

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013 AT 12:00 NOON
118 SOUTH CAGE 2ND FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2013 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. Eduardo Cantu
Comm. Aquiles Garza

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

STAFF PRESENT: Fred Sandoval, City Manager
David Garza, Asst. City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk
Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer
Ruben Villescas, Police Chief
Carlos Mandujano, Asst. Fire Chief
Roy Garcia, Public Works Director
Edward Wylie, Pharr Dev. Services Dir.
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Raul Garza, Admin. Services Director
Gary Rodriguez, External Affairs Mgr.
Fred Brouwen, Asst. Bridge Director
Roel Garza, Athletics Director
Roy S. Garcia, Pharr Events Center
Tony Sandoval, EDC Manager

**CITY ATTORNEY
CITY ENGINEER**

Michael Pruneda, City Attorney
Bill Ueckert, City Engineer

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER:

There being a quorum established, Mayor Palacios dispensed with the formalities and called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

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

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

ITEM 2 ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

**A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING
TAX RATE FOR FY 2013-2014**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, stated the city has maintained the current tax rate of \$.0.6800 for the past five (5) years. He reminded the Board that property tax values had increased by 3.2% allowing the city to give a pay increase of \$750.00 to all city employees. He further recommended the city adopt the current tax rate of \$.0.6800.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800; Comm. Cortez moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800; Mayor Palacios moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800; Comm. Cantu moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800; Comm. Garza moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800; Comm. Farias moved to approve the adoption of the tax rate of \$0.6800. The motion carried unanimously. Ordinance No. O-2013-38 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE BUDGET FOR YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, briefly stated the ordinance reflected the increase of property tax values with the collection tax rate remaining the same. He added the ordinance also included the increase in expenditures of the employee raises and potential capital projects for the expansion of the Pharr Bridge. He further recommended approval of the ordinance.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014; Mayor Palacios moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014; Comm. Cortez moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014; Comm. Cantu moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014; Comm. Garza moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014; Comm. Farias moved to approve the ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014. The motion carried unanimously. Ordinance No. O-2013-39 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION DETERMINING A PUBLIC NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY; GIVING NOTICE OF AN OFFICIAL DETERMINATION TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED; ESTABLISHING FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO COMMUNICATE OFFERS TO OWNERS FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, APPROPRIATE FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS BY CITY ATTORNEY, RATIFICATION OF PRIOR ACT

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated the city was looking to purchase property within Pharr's city limits and recommended approval.

Comm. Cortez moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Resolution No. R-2013-59 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 3 ADMINISTRATIVE:

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BUDGET FOR PHARR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION II FY 2013-2014

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, reported the main changes were the 4% projected increase in sales taxes and the absorption of the Pharr Produce District debt as required.

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

B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BUDGET FOR PHARR ATHLETIC LEAGUE (PAL) SPORTS PROGRAM FY 2013-2014

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was a new department and was categorized as a 501C (3) program.

Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, briefly stated the budget only included expenditures and revenues for program operations. Personnel expenses were under the city's budget.

Comm. Cortez congratulated Roel Garza on the PAL Program. He stated he had received many positive comments on the program doing great things with the youth in Pharr and appreciated all the hard work by Mr. Garza and his staff.

At this time, Comm. Cortez moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, stated this was another first in Pharr since there is no other Police Athletic League (PAL) south of Corpus Christi. He commended Police Chief Villescas and his staff for their vision in putting together the PAL League. He stated a lot of interest from funding agencies was being received therefore; the city would be changing the format for donation requests. He added the city would be asking the larger corporate sponsors to make a one large donation instead of several small ones. He further stated PAL hosts fundraising events with a huge event being scheduled for this fall. He further added Pan American University had also shown interest in the program for interns and thanked Roel Garza and his staff for a job well done.

C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BUDGET FOR TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE NO. 1 FY 2013-2014

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone was in operation and was generating some income. He added this was the budget for their operations and recommended approval.

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

ITEM 4 CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PHARR SAN JUAN ALAMO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CITIES OF PHARR, SAN JUAN, AND ALAMO FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION STUDY FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and stated this was a joint venture with the school district and some of the neighboring cities. He stated the agreement had been reviewed by the City Engineer and the Assistant City Manager and recommended approval.

Comm. Cortez moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion.

Comm. Cantu commented that at a meeting held at Valley View School, concerns had arisen of increased large truck traffic around schools. He requested that these concerns of heavy traffic around schools be addressed in the study.

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

ITEM 5 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 – 4

None.

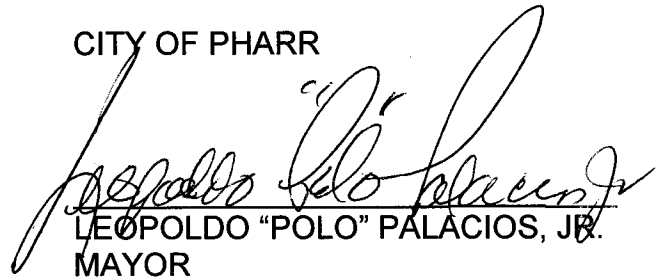
ITEM 6 RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ITEM 7 ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Comm. Carrillo moved to adjourn. Comm. Cortez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR


LEOPOLDO "POLO" PALACIOS, JR.
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 26TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2013 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 14, 2013