

SEPTEMBER 17, 2001

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. ALCORN COMMISSION CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, 200 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE.

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Stanley Laskowski, City Commissioner  
Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal, City Commissioner  
Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr., Mayor  
Al Garcia, City Commissioner

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Arturo Pecos, City Commissioner

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Hector M. Hinojosa, City Manager  
Mary Valenzuela, Executive Secretary  
Ruben Perez, City Attorney  
Victor Salas, Director of Finance  
Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing  
Stanley Fees, City Engineer  
Corando Garza, Assistant City Manager / Fire Chief  
Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent  
Yolanda Moran, Director of Development Services  
Artemio Alvarez, Risk Manager  
Sam Granato, Chief of Police  
Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Superintendent  
A.L. Noyola, Health Director  
John Garcia, Garage Superintendent

**I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.**

**OPEN MEETING:**

Mrs. Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing, led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation. Immediately thereafter, Dr. Barbara Oates, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) – REQUIRED BY LAW.**

There were no minutes available for approval.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING – (REQUIRED BY LAW).**

1. None.

**III. PETITIONS, GRIEVANCES, AND PRESENTATIONS.**

1. None.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.**

1. CITIZENS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON ALL AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

There were no comments made at this time.

## V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.

1. CONSIDER RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE SACRIFICES AND HEROIC EFFORTS OF FELLOW AMERICANS IN THE FACE OF TRAGEDY AND UNPROVOKED AGGRESSIONS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AS A NATION AND THE LIFE AND LIBERTY OF EACH OF ITS CITIZENS. (MAYOR ESQUIVEL).

Mayor Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr., stated that after the tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, he requested this item be placed on the agenda. He recommended approval of the resolution.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Al Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Stanley Laskowski to approve Resolution #R-2001-33, commemorating the sacrifices and heroic efforts of fellow Americans in the face of tragedy and unprovoked aggressions against the United States as a Nation and the life and liberty of each of its citizens. The motion passed by a 4/0 vote. Commissioner Arturo Pecos was not present.**

It was the consensus of the Commission to move to agenda item number five at this time.

5. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP A COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM WITH TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY KINGSVILLE. (MAYOR ESQUIVEL).

Mr. Hector Hinojosa, City Manager, stated that he is prepared and ready to begin working with Texas A & M University Kingsville to implement a cooperative education program.

Mayor Esquivel stated that he agrees with this program and feels that it would benefit the students as well as the City of Kingsville.

Mrs. Susan Dollar and Dr. Barbara Oates from Texas A & M University Kingsville were present to discuss the proposed intern program. They explained the guidelines and the timeline to implement the program.

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Laskowski, Mr. Hinojosa responded that the students could be placed at the Police, Engineering, and Finance Departments and perhaps one or two students could be used for public relations.

There was a brief discussion regarding the benefits and salaries for the students.

Mayor Esquivel stated that this program could help strengthen the relationship between the City and the University. He stated that the City could benefit from hiring these students.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Laskowski to authorize the City Manager to develop a Cooperative Education Program with Texas A & M University Kingsville. The motion passed by a 4/0 vote.**

2. CONSIDER FINAL PASSAGE OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 01, 2001 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2002. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa explained the fund balance in the proposed budget for the general and utility funds. There was a discussion regarding the possible savings in health insurance benefits as well as the cost associated with operating the landfill.

Mayor Esquivel stated that the taxpayers are on a fixed income and the City continues to raise the cost for City services. He stated that the taxpayers should not be penalized.

Commissioner Laskowski stated that the debt being paid to the South Texas Water Authority expires in 2005, and at that point the savings could be used on utility improvements. He stated that the City's cash reserves need to be increased.

**The discussion continued regarding the proposed budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve #ORD-2001-21, adopting the annual budget of the City of Kingsville and appropriating funds for the fiscal year beginning October 01, 2001 and ending September 30, 2002. The motion passed by a 3/1 vote. Mayor Esquivel cast the dissenting vote.**

**3. CONSIDER FINAL PASSAGE OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 01, 2001 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2002, DISTRIBUTING THE TAX LEVY AMONG THE VARIOUS FUNDS, AND PROVIDING FOR A LIEN ON REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF TAXES ASSESSED. (CITY MANAGER).**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve Ordinance #ORD-2001-22, adopting the ad valorem tax rate at \$.4365 per one hundred dollar assessed valuation for maintenance and operations and the rate of \$.26495 per one hundred dollar assessed valuation for debt service fund expenditures for the fiscal year beginning October 01, 2001 and ending September 30, 2002. The motion passed by a 3/1 vote. Mayor Esquivel cast the dissenting vote.**

**4. CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FROM THE FY-2001 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,343; AND ALLOCATING \$2,149 IN LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS. (CHIEF OF POLICE).**

Police Chief Sam Granato stated that the proceeds from this grant are appropriated in the amount of \$19,343 which shall include the reallocation of the local matching funds in the amount of \$2,149 from the City of Kingsville. He stated that the City Manager is designated as the authorized official to accept the grant. Chief Granato recommended approval of the proposed resolution.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Villarreal and second by Commissioner Garcia, the Commission approved Resolution #R-2001-34. The motion passed by a 4/0 vote.**

**6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT. (CITY MANAGER).**

Mr. Hinojosa introduced to the Commission Mrs. Yolanda Moran, Director of Development Services. He briefed the Commission on Mrs. Moran's background and experience.

Mr. Hinojosa also stated that the City of Kingsville will be sending three firefighters to New York to help man the fire stations. He stated that it is an honor for these men to help out at this time.

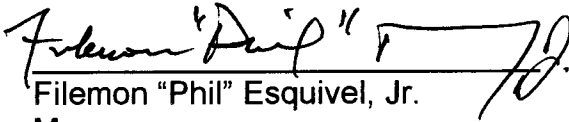
Mr. Hinojosa reminded the Commission about the retreat scheduled with department heads and members of the Commission on Saturday.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: UNDER SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DELIBERATE THE EVALUATION OF THE FOLLOWING APPOINTED POSITIONS: CITY MANAGER, CITY ATTORNEY, AND MUNICIPAL JUDGE. (MAYOR ESQUIVEL).

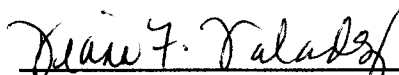
The Commission began the executive session at 7:51 p.m. and concluded the session at 8:37 p.m.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

  
Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary