



**RECORD OF WORKSHOP
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025**

On this 7th day of May 2025 at 4:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Workshop in the Legislative Chamber Room located at 255 S. Kansas Avenue with the following members present:

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

Also present: Xavier Salinas, Asst. City Manager, Aida Vega, Deputy City Secretary, Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, Joe Pedraza, Asst. Planning and Code Enforcement Director, Peter Hermida, City Engineer, Mary Garcia, Asst. Library Director, Luz Galindo, HR Director, Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, Robert Lopez, Police Chief, David Arce, Public Works Director, Omar Rodriguez, Parks and Recreation Director, Eddie Gil, IT, 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, May 4, 2025.

B. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, Deputy City Secretary conducted roll call.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and presentation on park improvements for Isaac Rodriguez Park and Mayor Pablo Pena City Park. (Staffed by Parks & Recreation Department.)

Omar Rodriguez, Parks and Recreation Director, stated Heffner Design was in attendance and would present the design and cost estimates for the improvements.

Maribel Lopez and Andrew Heffner, went over the site layout for Mayor Pablo Pena Park stating the design focus would be the central area of the park to have new concession and restroom building, a central plaza (open-space) for visitors to gather, a walkway to the east, small improvement by the tennis courts for seating and access; adjustment to the fields 1 and 2 dugouts backstops and fencing; irrigation system updates, Utah Ave will be resurfaced and west side parking lots improved.

Omar Rodriguez stated the connectivity between the park, tennis courts, concession and restrooms was the main focus of improvements; unseen improvements is the irrigation system; estimated budget was \$1.7million; other improvements is fence fabric for backstops, shade structures to the dugouts; stated new lighting improvements for tennis courts and baseball fields completed; went over proposed improvements for the Golden Star Memorial monument; an alternate bid would be the irrigation system for the small field on the north side of the tennis court; a monument sign would be located in the central area plaza for photo opportunities for teams and visitors.

Omar Rodriguez stated the estimated improvements for Isaac Rodriguez park was \$1,987,000; Maribel Lopez stated the main improvement would be that the existing driveway that goes across the park would be reduced to allow a central green space for the new concession and restroom building, a central plaza (open-space) and make it a more cohesive park with all corners of the park being connected; went over the trees to be preserved and those that may need removed; the layout showed that from the north parking lot to the central area would create a walkway freely with shade from the trees available; went over dugout, fencing and backstops improvements; bleachers, shade structures and pickleball court could be alternate bids; a big expense was \$600,000 for lighting of the fields; in 2020 the irrigation system was improved on the east side of the park and would be looking to improve the irrigation system on the west side fields other discussion ensued on pursuing grants with Texas Parks and Wildlife and a park for special needs children.

B. Discussion and presentation on Corporal Harlon Block Iwo Jima Memorial Project.
(Staffed by Parks & Recreation Department.)

Omar Rodriguez stated committee members in attendance was Israel Maldonado; the ad hoc committee was created to prepare for the 80th anniversary of the Iwo Jima; stated the proposed project at Harlon Block would have a new monument, be located off of 18th Street in the center near the trail; Andrew Heffner volunteered his services for a design and went over the design of the monument; estimated cost \$150,000-160,000; proposed funding was the Weslaco Rotary would work on raising \$50,000, Weslaco Elks Lodge \$10,000 and EDC of Weslaco of \$100,000; staff ready to solicit bids and will continue to seek funding. Israel Maldonado, Weslaco Elks Lodge stated they were committed; had veterans ready to volunteer and assist; went over ideas for raising funds.

C. Public comments on park improvements. (Staffed by Parks & Recreation Department.)

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, moved to adjourn the workshop meeting of May 7, 2025, at 5:34 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**