

JULY 24, 2003

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2003, 10:30 A.M. IN THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. ALCORN COMMISSION CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, 200 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE.

CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Horacio "Hoss" Castillo, Mayor Pro-tem
Charles E. Wilson, City Commissioner
Al Garcia, City Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

John Garcia, Interim City Manager
Irene Ramirez, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Julian Cavazos, Interim Police Chief
Caron Vela, Interim Finance Director
Barry Blackstock, Lieutenant
Corando C Garza, Asst. City Manager/Fire Chief
R. Robert Alvarez, Lieutenant
Eliseo Cuellar, Sergeant
Tamera Blackstock, Corporal
George Crocker, Sergeant
Luke Womack, CPA
Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Superintendent

I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

OPEN MEETING

The workshop was opened at 10:40 a.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Castillo.

INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - (Mayor Esquivel)

None

II. PUBLIC HEARING – (Required by Law).¹

None

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS.³

1. Comments on all agenda and non-agenda items.

Mr. Luke Womack, CPA (Auditor) announced that the meeting would be held only until 11:30 a.m.

IV. PETITIONS, GRIEVANCES, AND PRESENTATIONS.²

1. Review and discuss proposed fiscal year 2003-2004 budget for the following departments:

- a. Landfill
- b. Kingsville Police Department
- c. Task Force
- d. Fire Department
- e. Street Department
- f. Sanitation Collection

- g. City Special**
- h. City Commission**
- i. Parks Department**

Mayor Pro-tem Castillo stated that the first presentation would be by personnel from the Police Department. He also stated that presentations should be limited to changes from previous budgets since meeting was pressed for time.

Julian Cavazos, Interim Police Chief addressed the commission, and stated that he had not been able to locate any of Chief Granato's proposals, but had obtained some requests by classification from Lt. Barry Blackstock. Chief Cavazos also stated that the Police Department was divided into five divisions and each division would be done separately.

Commissioner Wilson suggested that the Police Department make their presentations tomorrow. He also stated that maybe Caron or Luke might have had the opportunity to see something that they would have questions on.

Commissioner Wilson requested for Lt. Robert Alvarez from Division 5 to make his presentation, if ready to do so. He also stated that that would give Chief Cavazos the opportunity to brief himself.

Commissioner Castillo stated that Division 1 really did not have any significant changes in professional services.

Ms Caron Vela, Interim Finance Director stated that "Professional Services" is used for hiring a temporary secretary when regular secretary goes on vacation, and for grant writing.

Mayor Pro-tem Castillo asked the commission if they were satisfied with Division 1, or if they wanted for the Chief to come back.

Commissioner Garcia stated that it would be proper for the Chief to review the information and come back to the Commission.

Robert Alvarez, Lieutenant representing Division 5, addressed the commission, and stated that the operational line items are identical to this fiscal year's budget, except for the increase in professional services due to a contractual increase in janitorial services. Lt Alvarez also stated that line item 317 - "Membership and Due" is a new line item that was added this year by Ms Vela. He stated that \$300 was taken from Acct #316 - "Training", and was added to Acct #317, but it is still \$4,800. He added that those were the only changes. He also stated that there may be some changes in the "Personnel Services" section, but that he only has control over Acct# 112 - "Overtime", and that remained the same.

Ms Vela stated that until after Collective Bargaining is agreed upon, the City is keeping status quo.

Upon a question from Commissioner Wilson, Ms Vela stated that the Accts #316 & 317 had been separated to show the true amounts for travel.

Upon a question from Commissioner Garcia, Lt. Alvarez once again explained the line item increase for "Professional Services".

Ms Vela stated that building maintenance is included in Division 5 only.

Mayor Pro-tem Castillo requested that Ms Dianne Leubert make her presentation next.

Ms Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Superintendent addressed the commission, and stated that the only increase in her department was for overtime. Ms Leubert also stated that overtime could probably be cut back, but the figure showed consideration for possible hurricanes and for employees to work late due to garbage truck breakdowns, which would cause employees at the Landfill to work late. She stated that because of the state law, the Landfill has to keep 3 or 4 employees on duty. She also stated that there are increases in salaries, and an Operator III has been added to the department, so all was taken into consideration. She also added that the other increases within her department are Acct #215 – “Motor, Oil and Gas” due to bigger equipment; Acct #311 – “Communications” want to get internet and another cell phone; Acct #318 – “Rental” add another pager. She added that they are anticipating two trucks needed for hauling. Ms Leubert stated those were the only changes in her department.

Mr. Womack added that after the City receives the new garbage trucks, a restudy of pick up patterns should be done since the last one was done in the last 80's.

Upon a question from Mayor Pro-tem Castillo, Ms Leubert stated that landfill closure cost is not something she figures up, but rounds it. Mr. Womack stated that the zero balance is year-to-date and is not expenditure. He explained that those monies at the end of the year are transferred into the restricted fund balance and that this is more of a budgeting purpose to make sure those dollars exist.

Upon a question from Commissioner Garcia, Mr. Womack stated the closure fund balance is pushing a \$1 million.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the City's commitment to the state as to what juncture the City has to have before funding.

Upon a question from Commissioner Garcia, Mr. Womack stated that the department was making money. He stated that the department makes an excess of \$2 million and total projected cost even funding at full value for landfill closure of \$1 million. He continued to say that their revenues are in excess of \$2 million. Mr. Womack advised that he would put some information together for the commission.

Barry Blackstock, Lieutenant representing Division 210.2 addressed the commission, and stated that he had looked into the training for the taser and advised that the cost is less than \$18,500, for 37 officers. He advised that cost for taser supplies for 37 officers would be \$27,664. He added that the taser looks like a firearm.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the consequences of zapping someone and the reasons for providing each officer with the taser.

Upon a question from Commissioner Garcia, Lt Blackstock stated that the liability is no greater than using pepper spray.

Discussion followed concerning the jail agreement with the County and considering reimbursement of the ten beds paid for by the City, which are not being used.

George Crocker, Sergeant representing Division 210.3 addressed the commission, and stated the line item #212 – “Uniforms & Personal Wear” the cost of \$2,400 was the transfer of the clothing allowance from the Administrative Division to the Communication Division, which is a carry-over of his personal wear. He added it also included four shirts for each dispatcher, which is an additional cost of \$30 per shirt. He stated that Acct # 217 “Minor Equipment” had a minor adjustment made which was a replacement for chairs in the dispatch office. He also stated that line item #314 – “Professional Services” is the cost for the RMS/CAD Agreement with Corpus Christi, which is \$10,000 yearly for maintenance and upkeep of server and assistance which was funded by drug fund, but now is being added to budget. He added that the “Communications” account had an increase due to issuing out more paging devices and all communication costs come from this account.

Eliseo Cuellar, Sergeant representing Division 210.4 addressed the commission, and stated that the “Overtime” account had an increase of \$11,000. He stated that the “Supplies” account also had an increase due to supplies needed for digital cameras. Sgt. Cuellar stated that the “Travel and Training” account had an increase due to the Corpus Christi Police Department and the DPS not being able to assist them as much on specialized fingerprints and forensics. He added that because of this personnel would need more training.

Upon a question from Mayor Pro-tem Castillo, Ms Vela stated that another workshop would be needed in order to review changes, and revenue will be included.

V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.⁴

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Filemon “Phil” Esquivel, Mayor

ATTEST:

Irene Ramirez, City Secretary

PRESENTED and ADOPTED by the Kingsville City
Commission on this 12th day of April, 2004.

Charles E Wilson, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


Edna S Lopez, Interim City Secretary