

JUNE 11, 2001

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD MONDAY, JUNE 11, 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
 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, Finance Director
 Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing
 Artemio Alvarez, Risk Manager
 Stanley Fees, Director of Planning
 Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent
 Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Superintendent
 Corando Garza, Assistant City Manager / Fire Chief

I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

OPEN MEETING:

Mrs. Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing, led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation. Immediately thereafter, Mr. Eli Perez, a member of the audience, 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. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF PARK STREET BETWEEN YOAKUM AVENUE AND KING AVENUE.

Mayor Esquivel declared the public hearing opened at 6:02 p.m. He asked if there was anyone present in audience that wanted to address the Commission regarding the proposed closure of Park Street.

Mrs. Maggie Salinas, 111 North 5th Street, stated that she was speaking on behalf of the residents of Casa Ricardo Housing Complex located at 200 West Yoakum. She stated that these residents need some type of crossing because most of them walk in the vicinity of Park Street to and from the downtown area.

There were no other comments made at this time.

Mayor Esquivel closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

III. PETITIONS, GRIEVANCES, AND PRESENTATIONS.

1. None.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Mr. Eli Perez representing Powerhouse of Kingsville addressed the Commission. He requested financial assistance to continue the programs offered by Powerhouse.

V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move to agenda item #8 at this time.

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

8.1 PRESENTATION ON EMERGENCY SERVICES POLICY FOR HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that several staff members have been meeting on a regular basis to complete the proposed policy. He stated that the policy needed Commission approval, and an item would be placed on an agenda in July.

Mayor Esquivel requested that a copy of the proposed policy be sent to Mr. Tom Sanchez, Emergency Management Coordinator for his review.

Upon a question raised by Mayor Esquivel, Mr. Hinojosa responded that an agreement with the Kingsville Independent School District is being finalized for use of their school buses. Mr. Hinojosa also stated that separate contracts are needed with the individual bus drivers for their services.

Mr. Artemio Alvarez, Risk Manager, stated that eleven shelter managers have already been certified, and he will be conducting a separate class to certify City employees to also become certified shelter managers.

8.2 STATUS REPORT ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO PROPERTY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH KLEBERG FIRST NATIONAL BANK WITH RESPECT TO PARK STREET CLOSURE, CONTAMINATION REPORT, TRAFFIC COUNTS ON AFFECTED ROADWAYS, DEMOLITION OF BUILDING, AND CITY HALL PARKING. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa stated that based on a recommendation by the City Engineer, he is recommending not to close Park Street. He stated that Park Street is a relief route for traffic traveling on Kleberg and Yoakum Avenue. Mr. Hinojosa stated that he is currently working on a property exchange agreement to determine what properties will actually be exchanged between the City and Kleberg First National Bank.

Commissioner Laskowski stated that the traffic counts should have all been done on Park Street only and not Kleberg Street since Park Street is the street being considered for closure.

Mr. Hinojosa recommended the Commission proceed with the grant submission on agenda item number one and leaving Park Street opened.

In other items under City Manager's Report, Mr. Hinojosa emphasized the importance of conserving water. He urged the citizens of Kingsville not to water their lawns during the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hinojosa also urged all citizens to use the recycling center as much as possible to save space at our landfill.

1. CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR FUNDS TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT A CITY VISITOR'S WELCOME CENTER AND TRANSPORTATION HISTORY MUSEUM IN THE HISTORIC KINGSVILLE DEPOT BUILDING LOCATED ON KLEBERG AVENUE.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that the total project amount is \$700,000 and the 20% match is \$168,000. He stated that the cash match would be provided by the Kleberg County Heritage Foundation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Laskowski to approve Resolution #R-2001-19, authorizing the City Manager to submit a nomination to the Texas Department of Transportation for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Pecos and seconded by Commissioner Laskowski to remove from the table the following agenda item. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2.1 ADOPTING CERTAIN FINDINGS, REVIEWING EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES, DECLARING THAT CONDITIONS EXIST WHICH RENDER CERTAIN BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES UNSAFE WHICH CANNOT BE CORRECTED WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL RECONSTRUCTION, AND DECLARING THE FOLLOWING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES TO CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND ORDERING THEIR DEMOLITION OR SUCH OTHER ACTION TO ABATE SUCH PUBLIC NUISANCE. (FIRE MARSHAL).

- A. 318 EAST RICHARD
- B. 308 EAST RICHARD; AND
- C. 229 EAST RICHARD

Mayor Esquivel stated that the Historical Board recommended the structures at the above named addresses not be condemned at this time.

Mrs. Maggie Salinas and Mrs. Aurora Garza, both members of the Historical Board addressed the Commission. They informed the Commission that the Historical Board would like to keep the Hispanic History alive in Kingsville. Mrs. Garza stated that perhaps the Board's Preservation Officer might be able to help find some funding to restore these structures.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laskowski and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to grant the Historical Board an additional ninety days to seek funding to restore the above named addresses and provide staff support to the Historical Board. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Pecos commended Mrs. Salinas, Mrs. Garza, and Mrs. Cecilia Hunter for their efforts in continuing the Hispanic Heritage in Kingsville.

3. CONSIDER MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS FROM THE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION SERIES 1998 (CAP 98) TO PROVIDE NECESSARY MAINTENANCE TO WATER WELL #14 AND #22. (UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT).

Mr. Hinojosa stated this item requests the authorization to reprogram funds from the Certificates of Obligation Series 1998 (CAP 98) to provide necessary maintenance to water well #14 and #22. He stated that there is currently \$116,283 in this fund for water wells. He recommended \$10,000 be reprogrammed to well #22 to replace two check valves, televise the well and replace the electric cable. He also recommended that \$35,000 be reprogrammed for repairs to well #14 to include a new screen liner, new pump and sonar well.

Upon a question raised by Mayor Esquivel, Mr. Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent, responded that although water usage is high in the summer months, as long as four wells continue operating, everything will remain the same.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Laskowski and second by Commissioner Villarreal, the Commission unanimously approved the reprogramming of funds from the Certificates of Obligation Series 1998 (CAP 98) to provide necessary maintenance to water well #14 and #22.

4. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, STATE OF TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUESTING FUNDING FOR GRANT YEAR 2001-2002 FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS SPECIALIZED CRIMES AND NARCOTICS TASK FORCE. (CHIEF OF POLICE).

Mr. Sam Granato, Chief of Police, stated the proposed resolution authorizes the submission of an application to the Criminal Justice Division. He recommended approval.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Villarreal and second by Commissioner Pecos, the Commission unanimously approved Resolution #R-2001-20, authorizing the submission of an application to the Criminal Justice Division, Office of the Governor, State of Texas, for the purpose of requesting funding from grant year 2001-2002 for the South Texas Specialized Crimes and Narcotics Task Force.

5. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SECTIONS 3-4-21 AND 3-4-22, PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICE RESERVE FORCE. (CHIEF OF POLICE).

Chief Granato stated that the requirements and qualifications for a Police Reserve Officer would be the same as a City Police Officer; however the Kingsville Police Department would cover their State Certification Commission.

Upon a question raised by Mayor Esquivel, Chief Granato responded that members of the Police Reserve Force would not receive retirement benefits such as those received by members of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Mayor Esquivel stated this was an introductory item only and final passage would be considered at the next meeting.

6. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING BLOCKING, PARKING, OR STANDING IN ALLEYWAYS EXCEPT FOR LOADING OR UNLOADING NOT TO EXCEED 15 MINUTES FOR THE ALLEYS LOCATED ON THE BLOCKS BOUNDED BY:

A. KLEBERG AVENUE AND YOAKUM AVENUE BETWEEN 6TH STREET TO 10TH STREET.

B. KLEBERG AVENUE AND KING AVENUE BETWEEN 6TH STREET AND 10TH STREET.

C. KING AVENUE AND KENEDY AVENUE BETWEEN 6TH STREET AND 14TH STREET.

Commissioner Laskowski stated that he received several complaints about individuals blocking the alleys in the 200 and 300 Blocks of East Kleberg Avenue. He stated this ordinance had previously been in effect, however it was omitted from the code book when the recodification was done.

Mayor Esquivel stated this was an introductory item only and final passage would be considered at the next meeting.

7. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A LANDFILL AND THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, PROPERTY, AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Victor Salas, Director of Finance, made a noted correction to the proposed resolution. He said that the actual day the sell of the obligations would take place would be July 23rd and not July 9th as specified in the resolution. Mr. Salas stated that Mr. Steve Elliot, with Southwest Securities was present in the event the Commission had any questions.

Mr. Steve Elliot, Financial Advisor with Southwest Securities addressed the Commission. He stated that he has taken over the City of Kingsville's account since Mr. Donald Gonzales was no longer employed by Southwest Securities. He advised the Commission that the City of Kingsville is in a good financial status and that the landfill project would sell the bonds with the proper insurance. There was a discussion regarding the rating presentation scheduled for July and the benefits of procuring a good bond rating.

There was also a discussion regarding the possibility of including street repairs in the bond sales to include repairs on Ailsie Street, 2nd Street, and the Caesar Street ditch. Mayor Esquivel emphasized on how the City could save money by including this street repairs in this bond sale together with the landfill project.

Commissioner Garcia stated that he realizes that street repairs are important, however, the landfill construction project is a priority at this time.


Mr. Elliott stated that the City runs a risk with the rating agencies because the City does not have a complete street improvement plan in effect.

Commissioner Laskowski said that the City would save approximately \$15,000 if the street repairs were combined with the landfill project bond sales. However since the street improvement plan is incomplete, it could jeopardize the landfill project. Commissioner Laskowski stated that the City has available exact figures for the landfill project; therefore this project should proceed and move forward.

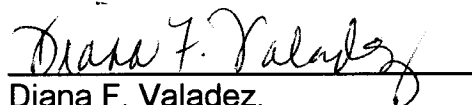
A motion was then made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve Resolution #R-2001-18, authorizing the publication of the Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation for the construction of a landfill and the purchase of equipment, property, and professional services in connection therewith. The motion passed by a 3/2 vote. Mayor Esquivel and Commissioner Pecos cast the dissenting votes.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.


 Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.
 Mayor

ATTEST:


 Diana F. Valadez,
 City Secretary