



**MINUTES
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

On this 29th day of September 2020 at 5:30 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Special Meeting via Zoom.

Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order. The following city officials were present, a quorum was established, and the following proceedings were held.

PRESENT:	Mayor	David Suarez
	Mayor Pro-Tem	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Greg Kerr
	Commissioner	J.P. Rodriguez
	Commissioner	Adrian Farias
	Commissioner	Leo Muñoz
ABSENT:	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
STAFF:	City Manager	Mike R. Perez
	ACM	Andrew Muñoz
	City Secretary	Norma A. Cantu
	City Attorney	Juan E. Gonzalez

Also present: Vidal Roman, Finance Director, Albert Aldana, City Engineer and Eddie Gil, IT Department.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Friday, September 25, 2020.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Flag.

C. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, called the roll, noting the absence of Commissioner Pedraza and a quorum present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to award the best qualified, most advantageous response to the Request for Qualifications for the City of Weslaco Engineering and

Architectural/Surveying Services for Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) (RFQ No. 2019-20-24) and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. Possible action. (Staffed by Airport Department.)

Andrew Muñoz stated the city had become eligible to apply for grant funding under the Texas General Land Office CDBG funds; staff was authorized to solicit proposals for engineering/surveying services for the various drainage improvements (8 projects); twelve respondents were evaluated and ranked by staff, Mayor Suarez and Commissioner Rodriguez; highest ranked was Halff & Assoc score of 88.75, second Cruz Hogan score of 87.25 and third SWG score of 84.5; the commission could award a single project and/or multiple projects to a respondent. Staff recommended Halff & Assoc for Phase II of Kansas and Los Torritos drainage improvements a project funded by FEMA and hoped to receive more funds from TWDB.

Commissioner Muñoz voiced the consensus from the commission was to have a rotation of engineers stating a solicitation of qualifications had the same respondents replying and when evaluated were ranked closely; why the solicitation if the end result will be different score ranking based on another score. The City Manager stated use of federal and/or state funds may require the solicitation of proposals. Andrew Muñoz stated use of federal funds will allow a rotation list but must be emphasized in the request for proposals and has not been done to date it has been based on project and further stated the commission could award multiple engineering firms contingent to funding for a project.

In response to the Mayor and Commission; Andrew Munoz stated if a grant is funded negotiations on fee is discussed; the City Manager would assess use of bond proceeds to match grant funding for the projects and/or the City doing an interest free loan for thirty-years. The City Manager recommended award multiple firms for a better success rate for the City with the suggestion to award Halff and Assoc Phase II and Cruz Hogan Phase III and IV of Kansas and Los Torritos drainage improvements conditional to grant award.

Commissioner Muñoz seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez moved to award Phase I to Halff Associates and Phase III and IV of Kansas and Los Torritos drainage improvements to Cruz Hogan for engineering and Architectural/Surveying Services for Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBF-MIT) as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

B. Discussion and approval on the submission of a Notice of Intent to Apply to the Texas Water Development Board under the Flood Infrastructure Fund 2020 Application Invitation for the Kansas and Los Torritos Drainage Improvements to Mayor Pablo Pena Park - Phase I and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. Possible action. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Andrew Muñoz stated the city met ranking eligibility to apply for Flood Infrastructure Funds; requested authority to submit an application for funding the amount of \$4,900,000 that compliments a FEMA Grant in the amount of \$1,300,000; remaining funds would be a grant and loan at zero percent interest. Staff recommended approval to apply to the Texas Water Development Board under the Flood Infrastructure Fund 2020 for the Kansas and Los Torritos Drainage Improvements

Commissioner Kerr seconded by Commissioner Muñoz moved to proceed in submission of Notice of Intent to apply to the Texas Water Development Board under the Flood Infrastructure Fund 2020 Application for Kansas and Los Torritos Drainage Improvements as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farias, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez moved to adjourn at 5:51 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

MAYOR, David Suarez

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, CITY SECRETARY

MAYOR PRO-TEM, Letty Lopez

COMMISSIONER, Leo Muñoz

COMMISSIONER, Greg Kerr

COMMISSIONER, Jose “J.P.” Rodriguez

ABSENT
COMMISSIONER, Josh Pedraza

COMMISSIONER, Adrian Farias