



**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING AND
WORKSHOP NOTICE
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

On Monday, November 18, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Special Meeting and Workshop Notice at City Hall in the Legislative Chamber, located at 255 South Kansas Avenue with the following member's present:

PRESENT:	Mayor	Adrian Gonzalez
	Mayor Pro Tem	Adrian Farias
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	JP Rodriguez
ABSENT:	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
	Commissioner	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
STAFF PRESENT:	Martin Garza	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary

Also present: Xavier Salinas, Asst. City Manager, Aida Vega, Deputy City Secretary, Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, Rebekah de la Fuente, Director of Planning and Code Enforcement, Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, Joel Rivera, Police Chief, David Arce, Public Works Director, Rosa Badillo, Court Coordinator and other staff members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Friday, November 15, 2024.

C. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor led the "Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Flag."

D. Roll Call.

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to convene as the local canvassing authority to canvass the election returns and approve Resolution 2024-83 certifying the results of the November 5, 2024 City of Weslaco General Election in accordance with Texas Election Code§67.004(a). (Staffed by City Secretary Department.)

Mayor Gonzalez reviewed the results for the General Election held November 5, 2024, identifying from the canvass the total votes received for City Commissioner District 3 had Jose P. “JP” Rodriguez received 2,546 and Randy Hall received 989 and stated no candidate for Commissioner At Large received a majority of the votes and the city commission shall order a run-off election.

Mayor Pro Tem Farias seconded by Commissioner Lopez, moved to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez z was present and voting

Following for the record is Resolution 2024-83:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-83

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TEXAS
CITY OF WESLACO**

**AN ORDER DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE CITY
OF WESLACO GENERAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 5,
2024 FOR THE OFFICE COMMISSIONER SINGLE
MEMBER DISTRICT 3 AND COMMISSIONER AT
LARGE**

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Weslaco resolved and ordered that a General Election be held on November 5, 2024 in the City of Weslaco, Texas for the purpose of electing members to the City Commission for the following positions:

CITY COMMISSIONER SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT 3 CITY COMMISSIONER AT LARGE

WHEREAS, there came on to be considered the returns of the election held on the 5th day of November, 2024 for the purpose of electing Commission members to the City Commission.

WHEREAS, the returns of said election have been duly canvassed by the City Commission, and each of the candidates in said election having received the following votes to wit:

CITY COMMISSIONER SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT 3

JOSE P. “JP” RODRIGUEZ	VOTES	2,546
RANDY HALL	VOTES	989

CITY COMMISSIONER AT LARGE

THOMAS GREGORY	VOTES	1,131
JOHNNY JOE SALINAS JR.	VOTES	2,407
DOMINIC A. REYNA	VOTES	3,239
PETE GARCIA JR.	VOTES	4,242

IT IS, THEREFORE FOUND, DECLARED AND ORDERED by the City Commission of the City of Weslaco that the above elections were duly called. The notices of said elections were duly posted and that said elections were held in accordance with the laws of the Texas Election Code. That at said General Election Jose P. “JP” Rodriguez was elected to the position of City Commissioner Single Member District 3 of the City of Weslaco

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subject to taking oath of office. No candidate for Commissioner At Large received a majority of the votes and the city commission shall order a run-off election at which said run-off election the names of the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes for said office shall be printed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters.

SECTION 1: That it is further found and determined that the results of the election as canvassed and tabulated in the preamble hereof reflect the expressed desires of those persons voting at said election.

IT IS FURTHER FOUND AND DETERMINED that in accordance with the laws of the Texas Election Code the City Secretary posted written notice of the date, place and subject of this meeting on the bulletin board located at City Hall, place convenient and readily accessible to the general public and said notice having been so posted and remaining posted continuously for at least 72 hours proceeding the scheduled time of said meeting. A copy of the returns shall be attached to the minutes of this meeting and shall be made as part hereof for all intents and purposes.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 18th day of November 2024.

CITY OF WESLACO
/s/ Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR, and PRESIDING**
OFFICER OF THE LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITY

ATTEST:
/s/Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
/s/Benjamin Castillo, **INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY**

B. Conduct Oath of Office and file Statement of Elected Officers.

Judge Greg Kerr administered the Oath of Office to elected Commissioner JP Rodriguez District 3.

Commissioner Rodriguez expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve, thanking God, his family, friends, and the constituents and looked forward in working with the commission for the betterment of Weslaco and continue to move the city forward together.

Mayor Gonzalez recessed the special meeting for a small reception at 4:48 p.m.

At 5:06 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez reconvened the special meeting.

IV. WORKSHOP BUSINESS

A. Presentation and discussion on review of Capital Improvement Project, Operations and funding sources for City Parks. (Staffed by Parks and Recreation Department.)

Omar Rodriguez, Parks and Recreation Director, stated staff met with Heffner Design Group regarding amenities improvements for Isaac Rodriguez and Mayor Pablo Pena Park; presented the layout of improvements at Isaac Rodriguez Park for ballfield lighting, backstops and dugout, irrigation, concession stand restroom, pickle ball courts and service center to be an outdoor pavilion; met with CEO of Knapp Hospital to advise of the improvements because property South of the baseball field belongs to them; stated these proposed improvements had a project cost of \$1,950,370; funding source would be the Certificate of Obligation Series 2023 and CIP budget having a shortage of \$618,270. Mayor Pablo Pena Park improvements would be the concession

stand restroom; backstops & Dugout, irrigation, Utah Ave/Park Road and parking, tennis court amenities, gold star memorial and trail extension along the northside of Dolores Huerta projected cost of \$1,783,630; funding source would be the Certificate of Obligation Series 2023 for an amount of \$600,000 leaving a shortage of \$1,183,630.

Martin Garza, City Manager, stated discussions with Knapp Medical for the continued use of their property are taking place and looking at options to ensure any improvements/assets done by the city will have a long-term benefit for all parties involved and stated one option the city would propose is donation of the land from Knapp Medical with a stipulation once the land is no longer going to be used as a park the land would go back to Knapp Medical.

Discussion on the service center used as a pavilion, took place. Omar Rodriguez stated authorization would be needed to have Heffner Design proceed with a design for an open-air concept for rentals; funds budgeted were \$150,000; went over the proposed layout design for Isaac Rodriguez Park that had irrigation for landscaping, irrigation system for the entire west side and redesign of park entrance and upon approval of the proposed layout design is given staff will work with architect for final cost because there could be community involvement that may reduce cost in the landscaping because of donations.

Mayor Pro Tem Farias questioned if the pickle ball courts could be done utilizing the tennis courts. Omar Rodriguez stated there is a high demand for tennis ball and pickle ball and the proposed improvements for pickle ball courts being presented is 8 courts and noted no lighting being proposed now. Mayor Gonzalez voiced lighting was important and to see how lighting could be included.

Omar Rodriguez went over the layout and proposed cost improvements for Mayor Pablo Pena Park and stated a big expenditure was the rehab of Utah Drive of \$750,000.

Commissioner Rodriguez questioned the \$15,000 cost improvements for the Gold Star Memorial would be enough. Omar Rodriguez stated the cost was estimated for a starting point and would be in discussions with different groups for support of this.

Omar Rodriguez briefly went over the proposed improvements of Judge Gilbert Garza Park for lighting (trail) and additional parking.

Martin Garza concluded and stated the proposed costs are raw numbers that does not include engineering and other soft costs; underbudget for two park improvements by \$1,801,900; funds remaining from the municipal pool project is about \$3,800,000 and could do improvements for Isaac Rodriguez and Mayor Pablo Pena Park with those funds and direction from the commission needed on any remaining funds where to spend.

Omar Rodriguez stated staff will bring back to the commission authority for Heffner Group for design developments for Isaac Rodriguez and Mayor Pablo Pena, design of the service center and design for Utah Drive at Mayor Pablo Pena Park.

B. Presentation and discussion on street improvement projects and its funding sources. (Staffed by Public Works Department.)

David Arce, Public Works Director, presented a list of major corridors (14) for reconstruction/overlay improvements; listed comments along those corridors that would have other costs involved such as repair of water line, sewer line and manholes not included in the estimated cost of \$3,260,361. Staff requested direction on how to proceed.

Discussion took place regarding corridors that will be needing expansion and getting those stakeholders involved such as HEB and Murphy USA for cost participation because they utilize these corridors heavily.

Martin Garza stated \$800,000 is budgeted yearly for street improvements; staff will continue budgeting for these improvements that are done in-house for the neighborhood streets; sought direction on what major corridors be focused on because the city is in a position this coming year for debt capacity to begin improvements and make a difference for the major corridors by developing a plan to outsource to those vendors that have the staffing and equipment.

Mayor Pro Tem Farias suggested the list be revisited and shortened before debit issuance and see what corridors could be partnered with other entities for cost participation. Martin Garza stated discussions have begun on the expansion of the heavy weight corridor that includes an area of the old industrial park that could have interlocal agreements with County for maintenance and could reduce cost.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Farias seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to adjourn the special and workshop meeting of November 18, 2024, at 6:22 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**