

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
M-2012-R-02
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
JANUARY 17, 2012
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Salinas called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Salinas led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

Mike Garza,	Council Member, District I
Esteban Rangel,	Council Member, District II
Alejandro Perez, Jr.	Council Member, District III
Juan Narvaez,	Council Member, District IV
Johnny Rendon,	Council Member, District V
Charlie San Miguel,	Council Member, District VI
Jorge A. Vera,	Council Member, District VII
Cynthia Liendo Espinoza,	Mayor Pro Tempore, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.	City Secretary
Carlos Villarreal,	City Manager
Cynthia Collazo,	Deputy City Manager
Horacio De Leon,	Assistant City Manager
Jesus Olivares,	Assistant City Manager
Raul Casso,	City Attorney

Motion to excuse Mayor Raul G. Salinas

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IV. MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of January 3, 2012

Motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2012

Moved: Cm. Rendon
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognitions

- a. Recognizing Alyssa Rodriguez, Amparo Gutierrez Elementary 5th Grader, and Nicolas Limon, Borchers Elementary 3rd Grader, for placing 1st place in the Dribble, Dish, & Swish Regional Competition held January 7, 2012 in Houston, Texas.

Mayor Pro Tempore Liendo Espinoza and City Council congratulated Alyssa Rodriguez and Nicolas Limon and presented them with certificates of recognition.

- b. Recognizing Rainy Castañeda, United South High School Senior, for placing 10th out of 120 athletes at Cross Country Regional Level in San Antonio, Texas, qualifying her for State for the 3rd year in a row.

Mayor Pro Tempore Liendo Espinoza and City Council congratulated Rainy Castañeda and presented her with a certificate of recognition.

Communiqués

- a. Invitation to the community for the 14th Annual UETA Jamboozie to be held Saturday, January 28, 2012 in Laredo's Historic Downtown.

Sandra Rocha Taylor, Executive Director of the Laredo Main Street and several of the Board Members announced the 14th Annual UETA Jamboozie, with new additions this year and invited the public to join the festival.

- b. Invitation for the public to attend the "*Rio Grande/Rio Bravo: River of Life, River in Peril*" conference sponsored by the Rio Grande International Study Center (RGISC). The conference is scheduled for Saturday, January 28, 2012, at the UT Health Science Center - Laredo campus, 1937 Bustamante St. Registration/breakfast will start at 8:00 a.m... Keynote address by World Wildlife Fund. Admission is free. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Johnny Rendon)

Tricia Cortez invited the community to attend this conference. Board Member Victor Oliveros talked about the importance of protecting the Rio Grande for being a resource that we depend on and to teach young people to engage in supporting activities.

Citizen comments

Mr. José Luis Maldonado informed the Council that his baseball league is organizing a tournament expecting the participation of 36 teams from Corpus Christi, Mc Allen, and Eagle Pass. He also thanked Cm. Perez, Horacio de Leon and Osbaldo Guzman on behalf of the community of Laredo for their support and invited the public to join at the Slaughter Park.

VI. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. Appointment by Council Member Mike Garza of Mr. Juan Salinas to the Board of Adjustment.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Juan Salinas to the Board of Adjustment.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- b. Appointment by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez to the Board of Adjustment.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Manuel Gonzalez to the Board of Adjustment.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- c. Appointment by Council Member Johnny Rendon of Mr. Blas Castañeda to the Redistricting Commission.

Motion to confirm the nomination of Blas Castañeda to the Redistricting Commission.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the City of Laredo FY 2011-2012 annual budget by appropriating expenditures in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 in the Laredo Police Department Trust Fund. Funding will be used to purchase operational materials, supplies, training and vehicles. Funding is available in the Police Trust Fund opening balance. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rendon
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez
Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

2. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for townhouses on Lots 39 and 40, Block 3, Escondido Subdivision Unit 5, located at 5317 and 5319 Lost Hills Trail; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Narvaez

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Rendon

3. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for townhouses on Lot 1, Block 3, Escondido Subdivision Unit 5, located at 5002 Lost Hills Trail; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District V

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm Rangel

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Rendon

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Rendon

- 4. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by authorizing a Special Use Permit for the storage of flammable and explosive products on Lot 1, Block 1, Flying “J” Plat, located at 1011 Beltway Parkway; providing for publication and effective date.

Staff supports the application and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Special Use Permit. District VII

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Rangel

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Patrick Fiedler representing Clean Energy for this project stated that this company is the largest provider of natural gas fuel to municipalities, transit districts and private fleets.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Garza

- 5. Public hearing and introductory ordinance amending Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Laredo, Texas, to include Article V to amend a fee-based education structure including; trainings, seminars, lectures, labs and use of the Laredo Fire and Law Enforcement Training Facility by private businesses and the public.

The following schedule represents those courses that are more frequently requested. A complete list of the fees is available in the Council Communication. The fees have not been increased in 10 years.

1. Emergency Medical Services and related fields

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Emergency Medical Technician –EMT	327 hrs.	\$750	\$1,400
Paramedic EMT-P	1,000 hrs.	\$2,900	\$4,000

2. Formal Recertification Courses

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Emergency Medical Technician EMT	48 hrs.	\$125	500

Paramedic EMT-P	96 hrs.	\$250	500
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3. Fire Protection Courses and related fields

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Specialized SCBA Course	24 hrs.	\$150	\$200
Basic Firefighting Academy	4.5 mths.	\$2,350	\$4,500

4. Hazardous Material Training

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Hazardous Materials Awareness	8 hrs.	\$40	\$50
Haz-Mat State Certified	80 hrs.	N/A	\$1,000

5. Industrial Fire-Fighting

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Firefighter I	40 hrs.	\$300	\$500
Firefighter II	40 hrs.	\$300	\$500
Firefighter III	40 hrs.	\$300	\$500

6. Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting (ARFF)

Course	Number of Hours	Old Fees	New Fees
Basic ARFF Certification	120 hrs.	\$1,000	\$2,000

(Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved: Cm. Narvaez

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VIII. FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

Motion to waive the final reading of Ordinances 2012-O-008, 2012-O-009, 2012-O-010, 2012-O-011, 2012-O-012, and 2012-O-013.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

6. 2012-O-008 Amending the City of Laredo's FY2012 budget by appropriating additional revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the Laredo Energy Arena (LEA) Operating Fund in order to reflect the correct funding available. These funds have already been appropriated in the Sports and Community Venue Fund as an expense and will have no additional impact. Total appropriation for LEA operations will remain at \$1,459,089.00.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-008.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2012-O-009 Amending the City of Laredo's FY 2011-2012 Budget - Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE) by reclassifying Pedro Sarmiento's One (1) Police Lieutenant position to the position of One (1) Police Captain, thereby creating a Captain's position for Pedro Sarmiento, and reclassifying Enedina Martinez' sergeant position to that of lieutenant thereby creating one lieutenant position and eliminating Enedina Martinez' sergeant position. (AS AMENDED)

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-009.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2012-O-010 Authorizing the issuance, sale and delivery of an amount not to exceed \$8,750,000.00 in aggregate principal amount of "City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax And Revenue Certificates Of Obligation, Series 2012" for paying all or a portion of the city's contractual obligations incurred for the purpose of

Constructing, improving and repairing city streets and sidewalks, together with drainage, traffic and street signalization and lighting improvements;

Acquisition of municipal equipment and municipal vehicles for various city departments, to wit: city administration, health and welfare department, engineering department, parks and recreation department, public safety department, and public works departments;

Acquiring, designing, constructing, improving and equipping municipal buildings, to wit: city parks and recreation buildings and facilities, public

libraries, and fire administration building, including land acquisition and right-of-way, construction and design, and major repair and renovations to existing municipal buildings consisting primarily of electrical, plumbing and roofing;

Partial reimbursement of cost of acquiring, purchasing and equipping of the former Paul Young Car Dealership Building and related land located at 4256 Dorel Drive for use by the City as a City Hall Annex;

Constructing and acquiring storm water drainage and flood control improvements, including related infrastructure and the acquisition of land and interests in land related to said improvements; and

Acquiring, constructing and improving municipal parks, including constructing related drainage improvements; and

for the payment of legal, fiscal, and engineering fees in connection with such projects; securing the payment thereof by authorizing the levy of an annual ad valorem tax; approving and authorizing the execution of all instruments and procedures related thereto including a paying agent/registrar agreement and a purchase contract; approving the form of an official statement; authorizing amendment to the City's budget to appropriate such proceeds for purposes authorized herein; and declaring an effective date.

Adrian Galvan from Estrada Hinojosa Firm presented the final pricing summary for the Certificates of Obligation series 2012. He stated that the City was locked with an interest rate of 2.94 % for twenty years which is the lowest rate in history for the City and also expressed that there is no need to pay for bond insurance since the City's credit rating is excellent and while across the Nation the economy is decreasing, the economy in Laredo is increasing.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-O-010.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

2012-O-011 Amending Chapter 4, Article II, Sections 4-16 through 4-19, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laredo, Texas, which Ordinance No 82-O-123 established procedures for aircraft parking, disposal of wrecked aircraft, and disposal of abandoned or derelict aircraft at Laredo International Airport, Laredo, Texas; Providing for impoundment of aircraft for nonpayment of fees; Providing for notice to owner of impoundment; Providing for lien on aircraft for nonpayment fees, limiting the maximum time a derelict aircraft remains on airport property and providing for effective date; As Amended.

Second: Cm. Vera
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

8. 2012-R-007 Authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the United States Foreign-Trade Zones Board requesting the reorganization of the Laredo Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ NO. 94) from a Traditional to an Alternative Site Framework (ASF) county wide; providing for effective date. (Approved by Operation Committee)

Victor Gonzalez, President of the Laredo License US Customs Progress Association stated that he was to speak in favor of this resolution due to the fact that will provide more businesses that are not located in the designated sites with the opportunity to compete in the business and to become foreign trade zone operators. He also invited the City Council to revisit the fees on the port trade zones and work in conjunction with the Laredo Customs Brokers Association.

Mr. Guillermo Aguilar spoke in favor of this resolution and thanked for all the efforts made.

Motion to approve Resolution 2012-R-007.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Narvaez
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

X. MOTIONS

9. Consideration for approval of amendment no. 3, an increase of \$18,475.00 to the professional services contract with Crane Engineering Corporation, Laredo, Texas, for the Rosario Street Drainage Improvements Project for additional services caused by the construction deficiencies and construction delays performed by the contractor for the completion of the project. Current engineering contract amount with this amendment is \$241,897.50. Funding is available from the penalties due to untimely completion of the project. (Action needed on item no. 22 prior to approval of this motion) (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza
Second: Cm. Rangel
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

10. Authorizing the Washington Birthday Celebration Association (W.B.C.A.) to place four (4) temporary promotional banners for the annual W.B.C.A. festivities scheduled for January 20, 2012 through February 19, 2012 and to require that the W.B.C.A. sign a release of liability to the City of Laredo. Banners will be installed at the following locations: McPherson Road/Del Mar Boulevard and Clark Boulevard/Bartlett Avenue from January 18, 2012 to February 19, 2012; and Calton Road/Yearly Avenue and 2400

Block of San Bernardo Avenue from January 30, 2012 to February 19, 2012.
(Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

11. Authorizing the City Manager to waive parking permit fees for parking meters, no parking anytime, and loading zone areas for the 14th Annual UETA Jamboozie Festival on Saturday, January 28, 2012. A total of two hundred eighteen (218) parking meters and thirty six (36) loading zones will be utilized at \$5.00 each. The total estimated revenue the City of Laredo is requested to waive is \$1,270.00. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Authorizing the issuance of a permit to the Streets of Laredo Urban Mall Association, for the installation of three (3) banners to promote the Jamboozie event, which is part of the annual Washington Birthday Celebration festivities, to be installed across the intersections of Jacaman Road and Sinatra Parkway, 2400 block of San Bernardo Avenue, and Calton Road and Yeary from January 18, 2012 to January 29, 2012; and to require that the Streets of Laredo Urban Mall Association sign a release of liability to the City of Laredo. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

13. Consideration for selection of a firm to operate the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at the City of Laredo Landfill.

Stephen Geiss, Solid Waste Department Director, reported that when the request for proposal was made, four responses were received and they were Evergreen Recycling Incorporated, First Recycling, Green Star Recycling and Pulsar Construction.

Evergreen Recycling proposed to operate the MRF and the City will pay them \$20,000.00 for maintenance and electric bill, offered to market the product and keep the revenues, they also mentioned that would provide some environmental programs and assistance in collection of recycling material but they did not provide specifics. First Recycling offered to pay for all the operating expenses of running the MRF, market the product and share 50/50 the revenues with the City after expenses, a marketing program to educate the community and increase the recycling by 15% by

2014. Green Star Recycling was the only out of town responder and their proposal was that the City of Laredo continues operating the MRF but without sorting the material, they would ship it to San Antonio charging \$60.00 per ton to process it and if there was any profit after this process they would split it 60/40 with the City. Pulsar Construction offered a \$43,000.00 per month fee for operating the MRF. Mr. Geiss first recommendation was First Recycling, the second was Evergreen Recycling, the third one was Pulsar and the fourth one was Green Star.

Cm. Garza motioned to approve the recommendation with the caveat of working with First Recycling and Evergreen in some capacities before bringing back a contract to Council for approval.

Motion to approve the staff's recommendation of meeting with First Recycling LLC. and Evergreen prior to bring a contract on the next Council meeting.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. San Miguel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

14. Consideration for approval of change order no. 5, to A Plus Plumbing Contractor, Inc., Laredo, Texas, for the City of Laredo and Webb County, Texas House to Line Connections at Old Milwaukee, Tanquecitos I, Tanquecitos II, San Carlos I, San Carlos II, Los Altos, Ranchitos 359, Laredo Ranchettes, D-5 Acres. This change order is to add fourteen (14) calendar days to the contract, due to wet or rain days, and is subject to approval by Texas Water Development Board. The contract amount remains the same in the amount of \$949,906.30. Funding is available in the Colonias Fund. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

15. Approving monthly adjustments to the tax roll. The amounts to be adjusted for the month of December 2011, represent an increase of \$32,217.40. These adjustments are determined by the Webb County Appraisal District and by court orders.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

16. Accepting the legal name change from Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc., to CDM Smith, Inc., and to update contractual files and accounting records so as to reflect the new name of the company. The following contracts are affected:

Engineering Contracts

1. El Metro New Operational and Maintenance facility, Phase I—Fuel and Wash Building; and
2. Feasibility of developing a landfill, a gas to energy project at landfill.

Utilities

1. Design of the South Laredo Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP);
2. South Laredo WWTP Environmental information Work Project, P.O. No., 191412,
3. Professional Services Pretreatment Program, P.O. No. 190885; and
4. Under wastewater treatment Plant’s Permits, P.O. No. 184408.

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rendon

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XI (a) RESOLUTIONS

17. 2012-R-005 Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the amount of \$300,000.00 to the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Ranger Division for the purpose of funding 2012 Local Border Security Program (LBSP). Funding will be used to pay for overtime to increase patrol security along the Texas-Mexican border. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)

XI (b) MOTIONS

18. Authorizing the City Manager to amend the City of Laredo’s 2011 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan for the purpose of reprogramming Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds totaling \$667,437.00. It is proposed that the funds be utilized to fund, in part, the construction of the Chicago Street Pedestrian Bridge and the Santa Fe Splash Park. It is further proposed that the newly created projects be funded using a total of \$637,437.00 for the Chicago Street Pedestrian Bridge and \$30,000.00 for the Santa Fe Splash Park by cancelling projects that are no longer viable, and through the use of fund balances from completed projects from the 29th through 37th AY as listed below:

CDBG PROJECT FUND BALANCES

	<u>29th AY</u>	
Santa Fe Park Improvements		<u>\$30,000.00</u>

Total 29 th AY Fund Balances		\$30,000.00
	<u>33rd AY</u>	
Dryden Park Expansion		<u>\$440.00</u>
Total 33 rd AY Fund Balances		\$440.00
	<u>34th AY</u>	
Andy Ramos Park Improvements		<u>\$7,659.00</u>
Total 34 th AY Fund Balances		\$7,659.00
	<u>35th AY</u>	
Housing Rehabilitation Administration		<u>\$250.00</u>
Total 35 th AY Fund Balances		\$250.00
	<u>36th AY</u>	
CD Administration		\$72,094.00
Housing Rehabilitation Administration		\$58,295.00
Code Enforcement		\$74,132.00
Graffiti Removal		\$12,589.00
Sidewalks – District VII		\$174,788.00
Hamilton Section 108 Loan Repayment		<u>\$43,190.00</u>
Total 36 th AY Fund Balances		\$435,088.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCES		\$473,437.00

CANCELLED PROJECTS

	<u>37th AY</u>	
Sidewalks – District VII		\$100,000.00
Anna Street Park Playscape		<u>\$ 94,000.00</u>
Total 37 th AY Cancelled Projects		\$194,000.00
TOTAL CANCELLED PROJECTS		\$194,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS TO BE REPROGRAMMED		\$667,437.00
(Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)		

19. Consideration to authorize a contract (no. 346-10) with Kraftman Commercial Playgrounds through the Buyboard Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Program's contract pricing, in the total amount of \$99,543.50 for the purchase and installation of a walking track at Inner City Park. Funding is available in the Community Development 37th Action Year/2011 Grant. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
20. Consideration to authorize a contract (no. 346-10) with Kraftsman Commercial Playgrounds through the Buyboard Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Program's contract pricing, in the total amount of \$86,828.55 for the purchase and installation of a walking track at La Ladrillera Park. Funding is available in the Community Development 37th Action Year/2011 Grant. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
21. Consideration to authorize a contract (no. 346-10) with T.F. Harper and Associates, LP, Austin, Texas, through the Buyboard Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Program's contract pricing, in the total amount of \$206,670.00 for the purchase and installation of

a basketball dome at La Ladrillera Park. Funding is available in the 2010 CO—District 8 Fund. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)

22. Consideration for approval of the Rosario Street Potable Water, Wastewater Collection and Storm water Improvements Project as complete and approval of change order no. 1, a decrease of \$97,715.15 to the construction contract and includes the assessment of \$42,000.00 (sixty (60) working days @ \$700.00/day=\$42,000.00) for construction delays, the release of retainage, to add ten (10) working days for additional work, add ninety-nine (99) working days for weather and utility delays, and approval of final payment in the amount of \$29,183.93 to Closner Construction Company, Laredo, Texas. Final construction contract amount is \$1,207,915.65. Funding is available in the 2007 Environmental Services C.O. and 2008 Water and Sewer Bonds. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
23. Award of a construction contract to the lowest qualified bidder, Reim Construction, Inc., Mission, Texas, in the base bid amount of \$696,965.35 for the Canal Street Drainage Improvements Phase III with a construction contract time of one hundred eighty (180) working days; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related contract documents contingent upon receipt and approval of insurance and bond documents. Funding is available in the HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) from the Texas Governor's Division of Emergency Management (DEM). (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
24. Consideration to extend contract FY 08-122 for Quest Diagnostics, Inc., San Antonio, Texas, in an estimated amount of \$225,000.00 to perform clinical laboratory testing services submitted by the City of Laredo Health Department. The vendor was selected based on the testing fees, years of experience, and their ability to meet the City's requirements. The term of the contract will be for an additional twelve (12) month period from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012. Funding is available in the Health Department's budget. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
25. Consideration to authorize the purchase of a Spacesaver Storage System for the Police Department property room from Southwest Solution Groups, Addison, Texas, through the Texas State Contract Purchasing Program contract TXMAS no. 2-711030, in the amount of \$53,561.54. Funding is available in the Police Trust Fund. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)
26. Consideration to award a software maintenance contract to the sole source provider, HTE Sungard, in the amount of \$295,364.68. This maintenance contract provides customer support and service for the HTE OSSI computer software system utilized by the Police and Fire Departments. The term of the contract is for twelve (12) months ending on December 31, 2012. Funding is available in the Police and Fire Department annual budgets. (Approved by Operations and Finance Committees)

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

XII. GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

27. A. Request by Council Member Mike Garza

1. Status report on the Parks and Leisure fees for the use of parks and facilities, with possible action. (Co-Sponsored by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez & Council Member Jorge Vera)

Cm. Garza reported that this item has been brought back to Council after having some time to get information together and also expressed the importance of making sure that the facilities are available and built for the enjoyment and use of the Laredo constituents and that the private enterprise using these facilities for free and making a profit of it should be restricted. He mentioned that a fee for non-residents should be assigned as well.

Osbaldo Guzman, Parks and Leisure Director reported the current rental fees for baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, Veterans fields; maintenance costs for two fields per hour are \$69.65 and currently in the City are twenty-two soccer fields and forty-seven baseball fields.

Cm. Vera expressed that there should be a permit issued by Parks and Recreation Department enforcing the criteria for residents and nonresidents due to the fact of many personal tournaments with no information provided to the City.

Carlos Villarreal stated that the City could even go a step further if a tournament is announced without an issued permit the City will not honor that commitment. He also expressed that a tournament must comply with registration, fee and some other requirements.

Cm. Perez asked about consequences if a player is injured during an organized team event and this person has no insurance.

City Attorney Raul Casso responded that during events for public consumption there are some risks involved but is not the City’s responsibility.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cindy Liendo Espinoza and Cm. Rangel requested to properly inform the public in general about the new rules to be implemented.

Cm. Garza requested proper information for the community regarding this changes and a better job at a league level such as the managers to have a certain level of training and implementing a mandatory code of conduct as well.

- B. Request by Council Member Alejandro “Alex” Perez
 1. Status report on the Santa Rita sewer odor problem and emissions, with possible action.

Tomas Rodriguez, Utilities Department Director reported that a meeting was held on January 17, 2012 with Zertuche Construction who has completed the foundations and has some other aside work to do and have it finished by January 31, 2012 and explained that one tank has been installed and four more are to be installed and completely functioning in no more than 60 days. He also reported that they are finalizing all the details for the South Laredo Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion which includes the odor control equipment.

C. Request by Council Member Charlie San Miguel

1. Discussion with possible action on the One Stop Shop process and time response for building inspections.

Erasmus Villarreal, Building Director reported that what they do is advise all the engineers ahead of time what the schedule is for submittals to go inside with the Planning Department schedule, because they have two meetings per month and the submittal is during the first meeting, then 10 days later an audience will be given but prior to the second meeting the engineer who submitted the plans will receive emails with the comments from the staff, their recommendations and advice so they can be prepared when they meet with all the staff at the same time to answer questions, letters of compliance with all the different requirements of the Land Development Code or Development are issued by Engineering Department, Utilities Department, Environmental Department and Traffic Department are required on Tuesday prior to the meeting in order to continue with the process which takes usually three weeks, nevertheless sometimes the frame of time is longer.

Cm. San Miguel came up with idea of providing the engineers with cellular phones in order to improve the efficiency and the communication with the contractors.

2. Presentation by Mr. Jerry Sepulveda regarding the upcoming baseball tournament in efforts to promote the City of Laredo and to raise money to fight cancer, with possible action.

Mr. Gerardo Sepulveda stated that he came up with idea to approach the City Council requesting permission and support in the organization of a baseball tournament at the Slaughter Park on February 11th and 12th to raise money to fight cancer. He also expressed that this will be coordinated with Ms. Diana Juarez from the American cancer Society and all the generated funds will go directly to the families in need.

Motion to support this baseball tournament in any way possible.

Moved: Cm San Miguel

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council Member Jorge A. Vera

1. Discussion with possible action to reconsider speed humps on Mescalero Drive from Arapatto Drive and River Bank Drive.

Cm. Vera informed that he had initially asked for a study on this area but it was closed because did not meet the requirements and since then there have been a couple of accidents in the area and the residents have submitted a petition signed by around sixty families. He required having the study done and to proceed with the installation of the speed humps.

Roberto Murillo, Traffic Director reported that

Motion to approve this item.

Moved: Cm. Vera

Second: Cm. Garza

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XIV. RECESS AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD

Motion to recess as the Laredo City Council and convene as the Laredo Mass Transit Board.

Moved: Cm Garza

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

28. Authorizing the City Manager to waive the parking fees at the El Metro Transit Center Parking Facility located at 1301 Farragut Street on Saturday, January 28, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for persons attending the Annual UETA Jamboozie Festival sponsored by the Streets of Laredo Urban Mall Association. (Approved by Operations Committee)

Motion to approve.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

XV. ADJOURN AS THE LAREDO MASS TRANSIT BOARD AND RECONVENE AS THE LAREDO CITY COUNCIL AND ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn as the Laredo Mass Transit Board and reconvene as the Laredo City Council and adjourn.

Moved: Cm. Garza

Second: Cm. Rangel

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0