

**JULY 24, 2000**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD MONDAY, JULY 24, 2000 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. ALCORN COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 200 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE.

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Hector M. Hinojosa, City Manager  
 Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary  
 Ruben Perez, City Attorney  
 Victor Salas, Director of Finance  
 Corando Garza, Assistant City Manager / Fire Chief  
 Joel Saenz, Nuisance Abatement Officer  
 Maria Robles, Accountant  
 Stanley Fees, Director of Planning  
 Ricardo Guzman, Street Superintendent  
 Dianne Leubert, Sanitation Superintendent  
 Cesar Garcia, Director of Personnel  
 Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent  
 Estella Garcia, Director of Collections

**I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.**

**OPEN MEETING:**

Mayor Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr. led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation. Immediately thereafter, Ms. Kelly Moore, representing the Economic Development Council, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The Commission was presented with the minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday, June 12, 2000 and the Special Meeting held Monday, June 19, 2000.

**There being no corrections, a motion was made by Commissioner Arturo Pecos and seconded by Commissioner Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

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

1. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR A TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TCDP) GRANT. (CITY MANAGER).

Mayor Esquivel opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Mr. Hector M. Hinojosa, City Manager stated that the City is in the process of submitting a grant application with the Texas Community Development Program. He said that one of the requirements is to hold a public hearing to receive public input regarding the grant submission.

Mayor Esquivel stated that Mr. Hoss Castillo, Engineer, was present in the audience and could answer questions the Commission may have. He stated that Mr. Castillo submitted the last grant for the City and obtained funding in the amount of \$300,000 for a waterline replacement project.

Mr. Castillo stated that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is now in the process of accepting grant applications for the 2000-2001 funding cycle. He said that applications that are usually funded include projects for waterline and street improvements and sewer line projects. Mr. Castillo stated that the maximum amount awarded to a local government is \$300,000 and requires a twenty percent match. He stated that water and sewer projects always rank real high. Mr. Castillo stated that August 24<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the application.

Mayor Esquivel declared the public hearing closed at 6:10 p.m.

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

#### **1. UPDATE FROM STAFF ON FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AT THE REQUEST OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.**

A. None.

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

Mr. Joe Cisneros, Executive Director of the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce thanked the Commission for contributing funds for the fireworks display on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated that the event was well attended by the citizens of Kingsville and surrounding communities.

### **V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.**

#### **1. CONSIDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE 2001/2002 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. (CITY MANAGER).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that the City advertised for engineering services and only one engineering firm submitted a proposal. He recommended that the firm of Castillo Engineering be retained. Mr. Hinojosa stated that Mr. Castillo has applied for grants and has been successful.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Al Garcia and second by Commissioner Pecos, the Commission voted unanimously to award the contract for engineering services for the 2001/2002 Texas Community Development Program.**

#### **2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE CERTIFICATIONS OF THE 1999 EXCESS DEBT COLLECTIONS AND THE 2000 ANTICIPATED COLLECTION RATE AS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26.04(b) OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE. (DIRECTOR OF FINANCE).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that Mrs. Melissa T. De La Garza, Tax Assessor-Collector has submitted the certification of 1999 excess debt collections and the certification of 2000 anticipated collection rate.

Mr. Victor Salas, Director of Finance, stated that according to the Texas Property Tax Code, the Tax Collector for the taxing unit must certify to the governing body the anticipated "collection rate" and the amount of "excess collections" for the current year. Mr. Salas recommended that the City Commission accept the certifications as submitted by Mrs. De La Garza.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Villarreal and second by Commissioner Pecos, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the certifications for the anticipated collection rate and excess collections for the City of Kingsville as submitted by the Tax Assessor-Collector.**

**3. CONSIDER RESOLUTION CREATING CERTAIN NON-CLASSIFIED POSITIONS AND DELETING CERTAIN MANAGEMENT LEVEL CLASSIFIED POSITIONS REGARDING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SANITATION, STREETS, AND UTILITIES AND THE FIELD SUPERVISOR BRUSH CREW POSITION. (CITY MANAGER).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that during the recent reorganization of several supervisors, certain positions were created. He stated that the proposed resolution specifies each position and the pay range that corresponds to each position. He recommended approval of the proposed resolution.

**A motion was made Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve Resolution #200031, creating certain non-classified positions and deleting certain management level classified positions regarding the Superintendent of Sanitation, Streets, and Utilities and the Field Supervisor Brush Crew Position. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**4. CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION. (DIRECTOR OF PLANNING).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that there are still two positions that need to be filled on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He stated that four individuals have expressed an interest on serving on this Commission. They are Mr. Bill Aldridge, Mr. John Howe, Mr. Faustino Erebia, and Mr. Lupe Alvarez.

**A motion was then made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Pecos to appoint Mr. Faustino Erebia and Mr. Lupe Alvarez to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**5. CONSIDERATION AND DELIBERATION OF GRANT REQUEST FROM KINGSVILLE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, WITH POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AWARD OF \$5,000. (CITY MANAGER).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that during fiscal year 1999-2000, the City Commission approved the allocation of \$60,000 to be awarded to non-profit organizations. In January of this year funding was provided to several organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Kingsville. He stated that the Boys and Girls Club of Kingsville is once again requesting \$5,000 to assist in the implementation of a track and junior golf program.

Mrs. Nina Cortez addressed the Commission regarding the track program being implemented at the Club. She stated there are several participants traveling to Florida to participate in a National track competition. She urged the Commission to approve the funding being requested to allow the participants to attend the competition.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Pecos, to approve the grant request of \$5,000 to the Kingsville Boys and Girls Club.**

There was a brief discussion on the proposed golf program. A representative with the Boys and Girls Club informed the Commission that approximately twenty-five kids would be selected to participate in the golf program.

**The Commission proceeded to vote on the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**6. DISCUSS AND APPROVE CITY APPROPRIATING MATCHING FUNDS TO TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE GRANT FOR KLEBERG PARK RENOVATION PROJECT - PHASE 1. (CITY MANAGER).**

Mr. Hinojosa stated that the Mrs. Susan Ivy, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of applying for a grant with the Texas Parks and Wildlife for renovations to be done at Dick Kleberg Park. Mrs. Ivy has requested that the City appropriate \$65,000 towards this project to be paid out in three budget years.

Mrs. Ivy addressed the Commission regarding the proposed improvements to Dick Kleberg Park. She stated that the lighting at the ball fields will be improved as well as repairs to the swimming pool. Plans are to install an irrigation system to the soccer complex and improve the walking trail. Mrs. Ivy stated that the picnic tables in the playground area also need to be remodeled.

Mrs. Ivy explained all of the renovations with the cost for each project as follows:

- Kleberg Pool Renovation - \$250,000
- Horse Shoe Pits (2) - \$1,000
- Light Field #1 - \$115,000
- Light Memorial Field - \$85,000
- Light & Irrigate Soccer Field - \$75,000
- Hike, Jog, & Bike Trail - \$25,000
- Landscaping - \$10,000
- Renovate Picnic Area - \$5,000
- Handicap Accessible Playground Equipment - \$10,000
- Cricket Field - \$1,000

Total Park Renovations - \$577,000

Mrs. Ivy also explained that the project would be funded as follows:

- Kleberg County - \$65,000
- City of Kingsville - \$65,000
- Brookshire Foundation - \$50,000
- Private Funding - \$28,500
- In Kind Services - \$80,000

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Pecos, Mrs. Ivy responded that the \$65,000 is needed in cash over a three-year period, and could not be paid with in-kind services.

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Laskowski, Mrs. Ivy responded that the pool has been inspected by experts, and it was determined that it can be repaired and would have a life expectancy of about twenty-five years.

Upon another question raised by Commissioner Stanley Laskowski, Mr. Hinojosa responded that the amount of \$65,000 being requested is in addition to the \$200,000 the City currently funds the Parks Department.

**A motion was then made by Commissioner Pecos and seconded by Mayor Esquivel to approve the matching funds in the amount of \$65,000 to be paid out in three (3) years.**

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Villarreal, Mr. Victor Salas, Finance Director, stated that this is the time to budget this type of funding request, because we are in the process of approving the new budget for next fiscal year.

**The Commission proceeded to vote on the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

7. CONSIDER OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION AND STAFF TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES INSTITUTE 2000 CONGRESS OF CITIES AND EXPOSITION IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS DECEMBER 5-9, 2000. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa stated that several members of the Commission have expressed a desire to attend the Congress of Cities and Exposition in Boston, Massachusetts. He stated that the Commission is considering this item in advance to take advantage of the early registration fees. He recommended approval.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Pecos and second by Commissioner Garcia, the Commission unanimously approved the out-of-state travel for members of the City Commission and staff to attend the National League of Cities Institute 2000 Congress of Cities and Exposition in Boston, Massachusetts.**

8. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LETTER ACKNOWLEDGING FINANCIAL CAPACITY TO REPAY CONTRACT #719242 - CALLING SOLUTIONS, IF RECAPTURE OF FUNDS BECOME NECESSARY. (CITY ATTORNEY).

Mr. Perez stated that he had requested that our loan guarantees by Calling Solutions be waived. The concern is that the Department of Economic Development requested the Mayor to confirm that the City would pay the \$750,000 if Calling Solutions failed to comply with the contract requirements upon receiving the funds. He stated that our liability would be for about one week. If the City fulfills the contract requirements, which should happen within the next week, the City's liability to pay a lump sum of \$750,00 would end.

Mr. Perez recommended the Commission approve this item.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Garcia and second by Commissioner Pecos, the Commission voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to execute a letter acknowledging financial capacity to repay Contract #719242 - Calling Solutions, if recapture of funds become necessary.**

9. WORKSHOP: FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001 ANNUAL BUDGET. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa requested that the Commission review the proposed budget for fiscal year 2000-2001. He said that the estimated revenues for this year are expected to fall short by about \$517,000 because of the current drop in revenues. Mr. Hinojosa stated that he and Mr. Salas will be meeting with department heads to discuss cut backs in each department and would present the revised figures to the Commission.

Mr. Salas stated that at the current time the City has not received the final appraisal roll from the Appraisal District and the City is anticipating a twenty-five percent increase in health costs.

It was the consensus of the Commission that budget workshops be scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT. (CITY MANAGER).

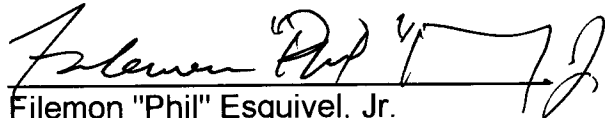
Commissioner Pecos requested that all drainage ditches and creeks be cleaned. He stated that we are currently in Hurricane Season, and the City should be prepared for any storms.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, OR EVALUATION OF APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF POLICE. (CITY MANAGER).

The Commission began the Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. and concluded at 8:30 p.m.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting then adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

  
 Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.  
 Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
 Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary