

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

A SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION AND KLEBERG COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT WAS HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 IN THE COURTHOUSE ANNEX, LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER AT 1500 E. KING, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS AT 2:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R Fugate, Mayor
Al Garcia, Commissioner
Stanley Laskowski, Commissioner

CITY COMMISSION ABSENT:

Charles Wilson, Commissioner
Arturo Pecos, Commissioner

COUNTY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Pete DeLaGarza, Judge
Romeo Lomas, Commissioner
David Rosse, Commissioner
Roy Cantu, Commissioner
Norma Alvarez, Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Edna S Lopez, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Joe Casillas, Water Production Supervisor
Ken Clark, Director of Development Services
Naim Khan, City Engineer
Mark Rushing, Finance Director

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate called the workshop to order at 2:00 P.M.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items³

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

III. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

1. Discussion in joint session with the Kleberg County Commissioners' Court regarding the L.E. Ramey Golf Course and matters thereto. (Mayor Fugate).

Mayor Fugate stated the City only posted to here information on the L E Ramey Golf Course.

County Judge Pete DeLaGarza stated the County received notice that the golf course manager advised they could not afford to keep the golf course open anymore.

Mayor Fugate stated there has been a proposal. He stated there was a conversation with the County Judge DeLaGarza, County Commissioner David Rosse, City Commissioner Al Garcia and himself about the City taking all city parks (six parks) and two county parks in the City limits (West Corral & Brookshire Park by Gillett). He stated the City will not take the Brookshire pool park and will take the golf course, excluding the tennis courts. Mayor Fugate stated the City will take back the \$200,000 that is given to the Park department, the water allowance will remain, and there is no water trade.

Ms Susan Ivy, Parks Director addressed the Commissions. Ms. Ivy stated she provided an estimate on how much it would cost not to run the city parks, \$60,000. Upon a question from County Commissioner Norma Alvarez, Ms Ivy stated the most expense goes to Dick Kleberg Park. Ms Ivy stated if monies are taken away serious cuts will need to be made from activities held at the park. County Commissioner Romeo Lomas stated that when the

primary agreement went into effect the County took ten (10) employees from the City. Ms Ivy stated there are small circles that are also maintained and the City would have to take those, as well.

Mayor Fugate stated smart money is for the City to stay like it is, and that the City realizes it is the County's problem, and the City is trying to help. At the end of the day whoever runs that golf course will put some money into it. He stated it is a revenue maker to some extent, but money will have to be put into it. Commissioner Garcia stated the City's intent is to put the monies made at the golf course back into the golf course.

County Commissioner Alvarez stated that if the City is offering to take the golf course, the County should listen.

Ms Ivy stated all this is to make sure that the golf course is taken care of, but the parks needs to be taken care of also. County Commissioner Roy Cantu stated the parks are not going to be left out.

County Commissioner David Rosse requested Mr. Balt Ramos address the Commissions. Mr. Ramos stated he is here to help with the transition, the golf course is an asset to the community, possibilities have been explored and revenues will be spent on the golf course. He stated he is at the mercy of both Commissions, and he would like to see everyone fairly treated. He stated he has given it a fair shot of eighteen (18) months and has tried different things to improve the golf course. He stated the solution lies between these two (2) entities, the City and the County. He stated that \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year from each budget would help.

County Judge DeLaGarza stated the County is not in the position to provide that amount of money and it seems that the City wants this golf course.

County Commissioner Alvarez voiced her concern about the proposed employees not being provided benefits. Mr. Ramos stated his proposal is to leave all his employees in place and the equipment to remain in his name. He stated he would like to see his company work with the City and County. Mayor Fugate stated the revenue sheet shows what happened with the difference in revenue which changed depending on the weather. Mr. Ramos stated that the winter was cold and the spring was very wet. He added he is not trying to get money for his pocket only money to run the golf course.

Mayor Fugate stated there is an inventory sheet and asked about certain items that are on the list. County Judge stated the items that would need to be negotiated are the items that belong to Mr. Ramos. Mayor Fugate stated the proposal he made is coming from him and this has to be taken to the entire City Commission.

County Commissioner Lomas commented that in his opinion, the City is helping the County out.

There was discussion on the amount of money that the Parks department will be short if the changes are made by the City.

Commissioner Laskowski stated the City's budget is built on raising the tax rate and the City does not have monies to take from its reserves.

County Judge DeLaGarza stated the County does not need to raise taxes because monies will be received from several areas but this is only for one (1) year. He stated that it is the County's problem to deal with the Park department's budget if the City takes the golf course.

Judge DeLaGarza called to close the workshop and called for further comments/questions.

Judge DeLaGarza made a motion that the County allows the City of Kingsville to take over the management of the City parks in managing L E Ramey Golf Course contingent upon the City passing the same and presenting to them the stipulations in it, and if the stipulations in it are agreeable then the County will come back and sign, seconded by County Commissioner Lomas. County Commissioner Lomas explained that the County is agreeing, today, for the City to take the golf course, keep the \$200,000.00, and take over all City parks. Mayor Fugate stated that their motion and second was pretty general. Upon a question from County Commissioner Lomas, Mayor Fugate replied this subject is not on the City's agenda for tonight's meeting, but the City can talk about this at tonight's City meeting. Mayor Fugate stated the City is starting from scratch and essentially the City is starting a park system. He added to think this can be done in a week is not practical. Judge

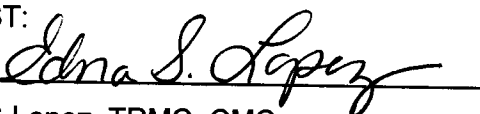
DeLaGarza stated Mr. Ramos is willing to stay beyond the ninety (90) days until the City can work out their plan on what they are going to do. County Commissioner Alvarez requested calling for the question. Judge DeLaGarza called for a voice vote: DeLaGarza, Lomas, Alvarez, Cantu, voting "YES". Rosse "NO". The motion passed.

VII. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission and Commissioners' Court, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.


Sam R Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Edna S Lopez, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary