MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
MAY 6, 2026

On Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 5:03 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 members' present:

PRESENT:	Mayor	Adrian Gonzalez
	Mayor Pro Tem	Pete Garcia Jr.
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Adrian Farias
	Commissioner	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
	Commissioner	JP Rodriguez
ABSENT:	None	
STAFF PRESENT:	Xavier Salinas	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary
	Benjamin Castillo	City Attorney

Also present: Omar Rodriguez, Asst. City Manager, Antonio Lopez, Asst. City Manager/Fire Chief, Aida Vega, Deputy City Secretary, Asst. Finance Director, Joe Pedraza, Asst. Director of Planning and Code Enforcement, Peter Hermida, City Engineer, Eddie Serna, Parks and Recreation Director, Luz Galindo, HR Director, Robert Lopez, Police Chief, Nick Castillo, Public Works Director, Arnoldo Becho, Library Director, Celine Pardo, Court Clerk, Rick Mendoza, IT Director, Magaly Vega, Media Director, Krista Cheramie, Animal Care Services Director, George Quilantan and Lucio Garza, 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 Thursday, April 30, 2026.

B. Invocation.

Pastor Dr. Steven Parker, 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 and noted perfect attendance and a quorum present.

E. Mayoral recognition.

1) Proclamation National Small Business Week

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission proclaimed May 3-9, 2026 as "National Small Business Week".

2) Proclamation Municipal City Clerks Week - May 3-9, 2026

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission proclaimed May 3-9, 2026 as "Municipal Clerks Week".

3) Proclamation Stroke Awareness Month

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission proclaimed the month of May 2026 as "Stroke Awareness Month".

4) Recognition of Weslaco East High School Regiment Indoor Winds

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission recognized Weslaco East High School Regiment Indoor Winds for their exceptional dedication to musical excellence, discipline and teamwork in their competitive performance.

5) Recognition — Memorial Day Remembrance — Gunner's Mate First Class (GM1) Noe Hernandez.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission honored the life and legacy of Gunner's Mate First Class Noe Hernandez who served this nation with honor, courage, unwavering dedication and ultimate sacrifice as a member of the United States Navy.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Public Comments portion of the meeting promotes a fair and open process for the governance of the City. This portion of the meeting is not intended to be an extended discussion or a debate and is limited to three minutes for each presenter. Due to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Mayor and City Commissioners do not reply; they listen. Matters under litigation are not to be addressed and comments regarding specific City employees and elected officials may be prohibited.

None.

III. REPORTS

A. Engineering project updates. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Peter Hermida, City Engineer, provided an extensive overview of active projects managed by the Engineering Department stating that currently overseeing 41 active projects, categorized as follows: 13 civil projects, 17 water and wastewater projects, 7 traffic projects, and 4 mechanical/electrical/plumbing (MEP); noted other departmental functions such as development reviews, GIS mapping, interagency coordination, or compliance work were daily ongoing activity and not part of the active projects.

The project workflow begins with budget approval, through scope development, procurement, engineering firm selection via the on-call rotation list, field investigations, coordination with other departments and external agencies for the preparation of shovel-ready plans for those projects to secure competitive grant funding and accelerating community-driven infrastructure improvements.

Reported active Civil Projects included Hurricane Drive Reconstruction bid opening scheduled for the following week, Cottonwood Drainage design plans 90% complete, Pike Boulevard Reconstruction design plans 30% complete, 18th Street re-paving design 90%; Fire Station No. 4 topography and data being collected; Kansas/Los Doritos Drainage Project RDF construction 90% complete with trunk line construction approximately 50% complete, Cornerstone Drainage Project construction 70% complete; Westgate Village design 50% complete, Pedestrian Connection bid to be awarded, Paisano Drainage Project design paused pending FEMA response for potential funding; Pleasant View Drive Repaving 100% complete; PD Shooting Range Geotechnical Study being done and Pleasantview drainage design options being done.

Reported the Water and Wastewater Projects included citywide infrastructure assessment, Sludge Management Analysis at South WWTP, Lift Station Rehabilitations for No. 20 and 2 design, cost and timeline active; Bridgewater Tower Assessment working on scope; North Water Plant Reservoir Rehabilitation design 30%, CDBG Grant gathering information to submit; Manhole Rehabilitation South Border bid opening May 19; Lift Station 26 rehab coordinating with contractor. Inframark-managed projects included Lift Station No. 10 (80% complete, pending power box installation); bar screen installation (50% complete); auto-gate repair (just completed); inflow/effluent elbow replacement and blower maintenance at South Plant (both approximately 10%; UV Module Rehabilitation pending award; Baffle Rotor Replacement bid opening May 19 and Lift Stations 39 and 16 Pump Design pending scope.

Reported the active traffic projects included a citywide street condition that will help prioritize rehabilitation and reconstruction and goal is to integrate the results into a GIS dashboard; 18th Street and Westgate intersection study 50% complete; camera equipment deployed; Pike and Vo Tech Roundabout design 90% complete; 18th Street and Milanos intersection study 35% complete; Airport and 6th Signal Improvement pending deliverables to contractor for completion;

Westgate is HSIP-Funded Signal Improvements (TxDOT AFA) pending and processing through TxDOT; Expressway Lighting Fixture Maintenance city is contractually responsible for lighting fixture maintenance from mile 2.5 to Midway and pending scope of work with awarded engineer.

Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing projects included Fire Station No. 3 Generator and Transfer Switch design underway; quote recently received; Harlon Block Sportplex Electrical/Irrigation Upgrades coordinating with Parks Department; North WWTP Power Generator Rehabilitation scope pending; as-builts and field data needed and City Hall Generator and Transfer Switch design underway to ensure backup power for city systems during outages.

In response to the Commission, Xavier Salinas stated the reservoir rehabilitation project's readiness relative to HB 500 grant requirements that the Texas Water Development Board did not require 100% design completion but that a more advanced design improves scoring competitiveness, and noted the funding cap increased to $21 million; the Paisano drainage project's funding was originally slated for bond funds but was paused to pursue a potential FEMA match that could reduce the city's cost to 20%, freeing bond funds for other projects; regards to the Cornerstone Drainage Project's completion timeline given the approaching hurricane season, Peter Hermida confirmed that daily coordination with the Hidalgo County Irrigation District was ongoing, and that irrigation district personnel would be assisting with excavation and staff would provide an assessment and cost estimate for the deteriorating drainage headwall north of John Knox Village along Border Avenue. Peter Hermida acknowledged the headwall is still functioning and suggested it could be considered during the upcoming budget discussions beginning in June. A related drainage need at the south cemetery crossing was also noted as being under design coordination with the Parks Department.

B. Clean Sweep update. (Staffed by Code Enforcement Division.)

Joe Pedraza, Asst. Planning and Code Enforcement Director, presented a report on the Clean Sweep event held on April 18th at South Texas College. The event was advertised through flyers, podcasts, and radio spots on local stations beginning approximately three to four weeks prior.

The event ran from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, with vehicles queued along Border Avenue and directed to disposal containers on Weslaco Avenue. Staff acknowledged some minor negative public feedback related to the line being closed approximately 30 minutes early; in response, residents who did not make it through were directed to Public Works the following week. Collection totals were 39 tons of trash and debris and 9.9 tons of tires (approximately 800 tires). Staff recognized the volunteers and departments that participated, including the Planning and Code Enforcement Department, Police Department, Sanitation Department, Public Works Department, Family Church, Weslaco East High School Football, the First Offenders Program, and Weslaco Fire/EMS and introduced Marco Ortiz, the new Sanitation Director, who was present at the Clean Sweep as Marco Ortiz briefly addressed the Commission, expressing appreciation and committing to having the sanitation department fully capable of managing future events in-house.

Joe Pedraza further reported that logistics involving brush trucks caused some traffic backup due to the city not yet having sufficient roll off containers to handle the volume without outside contractor support. Staff indicated that this would be reviewed for future events.

Commissioner Rodriguez inquired whether identification was required of participants. Staff confirmed that IDs were required, though the city did not turn away residents for minor reasons. A small number of individuals confirmed to be county residents with large loads were turned away.

IV. 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 Workshop and Regular Meeting on April 15, 2026. (Staffed by City Secretary Department.)

B. Approval to renew the application for participation in the annual Texas Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) Program. (Staffed by Police Department.)

C. Approval to use and transfer State Asset Forfeiture Fund (Fund 201) into the department's overtime budget in the amount of $9,000. (Staffed by Police Department.)

D. Approval to continue the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between The County of Hidalgo, Texas, and the City of Weslaco regarding the MVCPA Auto Task Force Grant with a match not to exceed $300,000 from general funds for overtime, professional contract services, travel, and equipment. (Staffed by Police Department.)

E. Approval of Resolution 2026-38 to apply for the FY2027 SB 224 Catalytic Converter Grant to purchase equipment, fund overtime, and software recurring costs. (Staffed by Police Department.)

F. Approval of the landowners' petition from Ramona Medrano for the release of property located in the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction described as a 2.312-acre of land out of Farm Tract 283, West Tract Subdivision, Hidalgo County, Texas. (Staffed by Planning and Code Enforcement Department.)

G. Approval of the landowners' petition from Rancho Nuevo, LLC, Michael Eric Carter, Managing Partner, for the release of property located in the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction is described as 12.03 acres of land out of a portion of Farm Tract 719, Block 176, West Tract Subdivision, Hidalgo County, Texas. (Staffed by Planning and Code Enforcement Department.)

H. Approval of the landowners' petition from Jose A. and Norma A. Buenrostro for the release of property located in the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction described as a 5-acre tract of land out of Farm Tract 92, The West Tract Subdivision, Hidalgo County, Texas. (Staffed by Planning and Code Enforcement Department.)

I. Approval to renew the Summer Seamless Food Program, accepting meals at no charge from Weslaco Independent School District Food Services Department for distribution to school age children within the 2026 Summer Reading Program, at Gibson Park, Judge Gilbert Garza Park, and at Harlon Block Park. (Staffed by Library Department.)

J. Approval to authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a mechanic to provide services at the Airport. (Staffed by Airport Department.)

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

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to approve an amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid Valley Airport. (This item was tabled April 15, 2025;staffed by City Manager.)

Xavier Salinas, City Manager, and the City Attorney, requested that this item be moved to closed session for legal consultation.

There was no objection.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to approve Resolution 2026-39 and the Buyout of Service Agreement between the City of Weslaco and North Alamo Water Supply Company (NAWSC) for Milanos Estates Subdivision Phase IV. (Staffed by Planning & Code Enforcement Department.)

Joe Pedraza stated this was an 86-lot single-family residential subdivision recorded as Milano's Estates Phase IV; development had been removed from the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction but would remain connected to city water and sanitary sewer services. The developer reimbursed the city for the associated NAWSC buyout costs totaling $110,183.76. Staff recommended approval of the resolution required to finalize the transfer of service to the city.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve Resolution 2026-39 and the Buyout of Service Agreement between the City of Weslaco and North Alamo Water Supply Company (NAWSC) for Milanos Estates Subdivision Phase IV as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

B. Discussion and consideration on Ordinance 2026-12 adopting a mid-year budget amendment. First reading of Ordinance 2026.12. (Staffed by Finance Department.)

Sonia Flores, Asst. Finance Director, presented first reading of Ordinance 2026-12, outlining adjustments identified at the midpoint of the current fiscal year. Key components of the amendment included updates to revenue projections based on collection trends and grant-related revenues, reallocation of funds between departments, and appropriation for unanticipated expenditures. Specific items driving unbudgeted costs included the creation of the Public Utilities Director and Sanitation Director positions, overtime across several departments, the purchase of two garbage collection trucks, the purchase of a refurbished ambulance (on the evening's agenda), the second and final payment on a refurbished fire truck, and emergency capital expenditures for machinery maintenance and other supplies. The fiscal impact to the General Fund was a negative impact of $494,096, Water/Wastewater (combined): negative impact of $123,052, Solid Waste: negative impact of $98,095, Airport: negative impact of $49,600, Debt Service Fund: positive impact of $2,195,000, due to increased property tax collections. All funds combined (including special and enterprise funds): net positive of approximately $1,395,000. The major operating funds only (General, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Airport) had net negative of approximately $777,000. Staff recommended approval of Ordinance 2026-12.

Commissioner Pedraza expressed concern regarding overtime expenditures and could an internal audit of the overtime be provided. Xavier Salinas stated staff is exploring options such as flex scheduling options for departments could be feasible and noted that the city's many community events, school activities, and other public obligations require significant staffing from Police, Fire, and EMS, and that each such event can be costly and will be looked at closely with all departments and staff indicated an overtime report could be provided upon request.

Commissioner Rodriguez commented on some factors that resulted in a negative impact was the creation of the new director's positions and voiced carefulness in creating position not in the budget. Omar Rodriguez, Asst. City Manager, stated these positions are funded through the water and wastewater enterprise funds and do not affect the General Fund, and that when these positions were presented it was advised they would reflect through the mid-year budget amendment.

Commissioner Lopez departed the meeting at 6:20 p.m. prior to the vote.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve Ordinance 2026-12 adopting a mid-year budget amendment on first reading as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

C. Discussion and consideration to approve a contract with Inframark for operations and management of the City of Weslaco Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plants, and Lift Stations, following the award of RFP No. 2025-26-15. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Omar Rodriguez, Asst. City Manager requested that this item be tabled to the next meeting, as Inframark was still reviewing the contract.

Commissioner Rodriguez seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to table as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

D. Discussion and consideration of Resolution 2026-40 for closure of Westbound US Business 83 and outside lane Northbound International Blvd (FM 1015) for the Mustang Stampede 5k and After Party Event scheduled Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and approve any related documents as required by the Texas Department of Transportation. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Xavier Salinas presented the request for road closures for the Mustang Stampede 5K and After Party event scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. was received; the Police Department had reviewed and approved the route plan. Staff recommended approval.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. staff stated this was needed because the closures involved TxDOT right-of-way.

Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve Resolution 2026-40 as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

E. Discussion and consideration to authorize Heffner Design Group to provide a building assessment of the Service Center and former Parks & Recreation office located at Isaac Rodriguez Park. (Staffed by Assistant City Manager.)

Omar Rodriguez stated Andrew Heffner, Heffner Design Group, was in attendance to report on assessment of the service center at Isaac Rodriguez Park.

Andrew Heffner stated a preliminary structural and systems assessment of the existing service center at Isaac Rodriguez Park was conducted in coordination with the structural engineer, MEP engineers, and himself (landscape architect). Reported the foundation is in good condition. Any observed cracks are cosmetic and can be repaired with epoxy or grout. The structural system was found to be a steel frame with steel pipe columns and double-angle steel trusses in good condition. The roof structure is wood and would need to be replaced with metal if the building is converted to an open-air pavilion. The HVAC units are at or beyond expected service life and use outdated refrigerants. Electrical panels, lighting, and branch circuits appear original and present safety and reliability concerns. Plumbing shows corrosion inconsistent with modern standards. Restrooms appear largely ADA compliant but would require detailed review against current standards. There is no fire suppression system, which is appropriate given the approximately 300-person occupancy load, but fire exit signage is absent. The site is generally in good condition with no known history of flooding, adequate accessible parking with minor ramp upgrades needed, and a shaded plaza to the west that could serve as an extension of the facility.

Andrew Heffner noted that the critical next step is defining the intended future use of the building, as that determination drives the scope and cost of any renovation.

Discussion from the commission centered on two potential uses: (1) restoring the building as an enclosed, rentable event center, like its historical use for weddings, quinceañeras, and community gatherings; and (2) converting it to an open-air pavilion. Commissioner Lopez recalled the building's extensive prior use as an affordable community venue and strongly advocated for the enclosed option. Commissioner Pedraza agreed that the building represents a genuine community need and supported obtaining cost estimates for both options.

Xavier Salinas proposed directing Heffner Design Group to prepare a formal proposal with cost estimates for both scenarios as an enclosed renovation and open-air pavilion — and to expand the scope to include the adjacent former Parks and Recreation office building, which could serve as parks offices or support space. The consensus from the commission this master plan approach would allow both options to be weighed during the summer budget process and allow staff to pursue any applicable grant opportunities.

Commissioner Rodriguez seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve and direct Heffner Design Group to provide cost estimates for both an enclosed and open-air concept for the service center and include a cost estimate for the renovation of the former Parks and Recreation office. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

<u>F. Discussion and consideration to approve funding in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget in the amount of $45,000 to fund the City's pro rata share of initial operational costs of the Rio Grande Valley Public Utility Agency (RGVPUA). (Staffed by Assistant City Manager.)</u>

Omar Rodriguez explained that this item was incorporated into the mid-year budget amendment approved earlier in the meeting, appropriate for the City's pro-rata share of initial operational costs for the Rio Grande Valley Public Utility Agency in the amount of $45,000. Stated that the funding is contingent on all participating cities contributing equally and that the city's interlocal agreement includes several protective contingencies. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza asked whether the recent change in leadership in San Benito could affect participation. Benjamin Castillo, City Attorney, confirmed that a withdrawal would require action by the full governing body, not the Mayor alone, and that the contingency provisions in the agreement protect the city if any participant withdraws.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve $45,000 in funding contingent on all member cities participating as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

<u>G. Discussion and consideration to approve Allowance Expenditure Authorization #11 in the amount of $6,630 for the Mayor Joe V. Sanchez New Library Project. (Staffed by Assistant City Manager.)</u>

Omar Rodriguez explained that this allowance expenditure was for the replacement and returns of air devices for the study room and for painting of access panels. The cost of $6,630 will be drawn from the project's existing contingency allowance and will not affect the overall contract amount. Staff recommended approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve Allowance Expenditure Authorization #11 in the amount of $6,630 as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

<u>H. Discussion and consideration regarding the Professional Consultant Agreement with M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC, Armando A. Martinez for administration and operation of the Mid-Valley Airport. (Staffed by Assistant City Manager.)</u>

Omar Rodriguez stated the previously approved consulting agreement with M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC — Armando A. Martinez — for the administration and operation of Mid-Valley Airport had reached the approved term and had expired as of May 5th. Staff recommended approval extending the contract terms through calendar year end, December 31, 2026 to allow continued airport operations oversight while the recruitment process for a permanent Airport Director continues.

Xavier Salinas reported that three finalist candidates were identified from 18 total applicants, but two declined to participate in scheduled interviews even when a Zoom option was offered, and the one candidate interviewed

The Commissioners expressed strong appreciation for the operational improvements achieved under Armando Martinez's tenure over the past three months, including receipt of over $26 million in airport grants, establishment of a Hertz rental car agreement, development of a SWAT plan, and integration of fire/EMS and law enforcement training with airport operations that included the complexity of the role — involving FAA compliance, TxDOT Aviation, grant management, CBP coordination, and lease administration.

In response to Commissioner Rodriguez, Xavier Salinas stated once the Airport Director was hired and it was before December 31st the agreement included a 30-day termination clause, allowing the city to transition at any point.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve the extension of the consulting agreement with M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC through December 31, 2026 as presented. The motion carried 5-ayes; Commissioner Rodriguez against the motion; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

<u>I. Discussion and consideration on the Consulting Agreement with Ares Services Incorporated dba the Olympus Group. (Staffed by Assistant City Manager.)</u>

Omar Rodriguez presented the recommendation to renew the consulting agreement with Ares Services Incorporated dba The Olympus Group, represented by consultant Rigoberto Villarreal for state and federal legislative advocacy services. The agreement, initiated in February 2025, is proposed for a two-year renewal at $10,000 per month. Staff recommended approval.

Staff and Mayor Gonzalez highlighted the consultant's role in facilitating access to legislative committees in Austin and Washington D.C., including the Governor's office, TxDOT committees, ways and means committees, and federal offices. The consultant's coordination was credited as instrumental in securing the $26 million in airport grant funding and in advancing a major FEMA application for the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Paisano drainage project and noted the consultant's recent coordination securing a direct meeting with U.S. Senator Cornyn to advocate for pending FEMA applications.

Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve the renewal of the consulting agreement with Ares Services Incorporated dba The Olympus Group as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

J. Discussion and consideration to approve the purchase of a new refurbished ambulance from Monaco Global Sales in the amount not to exceed $95,000. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Antonio Lopez, Fire Chief, presented the request to purchase a refurbished Type 3 ambulance from Monaco Global Sales, a Weslaco-based vendor, at a cost not to exceed $95,000; explained that the department had recently experienced two medic units being simultaneously out of service, reducing available units to the operational minimum. The refurbished unit — a gasoline-powered vehicle with only 23 to 26 miles on the chassis was inspected and found to be in excellent condition. Staff recommended approval as a new comparable unit would cost between $275,000 and $350,000, making this refurbished option a significant value. The unit is intended to serve as a reserve ambulance but is expected to see active primary service given the department's current fleet maintenance demands and increasing call volume and noted maintenance and warranty work would be handled locally.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve the purchase of a refurbished ambulance from Monaco Global Sales in an amount not to exceed $95,000 as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

K. Discussion and consideration to declare old and expired Fire and EMS equipment as surplus, such as end-of-life bunker gear, helmet, pants, boots, coats, fire hoses and EMS medical equipment. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Antonio Lopez stated the department's annual spring assessment and equipment is done to identify items as having reached manufacturer end-of-life or being damaged beyond serviceable use — including bunker gear, helmets, pants, boots, coats, fire hoses, and EMS medical equipment. Staff recommended declaration as those surplus items and stated that several local governments and sister cities in Mexico had expressed interest in receiving usable surplus items.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. moved to declare the listed fire and EMS equipment as surplus as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

L. Discussion and consideration to donate the declared surplus of Fire and EMS equipment such as end-of-life bunker gear, helmet, pants, boots, coats, fire hoses and EMS medical equipment to different governmental entities. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Antonio Lopez requested to donate the declared surplus fire and EMS equipment to appropriate governmental entities that could extend its useful life for emergency response purposes. Staff recommended approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved the donation of the declared surplus fire and EMS equipment as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

M. Discussion and consideration on renewal of the agreement with Armando Martinez dba M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC Consulting Services for the Fire Department. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Antonio Lopez stated the renewal of the consulting agreement with Armando Martinez dba M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC for advanced EMS training services included the necessary certifications for fire personnel was PHTLS (Prehospital Trauma Life Support), PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support), and ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support), and noted the certifications are mandated for all paramedics — a standard above what most agencies require. Staff recommended approval.

In response to the commission, Antonio Lopez explained that the consultant coordinates training logistics, manages protocol testing, provides curriculum for the department's community paramedicine program, and assists in credentialing paramedics through an advanced paramedicine attachment; 90% of Weslaco firefighters hold the advanced paramedic designation, and that the consultant enables faster credentialing turnaround (approximately two weeks versus two to three months through a college) and emphasized that if these services were handled in-house, it would require two to three additional staff members. The trainings occur monthly, with as many as three in a two-week period, and those sessions are held at various locations including fire stations, City Hall, this chamber, and facilities at the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, as the department lacks a dedicated training space. Commissioner Rodriguez confirmed that training hours are reported to the Texas Commission on Fire Protection and are also tracked for ISO compliance. Staff also stated they would be looking into the integration of airport emergency response training into the program, with two cohorts of airport firefighting certification already completed among approximately 12 firefighters.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve the renewal of the consulting agreement with Armando Martinez dba M-5 Texas Enterprises LLC as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonalez was present and voting.

N. Discussion and consideration to ratify the purchase of gym equipment not to exceed $3,000 using state asset forfeiture funds. (Staffed by Police Department.)

Robert Lopez, Police Chief, requested to ratify the purchase of replacement gym equipment not to exceed $3,000 using State Asset Forfeiture funds. Staff stated the department's existing treadmill was no longer usable. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner moved to approve and ratify the purchase of replacement gym equipment not to exceed $3,000 using State Asset Forfeiture funds as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

O. Discussion and consideration to award RFB No. 2025 26 26 for the UV Module Rehabilitation and Installation at the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP) to Texas Machine Shop Pump Services, LLC in the amount of $72,496.94. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Peter Hermida stated bids three bids were received and evaluated. Texas Machine Shop Pump Services, LLC submitted the lowest and most responsive and responsible bid at $72,496.94 to rehabilitate and reinstall critical UV disinfection infrastructure damaged in the prior year. Staff recommended approval to award Texas Machine Shop Pump Services.

Commissioner Pedraza raised concern about the significant discrepancy between the three bids — $72,496, $194,000, and $271,000 — and referenced past experiences with a low bid that generated substantial change orders. The City Attorney confirmed that any change orders would be brought to the Commission for approval and noted that the Commission retains the authority to decline change orders not initiated by the city.

Commissioner Pedraza and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve Texas Machine Shop Pump Services LLC in the amount of $72,496.94, with the condition that no change orders shall be approved unless initiated by the city as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

P. Discussion and consideration to award RFB No. 2025 26 20 for the Pedestrian Connection 2022 Sidewalk Reconstruction Project on Bridge Avenue to Fuerza Construction, LLC in the amount of $312,000. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Peter Hermida stated three bids were received and evaluated. Fuerza Construction, LLC was determined to be the lowest and most responsive bidder at $312,000. The project involved reconstructing and connecting gaps in sidewalks along North Bridge Avenue from Pike Boulevard to just north of the new police station and includes reconstruction of an existing pedestrian bridge section. Staff advised that a negative change order will be brought to the Commission at a later date to remove the section of sidewalk adjacent to the bridge between Agostadero Street, due to ongoing utility work in that corridor. He also acknowledged the need to sequence this project carefully given other planned improvements on North Bridge Avenue, including a future waterline replacement and potential road resurfacing. The project is grant-funded with the city responsible for a 20% match, and the grant expires on December 31, 2026 — necessitating timely action. The grant was originated under a 2022 interlocal agreement with the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to award Fuerza Construction, LLC in the amount of $312,000 as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

Q. Discussion and consideration of the Kansas/Los Torritos Drainage Improvements Change Order No. 2 in the amount of $239,046.57 associated with the re-routing of an existing 18-inch waterline. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Peter Hermida explained that during construction of the Kansas/Los Torritos Drainage Improvements project, the contractor uncovered an existing 18-inch asbestos concrete transmission line — larger than the 8-inch line indicated in the original project documents — within the project limits. This waterline serves as a critical transmission line connecting existing water towers throughout the city. Because of its size, material, and location relative to the project's drainage box culverts, the line must be safely rerouted using new PVC piping, additional valves, and bypass infrastructure to maintain system integrity while construction continues.

Change Order No. 2 in the amount of $239,046.57 covers the excavation, pipe installation, valve placement, and site restoration required for this rerouting. The contractor had already begun ordering the necessary valves and the work is expected to take approximately one to one and a half months once materials arrive and will be performed as a night operation to minimize risk to the water distribution system. Staff recommended approval.

Mayor Gonzalez stressed the importance of coordination with health, fire, EMS, and other stakeholders before the cutover, given the sensitivity of interrupting a major transmission line. Staff confirmed that multiple site meetings had already been held with those departments.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve Change Order No. 2 in the amount of $239,046.57 as presented. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

R. Discussion and consideration to approve airport leases at Mid-Valley Airport. (Staffed by Airport Department.)

Armando Martinez, Airport Consultant, reported that staff had completed a comprehensive effort to standardize and formalize lease agreements for all tenants at Mid-Valley Airport. He explained that previously, inconsistent and informal lease arrangements had prevented many tenants from being billed or making payments. With all leases now streamlined to a uniform format, the city can begin collecting monthly revenue from airport tenants.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve the airport leases at Mid-Valley Airport the uniform format for leases as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:45 p.m. Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to convene the regular meeting into executive session. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

At 8:25 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

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to approve an amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid Valley Airport. (This item was tabled April 15, 2025;staffed by City Manager.)

Upon returning from Executive Session, Mayor Gonzalez called for a motion to remove the item from the table.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to remove the item from the table. The motion carried; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

Xavier Salinas recommended approval of the amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid Valley Airport.

Commissioner Rodriguez seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve the amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid-Valley Airport as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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

No action.

C. Legal Consultation — Consultation with City Attorney regarding Military Highway Water Supply Corporation as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to adjourn the regular meeting of May 6, 2026 at 8:26 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

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Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary