

JULY 17, 2003

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2003 AT 10:30 A.M. IN THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. ALCORN COMMISSION CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, 200 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE.

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Filemon "Phil" Esquivel, Jr., Mayor  
Horacio "Hoss" Castillo, City Commissioner  
Al Garcia, City Commissioner  
Charles E. Wilson, City Commissioner

**CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Arturo Pecos, City Commissioner

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

John A. Garcia, Interim City Manager  
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney  
Irene Ramirez, City Secretary  
Luke Womack, Contract Auditor  
Dora Byington, Purchasing Director  
Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Mgmt. Superintendent  
Yolanda Vasquez, Municipal Court Supervisor  
Caron Vela, Accountant  
Arnold Valadez, Warehouse Clerk  
Diana Gonzales, Human Resource Director  
A.L. Noyola, Health Director  
Robert Rodriguez, Library Director  
Art Alvarez, Risk Manager  
Jennifer Detloff, Director of Development Services  
Stanley Fees, City Engineer

**I. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.**

**OPEN MEETING**

The meeting was opened at 10:30 a.m. by Mayor Esquivel.

**INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Esquivel)**

Mayor Esquivel asked Mrs. Dora Byington to lead everyone in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Wilson and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Commissioner Garcia.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) – Required by Law**

None available.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING - (REQUIRED BY LAW).<sup>1</sup>**

None.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS.<sup>3</sup>**

None.

#### **IV. PETITIONS, GRIEVANCES, AND PRESENTATIONS.<sup>2</sup>**

##### **1. Review and discuss proposed fiscal year 2003-2004 budget for the following departments:**

- a. City Commission
- b. City Manager
- c. Municipal Building
- d. Human Resources
- e. Risk Management
- f. Legal
- g. Planning
- h. Recycling
- i. Finance Administration
- j. Collections
- k. Municipal Court
- l. Computer Operations
- m. Purchasing
- n. Engineering
- o. Service Center
- p. Garage
- q. Health
- r. Library
- s. Water Production
- t. Water Construction
- u. Meter Readers
- v. Waste Water – North Plant
- w. Waste Water – South Plant
- x. Waste Water – Sewer Collections

Mr. Luke Womack addressed the commission. He stated a freeze on spending and hiring was put in place at the request of the interim city manager for the next 15 to 30 days to assess this year's budget. He stated sales taxes have decreased, along with water revenues due to the recent rains, as did fines and ambulance revenues. Overall, we are looking at a shortfall of around \$270,000.

He stated the upcoming fiscal year will be most challenging as sales taxes are down throughout the state and the City is losing \$200K from Celanese as they decreased their payment from \$300K to \$100K. He stated new personnel and the capital outlay are in excess of \$1.5M and that we need to keep expenses in line with previous years in order to find \$600K in lost revenues.

The City Commission received a brief overview from the following departments on their proposed budgets for FY 2003-2004:

- Dept. 181 - Purchasing
- Dept. 140 - Legal
- Dept. 180 - Municipal Court
- Dept. 170.1 - Recycling

**Recess:** The City Commission recessed at 11:10 .a.m. and went into "Items for Consideration".

#### **V. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS.<sup>4</sup>**

##### **1. Consider authorizing letter to the Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division for approval to utilize all assets and**

**unexpended funds for continued efforts at narcotics enforcement until those funds are exhausted. (City Attorney).**

Mrs. Alvarez stated she recently spoke with Mr. Tim Nowell, Director of the Criminal Justice Department to determine asset distribution. On June 27, 2003 the City received a letter indicating the CJD would award the Chapter 59 funds to the Kingsville Police Department as the STNTF grant was not renewed. Mrs. Alvarez stated if the City is interested in continuing their efforts and wants to maximize the amount of dollars, then the City would be wise to go ahead and send a letter to them requesting approval to utilize all assets and unexpended funds for narcotics enforcement until funds are exhausted. Mayor Esquivel asked the city attorney to assist Mr. John Garcia in drafting a letter requesting the CJD to reconsider our request for renewal of the South Texas Narcotics Task Force grant.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Wilson authorizing staff to send a letter to the CJD to utilize all assets and unexpended funds for the continuation of narcotics enforcement until all funds are expended. Motion carried, 4/0.**

**Resume Agenda:** The City Commission reconvened into Item #1, Section IV, at 11:15 p.m. and heard from the following departments:

Dept. 302 - Service Center  
 Dept. 110 - Human Resources  
 Dept. 440 - City / County Health  
 Dept. 460 - Library  
 Dept. 120 - Risk Management  
 Dept. 160 - Planning  
 Dept. 102 - Municipal Building  
 Dept. 301 - Engineering  
 Dept. 101 - City Manager

Mayor Esquivel gave direction to city staff on the following: 1) go out for bids for all insurances; 2) do research on the old police department buildings; 3) look into the cost and possibility of bringing the middle building on the old police department property up to par; and 4) landscape the same property to maintain as regular as possible.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Garcia to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

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 Charles E. Wilson, Presiding Officer

**ATTEST:**

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 Irene Ramirez, City Secretary