

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021 IN THE HELEN KLEBERG GROVES COMMUNITY ROOM, 400 WEST KING AVENUE, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS AT 4:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R. Fugate, Mayor
Hector Hinojosa, Commissioner
Norma N. Alvarez, Commissioner
Edna Lopez, Commissioner
Ann Marie Torres, Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Mark McLaughlin, City Manager
Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Kyle Benson, IT Manager
Derek Williams, IT
Uchechukwu Echeozo, Director of Planning & Development Services
Rudy Mora, Engineer
Ricardo Torres, Police Chief
Diana Gonzales, Director of Human Resources
Emilio Garcia, Health Director
Janine Reyes, Tourism Director
Deborah Balli, Finance Director
Mike Mora, Capital Improvements Manager
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
Susan Ivy, Director of Parks & Recreation
Charlie Sosa, Purchasing Manager

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with all five Commission members present.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

The invocation was delivered by Mrs. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting – October 25, 2021

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of October 25, 2021 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Fugate voting "FOR".

II. Public Hearing - (Required by Law).¹

None.

III. Reports from Commission & Staff.²

"At this time, the City Commission and Staff will report/update on all committee assignments which may include, but is not limited to, the following: Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Historical Board, Housing Authority Board, Library Board, Health Board, Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Conner Museum, Keep Kingsville Beautiful, and Texas Municipal League. Staff reports include the following: Building & Development, Code Enforcement, Condemnation Update, Proposed Development Report; Accounting & Finance – Financial & Investment Information, Investment Report, Quarterly Budget Report, Monthly Financial Reports, Utilities Billing Update; Police & Fire Department – Grant Update, Police & Fire Reports; Streets Update; Public Works; Landfill Update, Building Maintenance, Construction Updates; Park Services - grant(s) update, miscellaneous park projects, Emergency Management, Administration –Workshop Schedule, Interlocal Agreements, Public Information, Health Department, Hotel Occupancy Report, Quiet Zone, SEP, Legislative Update, Proclamations, Employee Recognition, Health Plan Update, Tax Increment Zone Presentation, Main Street Downtown, Chapter 59 project, Financial Advisor, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Water, And Wastewater Rate Study Presentation, Golf Course, Library Summer Programs, Grants Update. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time."

Mr. Mark McLaughlin, City Manager updated the City Commission on Officer Sherman Benys funeral services and further stated that some employees will attend the funeral on

Tuesday, November 9, 2021. City offices will remain open with some staff remaining in the offices.

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney reported that the next scheduled Commission meeting is Monday, November 22, 2021. Deadline for city staff to submit their items for this agenda is Friday, November 12, 2021. She further reported that City Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 11, 2021 in observance of the Veteran's Day Holiday.

Mr. McLaughlin asked for Mr. Ricardo Torres, Chief Torres to give an update on the funeral services for Officer Sherman Benys.

Chief Torres commented that the afternoon of Monday, November 1st, 2021, he received information from Dispatch that they had an officer that had been shot. He further stated that he responded with all other officers in the building and other units that were already in pursuit of the shooter. He further stated that he started towards the shooter where the shooter had already been taken down and arrested. He then headed towards the site on Wanda Street where the incident had occurred. By the time he had arrived Officer Sherman Benys had already been transported to the hospital. Chief Torres further stated that he then headed towards the hospital to be with Officer Benys and the Benys family. Chief Torres says that he has been overwhelmed with support from other Law Enforcement Agencies from around the area. He also stated that medical staff from Spohn Kleberg Memorial did an outstanding job in taking care of Officer Benys. The hospital staff was able to stabilize Officer Benys for transport by Halo Flight to Corpus Christi. Law Enforcement Agencies from the surrounding area were at the hospital in support of Officer Benys and his family. Chief Torres further stated that Officer Benys prognosis was like a rollercoaster, one-minute medical staff would give good news than the next minute not so good. On the evening of Wednesday, November 3rd Officer Benys had a procedure done and was stabilized and getting a little better. Torres stated that at that point he felt comfortable going home but then later in that evening he received a call stating that Officer Benys was going into cardiac arrest and passed away at 12:37 a.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2021. Chief Torres stated that the City of Corpus Christi Police Department had 40 of their Officers that assisted our Officers in the transport of Officer Benys to the Medical Examiners Office. He further stated that on the following day he sent three of his Officers to Corpus Christi to escort Officer Benys down to Kingsville. Three officer escorts turned into a three-mile precession within 15 minutes. The outpour of support received from law enforcement agencies and citizens from the Coastal Bend is miraculous. Chief Torres further stated that the Flag of Honor has been flown down to Corpus Christi for Officer Benys funeral to honor him for his great sacrifice. Chief Torres stated that he has so much pride in being the head of this department and the action of the young officers that were involved in this incident. He further stated that the family, Mrs. Benys, her concerned, not for herself but for the Officers and how they are doing. She wants to make sure that they are taken care of. Chief Torres stated that the Officers that responded to the incident did not hesitate in taking care of the situation which was to protect a woman whose husband was trying to kill her. They engaged in the situation and handled it professionally. He further thanked the Commission and city staff for all the support they have given the Kingsville Police Department during this time.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

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

No public comments were made or received.

V.

Consent Agenda

Notice to the Public

The following items are of a routine or administrative nature. The Commission has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Commission Member in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote.

CONSENT MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(At this point the Commission will vote on all motions, resolutions, and ordinances not removed for individual consideration)

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

1. Motion to approve the reappointment of Steve Davis to the Health Board for a 3-year term. (Health Director).

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

Mayor Fugate asked if there were no objections, he would like to move agenda item #18 before agenda item #2. No objections were made from the Commission; therefore, agenda item #18 was moved before agenda item #2.

Commissioner Hinojosa departs at 4:19 p.m. from the City Commission meeting after the vote was taken for agenda item #18.

2. Consideration and approval of a resolution declaring intention to reimburse certain expenditures. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Deborah Balli, Finance Director stated that the adopted budget for fiscal year 21-22 provides for the purchase of capital outlay items for both General Fund and Utility Fund through a tax note. Due to the need for the items and delays in delivery, the capital outlay items need to be ordered and paid for before the tax note that finances them is finalized. The reimbursement resolution allows the city to be reimbursed from the proceeds from the Tax Notes for those items that were paid for before the Tax Note was finalized.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the resolution declaring intention to reimburse certain expenditures, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

3. Consider appointment of Kathy Pawelek to the Hotel Occupancy Tax Advisory Board for a two-year term. (Tourism Director).

Ms. Janine Reyes, Tourism Director stated that effective October 2, 2021, Board member Jonathan Plat resigned from the Board. Texas A&M University-Kingsville leadership asked that Dr. Ayala-Schuneman be appointed to complete Mr. Plant's term which was to end on July 24, 2021. Dr. Ayala-Schuneman has since retired and Ms. Kathy Pawelek has not assumed the role of Interim Director of Administration and Operations of the Conner Museum. It is staff's recommendation to appoint Ms. Kathy Pawelek to the Hotel Occupancy Tax Advisory Board for a two-year term.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the appointment of Kathy Pawelek to the Hotel Occupancy Tax Advisory Board for a two-year term, seconded by Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Torres, Alvarez, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

4. Consider a core City logo and potential design changes. (Tourism Director).

Ms. Reyes stated that on May 24th the City Commission authorized the City Manager to execute a Logo & Brand Guide Development Agreement with ESD and Associates. Since that time ESD has been developing a series of logos for the City Commission to review. The City Manager has selected six renditions for Commission to review.

The Commission at this time discussed the six renditions that were displayed on the projector screen and gave staff some direction as to what they would like to see changed. The Commission selected option 1 with minor changes they would like to see made.

Ms. Reyes commented that she will submit the recommended changes to ESD and will bring back a second rendition with the recommended changes for Commission to review and approve.

No action was taken on this item at this time.

5. Consider a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Kingsville and Texas A&M University-Kingsville relating to TAMUK Women's Golf Team and the L.E. Ramey Golf Course. (Parks Director).

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Kingsville and Texas A&M University-Kingsville relating to TAMUK Women's Golf Team and the L.E. Ramey Golf Course, seconded by Commissioner Torres.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if an agreement with TAMUK Women's Golf Team had already been made in the past.

Mrs. Susan Ivy, Parks Director responded that this is a renewal of that contract.

Mr. McLaughlin commented that the renewal does not have a fee adjustment.

Mayor Fugate asked if the Golf Team was happy with the use of the field house. Mrs. Ivy responded yes.

The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Fugate voting "FOR".

6. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget to appropriate funding for the carry-over purchase orders that were ordered or started last fiscal year and will be received or completed this fiscal year. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Deborah Balli, Finance Director stated this is something that is done at the beginning of each fiscal year. All purchase orders that remain outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are reviewed to determine if the products are on order but have not been received or the project has been started but not yet completed. If there are purchase orders in that state, the purchase order must be rolled over and the associated budget must be rolled to cover the expenditure.

Introduction item.

7. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget to appropriate funding for the emergency repairs to Water Well #21. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Balli stated these repairs were started during fiscal year 20-21 but completed in this fiscal year 21-22, therefore, requiring for it to roll over to this fiscal year.

Mr. McLaughlin commented that Water Well #21 is back in production but slightly reduced rate from before the pump failed. The contractor is working on it to bring it back to full capacity.

Introduction item.

8. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer uncommitted funds in the DEAAG Grant Fund back to Utility Fund 051 and to cover shortage in Fund 054. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Balli stated that this budget amendment request is to transfer the uncommitted DEAAG Grant Funds back to Utility Fund to shore up the Utility Fund 051 and cover an expected fund shortage in Fund 054. She further stated that an overstatement of the fund balance for 054 requires a transfer to Fund 051. This transfer will correct the overstatement in Fund 054 and help cover the purchase order for an emergency repair in Fund 051. The emergency repair expenditure will be rolled over into the Fiscal Year 21-22 budget.

Introduction item.

9. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to appropriate funding for façade grant applications received. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Balli stated that for this year staff did not allot for any applications as a staff is not aware as to when the city will receive facade applications. As applications are received, staff will set aside the money for those applications.

Introduction item.

10. Consider a resolution approving an application and agreement for the Historic District Façade Grant Program from David Thibodeaux for property located at 400 E. Kleberg Avenue, Kingsville, Texas. (Director of Planning & Development Services).

Mr. Uceh Echeozo, Director of Planning & Development Services stated that Mr. Thibodeaux has applied for a Façade Grant. Staff has reviewed the application and proposed it to the Historical Development Board and approved the item. Mr. Echeozo stated that the grant is worth \$4,400 with the project being estimated at \$8,000.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if this façade grant would require the applicant to keep the old look of the buildings that are around this location.

Mr. Echeozo responded that the façade grant refers to the property itself. Because we don't have what is called local distinctiveness on how a street looks, so they will be improving their property and not looking at how other properties look.

Commissioner Torres asked if certain requirements need to be met before receiving a grant.

Mr. Echeozo stated that there are guidelines, and the improvements would need to follow those guidelines and have the improvements approved by the Historical Board.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution approving an application and agreement for the Historic District Façade Grant Program from David Thibodeaux for property located at 400 E. Kleberg Avenue, Kingsville, Texas, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

11. Consider a resolution approving an application and agreement for the Historic District Façade Grant Program from Luis Fuentes, Jr. for property located at 301 E. Kleberg Avenue, Kingsville, Texas. (Director of Planning & Development Services).

Mayor Fugate asked for the dollar amount for this grant? Mr. Echeozo responded that it is for \$6,495.00.

Commissioner Lopez asked staff if this was approved by the Historical Board. Mr. Echeozo responded yes.

Commissioner Torres asked that if once the Historical Board approves this then the City Commission approves as well?

Mayor Fugate commented that the City Commission does not have to approve this just because the Historical Board approved it. The Historical Board makes a recommendation to the City Commission on items such as this.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve this resolution approving an application and agreement for the Historic District Façade Grant Program from Luis Fuentes, Jr. for property located at 301 E. Kleberg Avenue, Kingsville, Texas, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez.

Ms. Alvarez commented that this resolution approves the original application and does not include the sprinkler system as the guidelines prohibit that as an eligible expense. She further stated that he did an amended resolution to add the sprinkler system afterward, so this is just for the original one that did not have that in there.

Commissioner Torres asked that if there are certain things that the Façade Grants allow? Ms. Alvarez responded yes.

Mayor Fugate commented that the Façade Grant allows for things such as roofing, plumbing, and electrical.

Ms. Alvarez commented that there is a list of eligible expenses that the Façade Grant will allow for listed in the Guidelines. She further commented that the rest of the project would be covered, but not the sprinkler system.

The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Torres, Alvarez, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

12. Consider authorizing purchase of new John Deer 190 GW Wheeled Excavator from Doggett Heavy Machinery LLC via Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Director).

Mr. Charlie Sosa, Purchasing Manager stated that this item authorizes the purchase of a new John Deer 190 GW Wheeled Excavator from Doggett Heavy Machinery LLC through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative contract for the Street Department. The existing wheeled excavator is 20+ years old and is being sent in for repairs frequently.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the purchase of new John Deer 190 GW Wheeled Excavator from Doggett Heavy Machinery LLC via Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Fugate voting "FOR".

13. Consider authorizing purchase of new Cat Model 813 Wheeled Compactor from BD Holt Co. via Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Director).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the purchase of a new Cat Model 813 Wheeled Compactor from BD Holt Co. through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative Contract for the Landfill Department. The existing wheeled compactor is approximately 7+ years old and is frequently being sent in for repairs.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the purchase of new Cat Model 813 Wheeled Compactor from BD Holt Co. via Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

14. Consider authorizing purchase of one Commercial Vactor Truck from Austin Freightliner Inc. via BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Director).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the purchase of one Commercial Vactor Truck from Austin Freightliner Inc. through the BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative Contract. The existing vactor truck is 9+ years old and is frequently being repaired.

Motion made by Commissioner Torres approve the purchase of one Commercial Vactor Truck from Austin Freightliner Inc. via BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Torres, Alvarez, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

15. Consider authorizing purchase of three new Police Vehicles from Lake Country Chevrolet via Goodbuy Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Director).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the purchase of three new police vehicles for the Police Department which will replace the deteriorating fleet which has met and exceeded the life of the vehicle.

Mr. McLaughlin commented that this would replace the 2008 model vehicles.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the purchase of three new Police Vehicles from Lake Country Chevrolet via Goodbuy Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Fugate voting "FOR".

16. Consider authorizing purchase of various vehicles from Silsbee Ford Inc. via Goodbuy Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Director).

Mr. Sosa stated that this will authorize the purchase of six vehicles for various Public Works Departments from Silsbee Ford, Inc. through Goodbuy Purchasing Cooperative Contract. The six vehicles are needed for the Public Works Department and will be replacing a deteriorating fleet that has met and exceeded the life of the vehicle.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the purchase of various vehicles from Silsbee Ford Inc. via Goodbuy Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

17. Discussion on potential uses of ARPA funds. (City Manager).

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the city has already received its first installment of ARPA funds in August 2021 for an amount of \$3.1 million and will be receiving the second installment of the same amount as the first installment, in August 2022. He further stated that there are four main areas that ARPA funds can be used for: Response to the public health emergency or its negative economic impact, including assistance to small businesses, households, and hard-hit industries, and economic recovery; Premium pay to eligible workers; Investments in Infrastructure; and Broadband. He further stated that staff is recommending the following ARPA expenditures which are listed under four different categories: Category 1: a) \$50,000 to fund for the calendar year 2022 the Kleberg County COVID Clinic next to Coastal Bend College, which includes the County's apportioning \$100,000.; b) \$500,000 for the Economic Development Grant Program; c) \$150,000 for the city's 50% match and collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce to fund the Coastal Bend College Jet Engine Mechanic Training Program to train and retain skilled positions at NAS Kingsville...

Mayor Fugate asked Mr. McLaughlin to explain what the Jet Engine Mechanic Training Program is about.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the Naval Air Station's weakest link is the amount of qualified jet engine mechanics to keep the Rolls Royce F404 Engine operating. These engines are hand-built which takes a lot of man-hours to build. Mr. McLaughlin further stated that to get qualified trained mechanics here and keep them has been a challenge and has been for just about every Naval Air Station. He further stated that this is an idea that Mr. Manny Salazar, Economic Development worked on with Coastal Bend College and Mr. Dick Messbarger worked with Rolls Royce who has agreed to contribute two jet engines for this program. Coastal Bend College will need to put the program together with the monetary contribution assistance from the city. They will need to create the program for the students and once the student has completed the program they will have an opportunity for a job at NAS Kingsville, depending on grades. Mr. McLaughlin stated that this is a job creation program that is allowed by ARPA Funds.

Commissioner Torres commented that she believes in trade skills and college isn't for everybody and asked if \$150,000 is all that they are asking for? Mr. McLaughlin responded that it is what was requested and further stated that Mr. Manny Salazar checked with Kleberg County if it was possible for the County to contribute to the program, \$75,000 from the city and \$75,000 from the county but then found out the County was pretty much tapped out, therefore, he thought the City could fund the entire amount of \$150,000. Commissioner Torres commented that the reason she was mentioning the \$150,000 is that it doesn't seem as if it would be enough.

Mayor Fugate commented that Rolls Royce donating the two jet engines would assist the program with cost. He further stated that after a conversation with Mr. Dick Messbarger, he seems to think that the dollar amount proposed would cover the program.

Mr. McLaughlin continued with the proposed ARPA expenditures list: d) \$270,000 SCBA Fire bottles, harnesses, and spare bottles, all 30 sets which expire within 3 years. Category 2: a) \$114,224 for hazardous duty pay for all city employees from January through March 2021. Category 3: a) \$90,000 for revenue replacement for Parks. This funding will be added back to the Park's revenue and further budget amendments forthcoming to address expenses of this \$90,000 for the park's improvements. Category 4: a) \$250,634 to fund Garver Study for sewer plant performance evaluation; b) \$63,455 for Broadband Feasibility Study by Magellan. Mr. McLaughlin stated that everything listed under the four categories totals up to \$1,488,313.00. He further stated that he prepared a series of projects that he feels are a priority for consideration once cost amounts are determined, these include: a) Medic Unit (Ambulance) estimated at \$400,000; b) Engine Unit (Fire) for \$700,000; c) outfitting both A and B would cost \$150,000; d) \$88,350 for revenue replacement for Hot Money loss to be used to purchase Wayfinding Signs with the new logo for (\$38,350 and fund the 2022 Wings Over South Texas Airshow for \$50,000. The total for these four is \$1,338,350.00. Mr. McLaughlin stated that all this totals to about \$2.8 million.

Mayor Fugate commented that this money is an opportunity for the city to do things for the community that wouldn't be possible otherwise. Mayor Fugate also stated that he knows that the city is looking into a Broadband Study and asked Mr. Kyle Benson, IT Manager what it was going to take to implement the plan.

Mr. Kyle Benson, IT Manager stated that one of the biggest components is to not reinvent the wheel. There is fiber and distribution in the community but does not get to some residential homes. A big component of the study is to map out the existing infrastructure and figure out what it would take us to do fiber to the city facilities or fiber to the homes within the city limits. To do the city facilities it is estimated to cost between \$1.4 million and \$2 million which is for 13 city locations. To do fiber to the homes could cost between \$8 million to \$10 million, but this cost would need to come from the study once it has been completed. Mr. Benson further stated that he had a briefing with the National League of Cities where they talked about the infrastructure bill that was passed. There is a component in there for broadband development, ARPA Funds, FCC Grants which the city can apply for, but before pursuing any of these the city would need to have shovel-ready plans and a lot of the details that would come from the study.

Mr. McLaughlin commented that this study will provide the city with recommended sources of revenue and how to pay for it.

Mayor Fugate asked if the city was planning on going into the broadband business.

Ms. Alvarez responded that staff is not sure as it is still in the preliminary phase. She further stated that she doesn't want anyone to misunderstand what is being discussed, as it is only an exploratory study.

Commissioner Torres asked if this would bring in other companies that provide broadband and does the study include other companies coming in with broadband.

Mr. Benson responded that it would look at the potential for companies to come in. He further stated that this would inform the city of what the needs are, what parts of town are served and underserved, and what is the main paying point for citizens. The study will show exactly what is needed for the community when it comes to broadband.

Commissioner Alvarez stated that at a previous meeting she asked if ARPA Funds could be used for the purchase of new water meters. She further asked if staff had looked into this.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that it can be used for meters as it would fall underwater infrastructure. He further stated that he doesn't have meters listed yet, as staff will be meeting with a vendor where they will discuss their program, install rate, and if ARPA funds can pay for it, or is it only the down payment with other funding options. He further stated that there are other monies that the Federal Government has set aside, that is outside of ARPA that the cities can go after.

Discussion item only. No action is required.

18. Consider a resolution casting the City of Kingsville's votes for candidate Albert Garcia to the Board of Directors for the Kleberg County Appraisal District (City Manager).

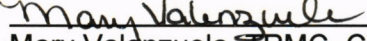
Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution casting the City of Kingsville's votes for candidate Albert Garcia to the Board of Directors for the Kleberg County Appraisal District, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR". Alvarez and Torres voting "AGAINST".

VI. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P.M.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, TRMC, CMC, City Secretary