

APRIL 10, 2023

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023, IN THE HELEN KLEBERG GROVES COMMUNITY ROOM, 400 WEST KING AVENUE, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS AT 5:00 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
Emilio Garcia, Health Director
Deborah Balli, Finance Director
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
Susan Ivy, Parks Director
Mike Mora, Capital Improvements Manager
Diana Gonzales, Human Resources Director
Belinda Tarver, Building Official
Rudy Mora, Engineer
Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief
Ricardo Torres, Chief of Police
Manny Salazar, Economic Development Director
Richard Ortegón, Animal Control Officer
Terry Stroman, Animal Control Officer

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate opened the meeting at 5:00 P.M. with all five Commission members present.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting March 27, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023, 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

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, 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; Building Maintenance, Construction Updates; Park Services - grant(s) update, miscellaneous park projects, Emergency Management, Administration –Workshop Schedule, Interlocal Agreements, Public Information, Hotel Occupancy Report, Quiet Zone, SEP, Legislative Update, Proclamations, Health Plan Update, Tax Increment Zone Presentation, Main Street Downtown, Chapter 59 project, Financial Advisor, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Water, And Wastewater Rate Study Presentation. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time."

Mr. Mark McLaughlin, City Manager, gave a brief update on the demolition of the old hospital, work has begun and is going well. He also gave an update on the upcoming travel to Mobile, AL for the USS Kingsville Christening which will take place on April 22, 2023. Mr. McLaughlin further reported that U.S. Congressman Vincente Gonzalez will be

providing a legislative update on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in the City Hall Community Room.

Mayor Fugate reported that the city held its Trash Off event on April 1st which had a great turnout. Lots of citizens brought in their unwanted items as well as any trash they needed to dispose of. Mayor Fugate further stated that while he drove around picking up unwanted items for the trash off, he noticed a lot of abandoned vehicles and stray dogs. He further commented that the city ordinance states that dogs are to be on a leash or behind a fence. He commented that the city needs to start enforcing the ordinances regarding abandoned vehicles and stray animals. He would like for staff to focus on those two things. Mayor Fugate further asked for an update on the demolishing of structures that have been condemned.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the Building Official has a couple of them that need to be demolished, but otherwise, they are on track.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if these were demolitions that had already been approved. Mr. McLaughlin responded yes.

Commissioner Lopez commented that the property located on 6th Street and Ailsie needs to be looked into and possibly considered for condemnation. Mr. McLaughlin responded that staff would look into this property.

Mr. Manny Salazar, President/CEO of the Chamber of Commerce introduced the new publisher for the Kingsville Record, Mr. JT Strasner.

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney reported that the next city commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2023, with agenda items due no later than Friday, April 14th.

Commissioner Torres gave a brief update on her travel to Austin for Kleberg County Day at the Capitol. Staff that attended this event in Austin met with Texas Representative JM Lozano, Senator Morgan LaMantia, and Congressman Vicente Gonzales. She further stated that Congressman Gonzales is inviting all veterans and their families to a special ceremony honoring Vietnam War Veteran's Purple Heart Recipients on April 11, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the American Legion 99.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

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

Mrs. Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary read a public comment on behalf of Mr. Brian Todd, 3401 S. Lamar, Austin, TX 78704. The comment read as followed:

I was recently in town to see my nephew play ball at Dick Kleberg Park. It was my understanding based on previous conversations with city staff that firearms were not allowed in the parks in Kingsville and would need to be locked in my truck while visiting. This is why I was surprised to see several of the city parks employees including someone who said he was the foreman ("Martin?" maybe) carrying firearms on their belts. How is it that the city will restrict the rights of citizens in public places, but not their employees? Why can I carry it in city buildings, but not in the parks? The city should consider allowing carry by all individuals where allowed by the state rather than trying to regulate some people, but not others, and some places but not others.

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

1. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget to accept and expend grant funds from Law Enforcement Officer standards and Education (LEOSE) for training. (Police Chief).
2. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget to appropriate funding for City Attorney salary adjustment. (Finance Director).
3. Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Donald Hubert Construction Company, Inc. for PRF#23-04 Municipal Building Parking Lot Maintenance Project. (Approved 3/13/23). (City Engineer).

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

4. Consider a resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement between the City of Kingsville and the Greater Kingsville Economic Development Council for Workforce Development Program. (Economic Development Director).

Mr. Manny Salazar, Economic Development Director stated that the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend, Coastal Bend College, and KISD applied for and was granted the first-ever Texas Industry Partnership Grant for the Coastal Bend. An application was submitted for a Jet Engine Training Program, which will be housed at KISD Campus and run by Coastal Bend College. This is a unique grant as public funds cannot be used for it, therefore the Chamber of Commerce used private funds to cover the grant match of \$150,000. In a previous conversation with the city, it would reimburse the Chamber for those funds. A check was provided last month so it is now fully funded by both the Chamber and the State.

Mayor Fugate asked if these funds are within the city's budget. Mr. McLaughlin responded yes; it is ARPA funds.

Commissioner Torres asked when the program would begin. Mr. Salazar responded that the program would begin in the Fall of 2024. The program will be open to high school students, in their senior year and anyone who would like to apply for the program.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement between the City of Kingsville and the Greater Kingsville Economic Development Council for Workforce Development Program, seconded by Commissioner Torres. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Hinojosa, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

5. Consider a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Economic Development Grant Letter of Commitment between the City of Kingsville and Claudia Lopez. (for Color My World Kids Academy). (Economic Development Director).

Mr. Salazar commented that this is the contract for the Economic Development Grant for Claudia Lopez that was previously approved on November 14th. This is for \$30,000 with a total project cost of \$201,000. This is a new daycare facility that has opened up on Santa Gertrudis which will create 6 full-time employees and 4 part-time employees. The cost will cover the cost of furniture. Outdoor equipment, remodeling, and shades for an outdoor play area for the children.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve this resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Economic Development Grant Letter of Commitment between the City of Kingsville and Claudia Lopez. (for Color My World Kids Academy), seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Torres, Hinojosa, Alvarez, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

6. Consider authorizing use of ARP Funds for Fire Department radio system improvements. (Purchasing Manager).

Motion made by Commissioner Torres to approve the use of ARP Funds for Fire Department radio system improvements, seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

Mr. Kyle Benson, IT Manager stated that the radio equipment at the Fire Department needs some updating. This will approve the installation of the replacement of overhead paging speakers and amplifier at the Kingsville Fire Department Station 1 as well as upgrade the existing KPD Eventide recorder to allow for KFD to utilize the system for call replay and the installation of new equipment for integration between existing radios and new overhead paging equipment at KFD stations. The total cost is \$46,629.48.

This will be provided through three different vendors, VistaCom, American Integrated Solutions, and Eventide.

Commissioner Torres asked if this would improve communication between the Fire Department, Police Department, and the community. Mr. Benson responded that this would improve the quality within the stations.

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

7. Consider authorizing use of ARP Funds for security camera system upgrades. (Purchasing Manager).

Mr. Benson stated that with the incoming statue as well as Chamberlain Park, there is a need for some additional cameras for City Hall. There is also a need for better security at the Municipal Building parking lot and employee parking. The current system is no longer compliant with the National Defense Authorization Act as of FY 23; therefore, it is required to be replaced.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to authorize the use of ARP Funds for security camera system upgrades, seconded by Commissioner Torres and Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

8. Consider awarding security camera system upgrades to American Integrated Solutions via GoodBuy purchasing cooperative as per staff recommendation. (Purchasing Manager).

Mr. Benson stated that American Integrated Solutions has been used for several building security projects such as the access control to this building. Staff would like to use the same company for the video recording system as well. The company sells a product line that will bring the system up to compliance with the National Defense Authorization Act as well as with the existing security within the building. American Integrated Solutions is part of GoodBuy Purchasing Cooperative Contract #22-23-7A000 22.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the award of security camera system upgrades to American Integrated Solutions via GoodBuy purchasing cooperative as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Torres, Hinojosa, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

9. Consider authorizing use of ARP Funds for a Parks Department payment kiosk at Brookshire Pool. (Purchasing Manager).

Mr. Benson stated that the purchase and installation of a payment kiosk at Brookshire Pool is to eliminate the need for cash handling by staff and to allow for card payment options for pool-related fees. The kiosk will be provided by AdComp Systems Group of Lewisville, TX. This is the same entity that provided the existing kiosk located at the Municipal Building.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to authorize the use of ARP Funds for a Parks Department payment kiosk at Brookshire Pool, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Torres, Hinojosa, Alvarez, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

10. Consider accepting a donation from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council for Fire Department emergency medical supplies. (Fire Chief).

Mr. J.J. Adame, Fire Chief stated that each year the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council distributes funds to emergency medical services departments based on the number of EMS calls. The council has granted the Kingsville Fire Department an amount of \$6,121.00 for medical supplies.

Motion made by Commissioner Torres to accept the donation from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council for Fire Department emergency medical supplies, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Fugate voting "FOR".

11. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to accept and expend grant funds from the Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council for Fire Department medical supplies. (Fire Chief).

Introduction item.

12. Consider a resolution applying for and accepting funds for Operation Stonegarden Grant #3194308 with the Homeland Security Grants Division of the

Governor's Office for border security to interdict criminal activity with no anticipated cash match; authorizing the Kingsville Chief of Police to act on the City's behalf with such program. (Police Chief).

Mr. Ricardo Torres, Chief of Police stated that this is a recurring grant where the police department gets the overtime funds and additional equipment. This year the amount is \$212,372.00. He further stated that in the award letter, they have mistakenly placed \$65,452.00 under the Sheriff's Office. He stated that there is a frag order going through the Border Patrol to make sure the correction is made where that amount of money is given to the police department, which could take a few weeks to be corrected.

Motion made by Commissioner Torres to approve the resolution applying for and accepting funds for Operation Stonegarden Grant #3194308 with the Homeland Security Grants Division of the Governor's Office for border security to interdict criminal activity with no anticipated cash match; authorizing the Kingsville Chief of Police to act on the City's behalf with such program, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Lopez, Torres, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

13. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to accept and expend grant funds from Operation Stonegarden for various Police Department expenditures. (Police Chief).

Introduction item.

14. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to appropriate funding to cover additional Street Department vehicle maintenance. (Public Works Director).

Mr. Bill Donnell, Public Works Director, stated that the Street Department and Garage Department have tried to keep maintenance and repair costs within budget. The cost of parts and outsourced mechanic labor is very expensive. Repairs range from \$5,000 to \$9,000. The division has currently spent \$56,375 for repairs on these units. Mr. Donnell stated that an additional \$35,000 is what is needed to be able to complete the fiscal year.

Mayor Fugate asked how the street equipment was holding up. Mr. Donnell responded that there have been some hydraulic leaks on the maintainer that need to be repaired.

Commissioner Torres asked if the city was not receiving any applications for maintenance workers.

Mr. Donnell responded that it is a difficult position to fill with qualified certifications.

Commissioner Torres further asked who is maintaining city vehicles now.

Mr. Donnell stated that there is one employee out on injury with another on light duty so there is the supervisor who is also a mechanic who installed the engine on a Health Department vehicle. There is also the Lead Tech employee and the Maintenance Technician, which makes two functioning Maintenance Technicians and supervisors who are doing the mechanical work.

Commissioner Torres asked if it would help to add additional mechanic positions.

Mr. Donnell stated that the staff that is there now is doing the best they can in and doing a great job in keeping up with the maintenance of city vehicles. There will be some outsourcing that is not able to be taken care of in-house.

Mr. McLaughlin commented that the city has a sizable maintenance budget, but some of the items are bigger breaks that were not anticipated. Staff has already taken a step ahead at looking replacement equipment for the future.

Introduction item.


Mayor Fugate read and presented a proclamation for Animal Control Officers Week at this time.

VI. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:37 P.M.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, TRMC, CMC, City Secretary