

JUNE 21, 2010

A SPECIAL WORKSHOP OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2010 AT THE BIG HOUSE BAR-B-QUE STEAKS & GRILL, 1900 EAST KING, at 4:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R Fugate, Mayor
Al Garcia, Commissioner
Charlie Wilson, Commissioner
Stanley Laskowski, Commissioner
Arturo Pecos, Commissioner – arrived at 5:00 P.M.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Edna S Lopez, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Naim Khan, City Engineer
Al Lopez, Fire Chief
Ricardo Torres, Police Chief
Ken Clark, Director of Development Services
Bob Trescott, Downtown Manager
Mark Rushing, Finance Director
Yolanda Cadena, Health Director
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
Susan Ivy, Parks Director

**I. Preliminary Proceedings.
OPEN WORKSHOP**

Mayor Fugate opened the workshop at 4:10 P.M.

II. Conduct workshop regarding Goal Setting for the City of Kingsville.

Mayor Fugate said that he asked for this workshop to discuss issues before the start of the budget workshops and to look at the Master Plan. He asked for the type of format to be used at this meeting. Commissioner Wilson stated that previously Staff provided information on the board. Commissioner Garcia stated that the Parks should be included. Ms Alvarez suggested doing a column for topics and another for goals.

City Manager Yerena took charge at the board. Commissioner Garcia voiced his concern about the park situation. City Manager Yerena stated that the events at the parks should help. Ms Ivy stated during budget time, the issue of staffing will come up. Commissioner Garcia stated his interest is Dick Kleberg Park because of the amount of families that use it. Ms Ivy stated a huge problem is the pavement on the roads. Commissioner Laskowski suggested Ms Ivy do a needs assessment of Dick Kleberg Park. He stated this is a County park and the County needs to address this by issuing additional bonds. He stated he tried to encourage the County to get the additional monies. Ms Ivy stated that Dick Kleberg Park was built 50/50 as indicated on the title and both entities should participate. Commissioner Laskowski commented that he pays both City/County taxes and the park should be funded from the County side and added that the City's taxpayers pay twice.

Mayor Fugate stated everyone agrees, so what's the goal. Mr. Rushing stated he doesn't want to take a debt service to the City but try to work within the same dollars to accomplish more. City Manager Yerena suggested working with the County to pave some of the roads. Commissioner Laskowski stated the County needs a unified road system to help pave their roads.

Commissioner Wilson suggested that this workshop be done by bringing up different subjects and then going back and discussing the subjects. He presented information on streets, the landfill, and infrastructure around the University. City Manager Yerena stated there is a five year plan in place for streets. There was discussion on doing a bond election.

Mayor Fugate stated the City has a problem with leakage, and how do we get people to leave in Kingsville. He stated this administration has worked with the school district, but

this town needs to get cleaned. He added that it is everyone's responsibility. Commissioner Laskowski stated the City has done education and have provided the service. Mr. Clark stated that Corpus Christi has a big problem with vacant buildings in the downtown area but they have more tourist sites. He added that the City will see a lot of changes with the next months. He provided information on some of the new projects. City Manager Yerena stated the important thing is to look where we came from, and that we have come a long way. Mr. Trescott stated there are a lot of positive things that are happening, there are a lot of grants, and some are matching grants so part of what is needed is communication. He provided names of agencies that will be in the City to help write grants. There was lengthy discussion on the complexity of spending grants and the administration of grants.

Mayor Fugate asked if it is feasible by hiring Grant Works. Chief Torres replied that getting the grant is not the problem, compiling the data is the problem. City Manager Yerena stated typically Staff does all the work and hands the information to them. City Manager Yerena stated the water infrastructure grant has been a nightmare. Mayor Fugate stated Staff is asking for more clerical work in helping with the grants.

Mr. Dick Messberger, EDC, provided information on a project in Kenedy County, he stated the cleanup is not exclusive to the City, he stated the City has a huge dropout rate. He stated that when trying to recruit people in the City of Kingsville the workforce has a major problem. He stated we are not capturing the good paying jobs and that most of the businesses recruit nationwide.

Fire Chief Lopez stated the City has been working on a new third fire station on the south side since, 1980. Mayor Fugate stated for safety a third fire station is needed on the south side. Fire Chief Lopez stated the City is noncompliance without that fire station.

Police Chief Torres provided information on several grants for help fund the hiring of more officers.

Mr. Clark stated that the building code is 2000, and he would like to adopt the 2009 code which will require some expense. He stated the alternative building codes have to be looked at since the City now has a Downtown Manager. Fire Chief Lopez stated the Fire Code is also 2000. Mr. Clark stated that because we haven't adopted the 2009 Building Code, the contractors are having problems following the current codes.

Mr. Khan stated that the sizes of the signage have changed and the City is not in compliance.

Fire Chief Lopez commented that the plan is to proceed with the grant for a new fire station.

Mr. Khan provided information on how to educate the citizens.

Police Chief stated he would like to see an EOC multipurpose building to be used by all City employees. City Manager Yerena stated there is this type of building in the Valley.

Ms Cadena stated she would like to see the Health department separate its programs by completely separating the Animal Control division from her department.

Mayor Fugate stated the overall picture of the workshop focused on infrastructure but most important is beautification. Commissioner Laskowski stated the new leadership at the University has focused on working with the community and getting involved. Commissioner Laskowski stated the top priority or goal should be to form a good working relationship with the County.

Mr. Clark stated that the Border Patrol is moving ahead with getting a site for their new station. Ms Ivy stated she would like to up her recreation program. Upon a question from Commissioner Garcia, Ms Ivy replied that pools don't pay for themselves, but a water park might. Mayor Fugate stated there are a lot of good things going on, the old high school has been cleaned up. He stated the City has passed resolutions to participate and this will happen. He stated within the next year the talk will be what the City's commitment will be for this project.

Topics

- Park & Recreation improvement
Dick Kleberg Park
- Streets – 40 million
- Landfill
- University Infrastructure
- Wastewater infrastructure
- Leakage – residents, shopping, schools,
More housing, cleanup our community,
Stronger code enforcement/Health dept.
- Unskilled workforce
- Updating of Codes
- Fire Station
- Updating of signs
- Water
- Citizen education – citations, newspaper, incorporate into community event
- Wastewater – I&I
- EOC/Multipurpose building
- Health Department – separation of programs (animal control on its own)

Goals

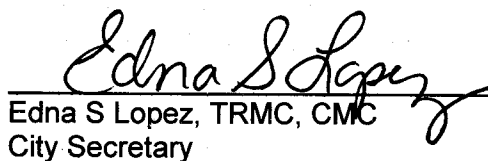
- Top notch park system (communications)
- Grants
- Beautification
- Continue to strengthen partnerships (university, county, & workforce)
- Leverage of resources
- Updating of codes
- Fire Station
- Water Supply (self sufficiency)
- Citizen education
- Wastewater I&I implementation
- Drainage
- EOC multipurpose building
- Housing
- Good working relationship with County

III. Adjournment.

The workshop was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.


Sam R Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Edna S Lopez, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary