

NOVEMBER 20, 2000

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 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
 Mary Valenzuela, Executive Secretary
 Ruben Perez, City Attorney
 Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing
 Victor Salas, Director of Finance
 Maria Robles, Accountant
 Sam Granato, Chief of Police
 Estella Garcia, Director of Collections
 Artemio Alvarez, Risk Manager

I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

OPEN MEETING:

Mrs. Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing, led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation.

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

- A. None.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Sgt. Barry Blackstock, Kingsville Police Department, urged the Commission to support the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement. He stated that the police officers are dedicated in making Kingsville a better place to live. Sgt. Blackstock also stated that he supports the efforts of the City Manager in making City Hall an efficient place to work.

V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.

1. CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA GOVERNING TAX ABATEMENT FOR ALL TAXING UNITS CONTAINED WITHIN THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE. (CITY ATTORNEY).

Mr. Ruben Perez, City Attorney stated that the guidelines governing tax abatements should be updated and adopted every two years. He stated that 1996 was the last time the guidelines were approved.

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal, Mr. Perez responded that other taxing entities could follow these same guidelines or adopt their own set of guidelines.

Commissioner Stanley Laskowski expressed some concern with Section IV, the Criteria and Guidelines for Tax Abatement regarding the types of property eligible for tax abatement. Mr. Perez responded that personal property could not be used for abatement purposes.

Commissioner Arturo Pecos made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Al Garcia to approve Resolution #200049, approving guidelines and criteria governing tax abatement for all taxing units contained within the City of Kingsville. The motion passed by a 4/1 vote. Commissioner Garcia cast the dissenting vote.

2. CONSIDER REMOVAL FROM THE TABLE THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. (CITY COMMISSION).

A motion was made by Commissioner Laskowski and seconded by Commissioner Pecos to remove from the table the following agenda item. The motion passed by a 4/1 vote. Commissioner Garcia cast the dissenting vote.

2A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CALLING SOLUTIONS, INC. AS A QUALIFIED BUSINESS IN THE KINGSVILLE ENTERPRISE ZONE (#EZ291-122299-K). (CITY ATTORNEY).

Mr. Perez stated that the proposed agreement was prepared according to the tax abatement guidelines. He asked if the Commission members had any questions regarding the agreement.

Commissioner Garcia requested information on the value of the equipment currently owned by Calling Solutions.

Commissioner Villarreal stated that perhaps this item could be tabled to allow staff additional time to submit the information requested by Commissioner Garcia.

Commissioner Laskowski expressed some concerns with the agreement because it allows 100% tax abatement for five years. He asked if the abatement could be granted at 100% for two years, at 75% for three years, and so forth.

Commissioner Garcia stated that he would like to hear directly from Calling Solutions representatives. He expressed some objection because Mr. Dick Messbarger, Executive Director of the Economic Development Council would always speak on behalf of Calling Solutions.

Mr. Tim Hall with Calling Solutions stated that any money that is invested would be used for new equipment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve the tax abatement agreement by granting 100% abatement for first two years, 75% abatement for the third year, 50% abatement for the fourth year, and 25% abatement for the fifth and final year. The motion failed by a 1/4 vote. Commissioner Laskowski was the only Commissioner that voted for the motion. All others voted against the motion.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to table this item until Monday, November 27, 2000. The motion failed due to a 2/3 vote. Commissioner's Laskowski and Pecos, and Mayor Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr., cast the dissenting votes.

Another motion was made by Commissioner Pecos and seconded by Mayor Esquivel to accept the Tax Abatement Agreement as presented. The motion failed by a 2/3 vote. Commissioner's Laskowski, Villarreal, and Garcia cast the dissenting votes.

A fourth and final motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to table this item until Monday, November 27, 2000. The motion passed this time by a 3/2 vote. Commissioner Pecos and Mayor Esquivel cast the dissenting votes.

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

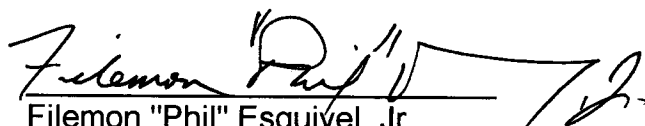
In his report, Mr. Hinojosa advised the Commission that he was in the process of establishing a City Manager Committee to produce a five year plan for the City of Kingsville. He asked the Commission if they would like to nominate an individual to this committee to let him know.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CITY COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE KINGSVILLE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION. (CITY ATTORNEY).

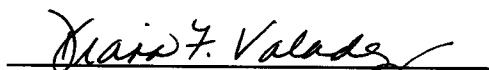
The Commission convened into an executive session at 7:02 p.m. The executive session ended at 7:35 p.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting then adjourned at 7:37 p.m.


Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:


Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary