

MARCH 11, 2002

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, 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, Jr., Mayor
 Al Garcia, City Commissioner

CITY COMMISSION MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Arturo Pecos, City Commission (**attending National League of Cities Conference in Washington, DC)

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Hector Hinojosa, City Manager
 Ruben Perez, City Attorney
 Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary
 Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing
 Jennifer Detloff, Director of Development Services
 Coeta Montgomery, Director of Personnel
 Sammy Maldonado, Utilities Superintendent
 Victor Salas, Director of Finance
 Stanley Fees, City Engineer
 Artemio Alvarez, Risk Manager
 Al Lopez, Fire Department Captain
 John Garcia, Garage Superintendent

I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS

OPEN MEETING:

Mrs. Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing, led the Commission and members of the audience in an invocation. Immediately thereafter, Ms. Jennifer Detloff, Director of Development Services 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.

Mr. Hector M. Hinojosa, City Manager, introduced Ms. Jennifer Detloff as the new Director of Development Services. The Commission welcomed Ms. Detloff to the City of Kingsville.

Mr. Jeff Jung, Area Manager of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company addressed the Commission regarding agenda item #6.2. Mr. Jung briefed the Commission regarding the proposed fiber optic super ring and the demands on the telephone company.

Mrs. Dora Byington, Director of Purchasing, addressed the Commission regarding agenda item number one. She stated that her department has been very busy throughout the year. Mrs. Byington stated that purchasing professionals throughout the State of Texas are promoting Purchasing Month.

1. CONSIDER RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2002 AS PURCHASING MONTH IN THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE. (DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING).

A motion was made by Commissioner Stanley Laskowski and seconded by Commissioner Rene "Mr. V" Villarreal to approve Resolution #R-2002-06, proclaiming the month of March, 2002 as Purchasing Month in the City of Kingsville. The motion passed by a 4/0 vote. Commissioner Arturo Pecos was absent from this meeting.

Mayor Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr. then presented a proclamation to Mrs. Byington.

2. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TO SHARE LOCAL COMPUTERIZED CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION BETWEEN THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT. (CHIEF OF POLICE).

Mrs. Glenda Ruggles, Communications Supervisor, stated that the data system expansion would enable the Police Department to provide better radio communications, investigative tools, and emergency management procedures. She stated that the system shares a tremendous amount of information that would benefit the department. Mrs. Ruggles stated the cost to join this data system is approximately \$67,977.00.

Upon a question raised by Commissioner Laskowski, Mrs. Ruggles responded that the cost associated with entering into this agreement would be paid from the drug fund.

There was a discussion regarding the possibility of sharing the cost with the Coastal Bend Council of Governments. Mrs. Ruggles stated that the only way the COG could contribute to this cost would be that the system is tied into a 9-1-1 emergency system.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Laskowski to authorize the Chief of Police to enter into an interlocal agreement to share local computerized criminal history information between the City of Corpus Christi Police Department and the City of Kingsville Police Department. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE AND THE GREATER KINGSVILLE AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION OF A WORKFORCE JOB TRAINING GRANT. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa stated that the Greater Kingsville Economic Development Council is requesting that the City of Kingsville approve a Workforce Job Training Grant in an amount of \$9,312 for calendar year 2002.

Mr. Dick Messbarger addressed the Commission. He stated that the unemployment rate for the City of Kingsville is on the rise from an all-time low of 3.4% in 2000 to the most recent rate of 6.4% in January of this year. Mr. Messbarger stated that the City of Kingsville received a grant of \$750,000 for the renovation of the building that currently houses Calling Solutions. Everyone thought that since the City owned the building, it was not subject to property taxes; however there is a different ruling on this. He stated that if the Commission approves the grant, it would help Calling Solutions pay the property taxes that are owed at this time.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the property taxes owed by Calling Solutions and why this grant should be awarded in order for them to pay the property taxes.

Commissioner Al Garcia stated that although Calling Solutions were promised a tax abatement, they had a signed contract, and it stated that they would pay certain taxes. He stated that if this company missed the deadline, the City of Kingsville should not be forced to pay the bill due to someone's mistake.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Villarreal and seconded by Commissioner Laskowski to table this agenda item to allow the Legal Department to research this matter further. The motion passed by a 3/1 vote. Mayor Esquivel cast the dissenting vote.

4. CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 5-1-3 AND 5-1-57, DESIGNATING THE FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY AS EXEMPT FROM FEES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE. (CITY MANAGER).

Mr. Hinojosa stated that the proposed ordinance allows residents of the City to dispose permitted items on the first and third Saturday of each month without charge in an amount not to exceed 1,000 pounds per day. He recommended approval of the proposed ordinance.

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

5. CONSIDER OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR MAYOR ESQUIVEL TO ATTEND THE WASHINGTON POLICY CONFERENCE AND NATIONAL REGIONAL SUMMIT PARTNERS FOR AMERICAN SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS AND THE COASTAL BEND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC ON MARCH 23-27, 2002. (MAYOR ESQUIVEL).

Mayor Esquivel stated that he was asked by the Coastal Bend Council of Governments to attend this meeting in Washington, D.C. He stated that the COG would reimburse the City for all the expenses upon return. Mayor Esquivel requested authorization to attend this meeting.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Laskowski and second by Commissioner Villarreal, the Commission unanimously authorized the out-of-state travel for Mayor Esquivel to attend the conference.

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

6.1 UPDATE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOUTH TEXAS WATER AUTHORITY.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that negotiations are continuing with the South Texas Water Authority and another meeting is scheduled for March 12th.

6.2 UPDATE ON FIBER OPTIC SUPER RING.

No discussion took place at this time. The discussion took place at the beginning of this meeting.


In other matters, Mr. Hinojosa stated that Mr. Victor Salas has submitted his letter to resignation from City employment. He commended Mr. Salas for all the good work he did while employed by the City of Kingsville.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: UNDER SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUS PERSONNEL MATTERS IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT. (COMMISSIONER LASKOWSKI).

The Executive Session began at 8:05 p.m. and ended at 8:35 p.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.


Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Diana F. Valadez, City Secretary