken on this item.

**ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Elizondo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ  
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF HIDALGO  
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2015 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **REGULAR CALLED MEETING** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pharr, Texas. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, subject, hereof, having been posted in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) and there being present a quorum, I, **HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: July 21, 2015