

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 AT 5:00 P.M.
118 SOUTH CAGE 2ND FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Leopoldo Palacios Jr.
Mayor Pro-Tem Adan Farias
Comm. Arturo Cortez
Comm. Roberto Carrillo
Comm. Edmund Maldonado, Jr.
Comm. Aquiles Garza

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Comm. Oscar Elizondo, Jr.

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
Frank Marin, Parks & Recreation Dir.
Roy Garcia, Public Works Director
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Fred Brouwen, Dir. of Operations
Gary Rodriguez, Public Information Officer
Roel Garza, Athletics Director
Roy S. Garcia, Pharr Events Center
Sergio Contreras, External Affairs Dir.
Karla Moya, City Comptroller

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER:

There being a quorum established, Mayor Palacios dispensed with the formalities and called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.

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

Comm. Farias moved to excuse Comm. Elizondo for being absent. Comm. Maldonado seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED TAX RATE

Fred Sandoval, City Manager introduced the item and stated no one had signed up to speak.

ITEM 3 PUBLIC HEARING: BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Mayor Palacios opened up the public hearing.

Maria Del Carmen Benavidez de Lopez stated she was a teacher and nurse for the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo (PSJA) School District for the past 20 years and accompanying her were members from Valley Interfaith Committee of Las Milpas. She stated she was currently the Director of the Catholic School located in Las Milpas which has the highest number of students in the PSJA school district. She stated there are 1,000 children in their program at St. Francis Cabrini Church in south Pharr which is comprised of a large group of youngsters needing services in the community. She further stated if the youth and children in the community in south Pharr are given an

opportunity, they could become professors, lawyers, doctors and even president of the United States. She asked that the Board considers services that could help educate the children in the community.

Maria Trinidad Rojas, Valley Interfaith Leader, stated she has lived in Los Ebanos Subdivision for the past 18 years and no re-pavement of any street has ever taken place. She stated the streets are in bad conditions that their vehicles are being destroyed on their daily commute. She added just like her subdivision there are others subdivisions in south Pharr needing street improvements which are a necessity and not a luxury. She further stated the city had conducted a study, which reflected approximately 25 identified subdivisions with a total of 87 streets that needed to be repaved. She asked the Board that a plan for street improvements be included in the city's budget and that the city informs them as to which streets would be improved each year so they could inform the people in their community.

Adriana Silva, Valley Interfaith, addressed the present needs in the community such as a library in south Pharr and asked that it be included in the city's budget.

Aaron Anaya, Hidalgo County Early High School freshman student, stated they needed a library or a recreational center in Las Milpas to do homework and projects. He stated a recreational center with an inside basketball gym was needed in south Pharr and would be beneficial to children of all ages. He requested that a library, an inside basketball gym, and rooms for summer activities be made a priority and part of the city's budget. He further asked the Board, that after 20 years of being annexed into the City of Pharr, to invest in their next generation of leaders.

Eddie Anaya thanked the Board and asked them to consider the requests of all the speakers to be placed on the city's budget.

There being no other public comments, the public hearing was closed.

ITEM 4 **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 2-3

None

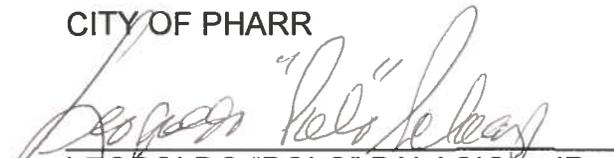
ITEM 5 **RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

ITEM 6 **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Farias moved to adjourn. Comm. Garza seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR


LEOPOLDO "POLO" PALACIOS, JR.
MAYOR

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR**

ON THIS THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2nd 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: October 7, 2014