

FEBRUARY 18, 2002

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2002 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, Mayor
 Arturo Pecos, City Commissioner
 Al Garcia, City Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Hector M. Hinojosa, City Manager
 Ruben Perez, City Attorney
 Victor Salas, Director of Finance
 Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent
 Courtney Alvarez, Assistant City Attorney
 Sam Granato, Chief of Police

I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

OPEN MEETING:

City Commissioner Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation. Immediately thereafter, Mr. Oscar Castillo, Board Member of the South Texas Water Authority, 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. COMMENTS ON ALL AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

Mayor Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr., briefed the Commission on meetings that have been conducted on Homeland Defense and a training exercise that is scheduled for March. He also stated that the emergency management team is proposing to set up a centralized communications system.

Commissioner Al Garcia commended all of the individuals that organized the South Texas Ranching Heritage Festival. He stated that the festival was a success and well attended.

Mr. Oscar Castillo, 1620 Annette, stated that there was a lot of information left out of a recent article in the Kingsville Record regarding water issues between the City of Kingsville and the South Texas Water Authority. He discussed with the Commission the proposed water rates as well as the property tax rate.

Mrs. Carolla Serrato, 501 Billy Evans, stated that she would maintain an open line of communication with City staff regarding the proposed water supply contract.

Mr. David Rosse, Kleberg County Commissioner of Precinct #1, stated that he would like to see the South Texas Water Authority come up with a plan to meet the City's needs. He urged the City Commission to make every effort to protect the aquifer.

V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION: UNDER SECTION 551.071 OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION REGARDING ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF CITY OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE SOUTH TEXAS WATER AUTHORITY SUPPLY CONTRACT. (CITY ATTORNEY).

The Executive Session began at 6:52 p.m. and ended at 8:15 p.m.

The Commission reconvened into open session.

2. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE CITIZENS AND RATEPAYERS OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE IN THE WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH THE SOUTH TEXAS WATER AUTHORITY. (CITY MANAGER).

A motion was made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Stanley Laskowski to authorize the City Manager to take any and all necessary steps to protect the interests of the citizens and ratepayers of the City of Kingsville in the Water Supply Contract with the South Texas Water Authority. The motion passed by a 4/0/1 vote. Mayor Esquivel abstained from voting.

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

Mr. Hinojosa stated that an on-site visit will take place this week regarding the Texas Capital Fund and the Lowe's Project.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary