



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
JANUARY 7, 2025**

On Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting 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	JP Rodriguez
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
	Commissioner	Pete Garcia Jr.
	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:	Martin Garza	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary
	Benjamin Casillo	Interim City Attorney

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, Arnold Becho, Library Director, Luz Galindo, HR Director, Albert Aldana, City Engineer, Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, Armando Espinoza, Interim Police Chief, David Arce, Public Works Director, Omar Rodriguez, Parks and Recreation Director, Lily Alvarez, Airport Director, Rosa Badillo, Court Coordinator, George Quilantan, Inframark 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, January 3, 2025.

B. Invocation.

Pastor Christopher Cowan, First Baptist Church led the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

D. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, called the roll noting perfect attendance and a quorum present.

E. Mayoral recognition.

1) Recognition of Buddy de la Rosa - former Mayor and Commissioner

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission, recognized “Mayor Hector “Buddy” Efrain De La Rosa” as a distinguished leader who was dedicated in serving the city.

2) Weslaco High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America check presentation.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission accepted the presentation of a check in the amount \$43,986 from the Weslaco High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America who applied for grant funds from the Knapp Medical Care Foundation and a check in the amount of \$5,000 from the Weslaco Elks Lodge for continued improvements at Gibson Park (Glider Project.)

3) Recognition - Juan Hernandez for 33 years of service to the City of Weslaco Parks & Recreation Department.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission recognized Juan Hernandez for his 33 years of dedicated service as a City of Weslaco employee in the Parks and Recreation Department.

4) Recognition - Captain Dolores Salinas - FBI National Academy Session 292

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission recognized Captain Dolores Salinas on her achievement as the first woman from Weslaco Police Department to attend and complete training at the FBI Academy as well as completion of the Yello Brick Fitness Challenge.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, stated Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. was next in line to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore.

Commissioner Rodriguez seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to appoint Commissioner Israel Gonzalez Jr. as Mayor Pro Tempore. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IV. REPORTS

A. Weslaco Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center.

Barbara Jean Garza, CEO, reported on the destination marketing report for December 2024 expenditures was \$27,729; reported on upcoming networking lunch mob at Jasons Deli, went over

groundbreaking, ribbon cutting and milestone events; went over save the date events for Weslaco Royal Pageant February 15 and Texas Onion Fest March 22; presented the activity highlights for December that included the Weslaco Lighted Christmas Parade and Weslaco Santa Dash and presented the visitors center report that had 2,850 visitors, facility reservations of 11, door counts of 4,807 and seeing some of Winter Texan community visiting the facility.

B. Weslaco Economic Development Department.

Steve Valdez, Executive Director Weslaco Economic Development Corporation, reported looking at four major projects for the coming year and continue to build relationships for completion; 2nd Holiday Mixer Event held was well attended; a first time theme honored and recognized “champions” in the business of industrial and commercialized sectors among the first honorees was Clever Foods, Craig Garansuay on his recruiting efforts for businesses at Shops at North Bridge; stated the City was now a billion dollar city that means the businesses have generated sales taxes revenues over a billion dollars and a first in the history of Weslaco; welcomed a new Board Member, Hector Solis, preparations for travel to the ICSC Conference in Dallas to continue retail and commercial recruitment; hosted the 4th annual WISD Counselor Tour event; two Alfresco Events remaining and discussions with city staff continue regarding traffic improvements at the industrial park, discussions on growing the downtown area and looking at distressed buildings in Weslaco.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine, and the Governing Body has been furnished with background and support material and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, the item(s) will be removed from the consent agenda by the Mayor, a Commission member or the City Manager and will be considered separately.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 3 and 17, 2024 and Special Meeting on December 26, 2024. (Staffed by City Secretary Department.)

B. Approval on second and final reading of the following:

1) Ordinance 2024-36 for the Voluntary Annexation of Pleasantview Apartments Subdivision also being a 5.902-acre tract of land, out of Farm Tract 722, Block 137, West and Adams Tracts, Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Pleasantview Dr. and Mile 5 ½ North Road. (First reading held December 17, 2024; staffed by Planning & Code Enforcement Department.)

C. Approval for purchase TCP Aladtec Software using awarded \$10,885.00 from BJA (FY 2024) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (Number 15PBJA-24-GG-04800) no cash match. (Staffed by Police Department.)

D. Approval to accept FY25 MVCPA (Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority) Taskforce Grant (608-25-10800000) in the amount of \$161,240.00 with a catch match of \$32,480.00. (Staffed by Police Department.)

E. Approval on Resolution 2025-01 amending Resolution 2024-70 to designate the Mayor as the authorized official for the FY2025 Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority SB224 Catalytic Converter Grant approved by the Commission on October 15, 2024, in the amount not to exceed \$61,000 with 20% match required not to exceed \$12,200 to purchase fixed LPR cameras and have access to software data. (Staffed by Police Department.)

F. Approval of the contract with Definiti, LLC to provide Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) valuation and future years roll-forward as required by GASB 75. (Staffed by Finance Department.)

G. Approval to solicit request for qualification (RFQ) for engineering services for a metal canopy at Public Works Shop. (Staffed by Public Works Department.)

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalaz Jr. moved to approve consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

Following for the record is the ordinance caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-36

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING ADDITIONAL TERRITORY TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WESLACO, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS ON VOLUNTARY PETITION OF AREA LAND OWNER SUCH LAND BEING 5.902 ACRES OF LAND, LOCATED IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS, WHICH IS CONTIGUOUS TO THE CITY LIMITS AND HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED; AS SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT; MAKING FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR OPEN MEETINGS AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

CITY OF WESLACO
/s/Adrian Gonzalez, MAYOR

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

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to approve the Final Plat for Long John Silver's Subdivision being 0.45 acres out of Farm Tract 1502, West Tract Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas located approximately 1,432ft East of S Westgate Dr. along Bus 83. (Staffed by Planning & Code Enforcement Department.)

Rebekah de la Fuente, Planning & Code Enforcement Director, stated this was a proposed one (1) lot subdivision located inside city limits; serviced with water and sewer by city; applicant requested a variance for the 10' required ROW dedication along Business 83 and TXDOT did not object to the variance. The Planning and Zoning Commission and staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to approve the Final Plat for Long John Silver's Subdivision with variance as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

B. Discussion and consideration to approve an agreement with ESO Solutions to provide EMS reporting software in the amount of \$22,932.25 for the initial 12-month term and a yearly recurring fee of \$19,136.05 and replace current reporting software Forte Holdings (iPCR). (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, stated the EMS billing software was with Forte Holdings (iPCR). Staff recommended to have the billing software with ESO Solutions; stated currently the Fire division has been with ESO and moving the EMS billing aspect to ESO will have them all reporting on the same software platform allowing a more active interactions between the divisions. Staff recommended approval and is budgeted.

In response to the commission, this vendor has a buyboard contract, staff solicited quotes and the quote was a better cost then the buyboard contract so staff will not be utilizing the buyboard contract and all data will belong with the City; ESO is active will a lot medical establishments, (clinics, hospitals, doctors) and a patient who is transported by us will have access to all their medical information on one platform and the reoccurring fee will have a discounted rate.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve agreement with ESO Solutions to provide EMS reporting software in the amount of \$22,932.25 for the initial 12-month term and a yearly recurring fee of \$19,136.05 and replace current reporting software Forte Holdings (iPCR) as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

C. Discussion and consideration to purchase nine (9) bunker gear sets to replace end of life equipment at a cost of \$38,213.00 from vendor Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists under Buyboard Contract #698-23. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Commissioner Farias and Rodriguez abstained from discussion and vote.

Antonio Lopez stated the item is budgeted and is the uniform firefighters use when entering a fire structure. Staff recommended approval.

In response to Commissioner Pedraza, Chief stated this is a replacement of end-of-life equipment for compliance purposes and is the first order with another request coming May or June.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to purchase nine (9) bunker gear sets at a cost of \$38,213.00 from vendor Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists under Buyboard Contract #698-23 as presented. The motion carried; Commissioner Farias and Rodriguez abstained; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

D. Discussion and consideration on Ordinance 2024-38 amending Chapter 142 Wrecker Ordinance to increase the amount of wreckers on rotation and change the wrecker fees. First reading of Ordinance 2024-38. (Staffed by Police Department.)

Armando Espinoza, Interim Chief of Police, stated this was first reading of the ordinance that included discussions and recommendations from the presentation done at the previous meeting; proposed changes was in the classification of vehicles, increase in fees and increase the number of wrecker services from 13 to 17 on the rotation list. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Garcia Jr. asked if those wrecker companies in the audience could speak.

Interim City Attorney, Benjamin Castillo, stated generally any comments from the audience is under public comments and recommended against it so as not to set a precedence and issues in future meetings and stated staff and he reviewed closely and were prepared to answer their questions.

Armando Espinoza stated the recommended changes were based on comparisons on what surrounding cities had in place and are within the allowable charges as regulated by the State; changes included the increase of fees for Light Duty Class A vehicles increased to \$200, Medium Class B and C increased to \$325, storage cost increased to \$20, a drop fee definition included and rules to add fees for this service was for Class A \$135.00, Class B \$190.00, and Class C \$244.00, a \$45.00 winch fee excluding the first winch, a separate fee \$45.00 for high water retrieval, a change in fee from towing outside city limits increased to \$150.00 plus \$7.50 per mile and increase from 13 to 17 wrecker on the rotation list.

In response to the Commission, Armando Espinoza stated the allotted response time did not change and was in line, staff will monitor response time and ensure fees are charged according to the ordinance, will make information readily available at the scene regarding fees and complaint process and how often a wrecker service is called is difficult to answer because the need for service is reliant on traffic incidents that would require towing service but the rotation is followed strictly and if there is no response the next one in line called and a log is maintained that confirms time and response.

Mayor Gonzalez entertained for a motion. Commissioner Garcia Jr. stated he was not comfortable voting at this time.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve Ordinance 2024-38 amending Chapter 142 Wrecker Ordinance as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

E. Discussion and consideration to cancel PO# 25-1068 for the purchase of the Vermeer Jetter VX75-500 from vendor Vermeer Texas-Louisiana in the amount of \$178,118.82 (Staffed by Public Works Department.)

David Arce, Public Works Director, recommended to cancel the purchase from Vermeer for a Jetter VX75-500 that was approved at the previous meeting because of delays in production that the vendor has indicated production start date in the summer of 2025. Staff recommended approval to cancel the purchase.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve and cancel PO# 25-1068 for the purchase of the Vermeer Jetter VX75-500 as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

F. Discussion and consideration to purchase Vac-con trailer with vacuum and jetter from Sourcewell contract number 101221-VAC vendor Heil of Texas in the amount of \$166,249.59. (Staffed by Public Works Department.)

David Arce stated the purchase of a Vac-Con Model V 800 with vacuum and jetter; smaller tank than the previous item approved but the pressure is the same and will serve the needs of the department. Staff recommended approval with a delivery date of 90 days.

Commissioner Garcia Jr. seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve the purchase of a Vac-con trailer with vacuum and jetter from Sourcewell contract number 101221-VAC vendor Heil of Texas in the amount of \$166,249.59 as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

G. Discussion and consideration to purchase two transformers in the amount of \$8,000.00 for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant UV Disinfection System. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Albert Aldana, City Engineer, stated three quotes received and evaluated. Staff recommended to award Veolia Ozonia who is the same manufacturer/vendor as the UV Modules. Stated the lower quote did have the required voltage needed.

Commissioner Lopez seconded by Commissioner Garcia Jr. moved to award Veolia Ozonia in the amount of \$8,000.00 for two transformers for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant UV Disinfection System as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:21 p.m. Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to convene the regular meeting into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

At 8:11 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez stated the City Commission had completed its Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting as open to the public.

VIII. POSSIBLE ACTION ON WHAT IS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Personnel - Discussion regarding the goals, objectives, and evaluation of the City Manager for the City of Weslaco as authorized by Section §551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

B. Legal Consultation – Discussion with the City Manager and City Attorney relating to the City’s rights, duties, privileges, and obligations in connection to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fire Union (IAFF-WFFA Local 3207) FY October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2025, as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

C. Legal Consultation – Discussion with the City Manager and City Attorney relating to the City’s rights, duties, privileges, and obligations in connection to the Collective Bargaining

Agreement with the Weslaco Municipal Police Union (WMPU) authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

D. Legal Consultation – Consultation with City Attorney regarding Liquid Environmental as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

E. Real Property - Consultation with City Attorney on the acquisition, sale, exchange, lease or value of real property owned by Knapp Medical Center, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas as authorized by Section §551.072 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

F. Real Property - Consultation with City Attorney on the acquisition, sale, exchange, lease or value of real property being Lots 1 thru 33, Block 40 and 20x30 alley, Weslaco Original Townsite Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas as authorized by Section §551.072 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

G. Real Property - Deliberation with the City Attorney regarding the potential purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property in the general downtown area of Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas as authorized by Section §551.072 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to adjourn the regular meeting of January 7, 2025, at 8:12 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**