

SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

**A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE, TEXAS CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 IN THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. ALCORN COMMISSION CHAMBERS CITY HALL / 200 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE AT 11:30 A.M.**

**CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:**

Sam R Fugate, Mayor – arrived at 12:05 PM  
Charles E Wilson, Mayor Pro-tem  
Stanley Laskowski, Commissioner  
Arturo Pecos, Commissioner

**CITY COMMISSION ABSENT:**

Al Garcia, Commissioner

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Carlos Yerena, City Manager  
Edna S Lopez, City Secretary  
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney  
Yolanda Cadena, Health Director  
Dianne Leubert, Solid Waste Superintendent  
Al Lopez, Fire Chief  
Ruth Valdez, Library  
Robert Rodriguez, Library Director  
Macario Mayorga, Water Superintendent  
Tomas Sanchez, Emergency Management Coordinator  
Frank Garcia, Wastewater Superintendent  
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director  
Fidel Gonzalez, Task Force  
Joe Casillas, Water Production Supervisor  
Diana Gonzalez, Human Resource Director  
Yolanda Vasquez, Municipal Court Supervisor  
Jennifer Vela, Litter Abatement Officer  
Mark Rushing, Finance Director  
Ricardo Torres, Police Chief  
Julian Cavazos, Lieutenant  
George Crocker, Sergeant  
Armando Gutierrez, City Engineer  
Sherman Benys, Lieutenant  
John Garcia, Garage Superintendent  
Richard Kirkpatrick, Task Force  
Rey Marcotte, Computer System Technician  
Vilma Castillo, Collections Manager  
Caron Vela, Accounting Manager

**I. Preliminary Proceedings.**

**OPEN MEETING**

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called the meeting to order in the City Commission Chambers at 11:40 A.M. and announced quorum as present.

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

The invocation was delivered by City Manager Yerena, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

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

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called for consideration of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 27, 2007. **Commissioner Laskowski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Pecos. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Wilson, Pecos, Laskowski voting “FOR”. Fugate, Garcia “ABSENT”.**

**II. Public Hearing - (Required by Law).<sup>1</sup>**

NONE

### III. Petitions, Grievances, and Presentations.<sup>2</sup>

#### 1. City Manager's Report. (City Manager).

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called for the City Manager's report. City Manager Yerena reported that budget meetings are scheduled for the rest of the week.

#### 2. City Attorney's Report. (City Attorney).

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called for the City Attorney's report. City Attorney Alvarez reported on the cancellation of the PD Union Collective Bargaining meeting which will be scheduled for Friday.

#### 3. City Commission's Reports. (City Commission).

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called for the City Commission's reports. There were no reports.

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson announced that Regular agenda Item #1 would be heard.

#### 4. Review and discuss proposed fiscal year 2007-2008 budget for departments of the City of Kingsville.

City Manager Yerena explained that one perimeter is a \$.77813 tax rate, the budget includes a 3% cost of living increase and water and sewer increase which is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the plan as recommended by Water Rate Study;

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson stated he would be working with a handicap because he did not have updated budget information.

Finance Director Rushing stated official recommendations on budget cuts were made. Chief Torres addressed the Commission stating that a cover sheet was submitted for the Commissions' review. He explained changes to the department's budget lines items. He stated the department will issue an additional \$70,000 from forfeiture monies for overtime to help the City. He stated forfeiture monies will help address some the line item issues. Chief Torres provided information on allotted monies and needed monies for several line items. Finance Director Rushing stated the Chief has proposed to allow \$20,000 for CID overtime and \$20,000 for SWAT overtime from forfeiture funds. Mayor Pro-tem Wilson asked about total reduction for this department. Chief Torres replied \$130,000.

Mayor Pro-tem Wilson called for further questions. Commissioner Laskowski asked if salaries were correct. Finance Director Rushing replied these were correct. Commissioner Laskowski stated there was an increase of \$174,000 for salaries. Commissioner Laskowski also questioned the increase for Group Health insurance. Finance Director Rushing stated he will further review the line items for salaries and group health.

City Manager Yerena asked the Commission if changes to the budget should be made after today's meeting. Commissioner Laskowski responded that he would like to wait.

Fire Chief Al Lopez stated the budget is similar to last year's budget. He stated that the overtime line items were shuffled to reflect usage. He stated line items were looked at to see if the department can work with what is being allowed. He provided information on line items that were increased. He stated that in the history of the City's EMS service this is the first time the City will have to pay for an EMS Director, a fee of \$12,000. Upon a question from Commissioner Laskowski, Fire Chief Lopez stated he would ask the hospital if they could provide a director. He added that the biggest project is a stall for the new ladder truck and hazmat vehicle. He stated the eight-liner monies will help with the start of this project. He

stated that a decision has to be made concerning the condition of the ambulances. He stated the amount of \$47,000 is for the lease of three ambulances.

City Manager Yerena stated that the ambulance RFP was looked at and it does not look feasible. He added that ambulance fees will be looked at. Finance Director Rushing explained a revision to the ordinance will be presented at a later date.

Commissioner Wilson stated that reasonable and customary charges are being billed. Fire Chief Lopez stated the billing company has made some recommendations to change the billing.

City Manager Yerena asked that Mr. Tomas Sanchez, Emergency Management Coordinator address the Commission. Emergency Management Coordinator Sanchez asked that the City allocate the money as previous years. Commissioner Pecos asked if the County has reduced this budget. Emergency Management Coordinator Sanchez replied he has not been invited to any of the meetings and was not sure what they have done. Mayor Fugate called for further questions. Commissioner Laskowski stated that the current budget was \$37,800 and what is being proposed is \$20,800. Accounting Manager Vela provided an explanation of the amount in the proposed budget.

Mayor Fugate asked that the City Manager get with the County Judge in reference to the joint departments.

There was discussion regarding the cuts that the County has made to the Health and Library Departments.

City Manager Yerena asked Public Works Director Bill Donnell to address the Commission.

Public Works Director Donnell stated that the Planning Department will need the same money as last year.

Mayor Fugate called for questions. Commissioner Laskowski asked about the salary increase of \$5,677. City Manager Yerena stated this line item will be looked at.

Solid Waste Superintendent Dianne Leubert addressed the Commission. She stated the proposed budget for the Recycling Center is not what she had proposed. She explained the department's needs. Superintendent Leubert further explained each line item for the proposed budgets for the Collections Department and Landfill.

Mayor Fugate called for questions. Superintendent Leubert stated the study which is in progress will really help her department.

#### **IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items<sup>3</sup>**

5. Comments on all agenda and non-agenda items.

Mayor Fugate called for comments on all agenda and non-agenda items. There were no comments made.

#### **V. Consent Agenda**

**NONE**

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:**

- VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.<sup>4</sup>**

**1. Consider out-of-state travel to Atlantic City, NJ, on September 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 for Task Force Agent. (City Manager).**

City Manager Yerena stated this item will allow a Task Force agent to travel out-of-state.

Commissioner Pecos made a motion to approve the out-of-state travel, seconded by Commissioner Laskowski. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Wilson, Laskowski, Pecos voting "FOR". Fugate, Garcia "ABSENT".

**IV. Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 P.M.



Sam R Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edna S Lopez, City Secretary