THE STATE OF TEXAS §
CITY OF BROWNSVILLE §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Brownsville, Texas, held in the Commission Chambers, on the Second Floor of the Brownsville City Hall – Old Federal Building, located at 1001 East Elizabeth Street, Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, on Tuesday, January 07, 2020, at 5:00 P.M. with the following members present:

JUAN “TREY” MENDEZ III Mayor

JOHN F. COWEN, JR. COMMISSIONERS
ROSE GOWEN At Large “A”
NURITH GALONSKY PIZANA At-Large “B”
JESSICA TETREAU District 1
JOEL MUNGUIA District 2
BEN NEECE District 3
NOEL BERNAL District 4
HELEN RAMIREZ CITY MANAGER
ELIZABETH WALKER DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
BRYANT WALKER ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
RENE DE COSS ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
GRISELDA ROSAS CITY ATTORNEY
ABSENT INTERIM CITY SECRETARY
NONE

CALL TO ORDER

a) Roll Call

A quorum being present, Ms. Griselda Rosas, Interim City Secretary, read the call to order to consider the matters as posted and filed for the record in The Office of the City Secretary on January 03, 2020.

b) Invocation

Pastor Brad Burkies from Embassy of the Spirit Church led the invocation.

c) Pledge of Allegiance United States Pledge and Texas Pledge.

Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez, III, led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

d) Proclamations Ernesto Lopez

(Commissioners J. Tetreau/J. Munguia)

The proclamation was read and presented by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau.
e) Presentations

_The Challenge-RGV_
(Public Health Department)

Dr. Arturo Rodriguez, Public Health Director, invited the community to attend The Challenge RGV, which will take place on Friday, January 10, 2020, at the Brownsville Public Library-Main Branch located at 2600 Central Blvd., and at the Brownsville Public Library-Southmost Branch located at 4320 Southmost Blvd., as well as on Saturday, January 11, 2020, at the Linear Park located at E. 7th Street and Harrison.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one signed up for Public Comment Period.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items listed were considered to be routine by the City Commission and was approved by one motion.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rose Gowen seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously, Consent Agenda Items were approved.

a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 03, 2019.

b) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2019.

c) To acknowledge the following travel expenses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employee</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward E. Guerrero</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>San Marcos, TX</td>
<td>Jan. 19-22, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roberto Baez</td>
<td>Office of Strategic</td>
<td>Hurst, TX</td>
<td>Jan. 22-24, 2020</td>
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<td>William Yun</td>
<td>Office of Strategic</td>
<td>Hurst, TX</td>
<td>Jan. 22-24, 2020</td>
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<td>Monica Tellam</td>
<td>Office of Strategic</td>
<td>Hurst, TX</td>
<td>Jan. 22-24, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Otero</td>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>Wheeling, WV</td>
<td>Jan. 12-17, 2020</td>
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<td>Yolanda Perez</td>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>Wheeling, WV</td>
<td>Jan. 12-17, 2020</td>
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<td>Juan Velez</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>Jan. 12-19, 2020</td>
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<td>Constanza Miner</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>Jan. 08-10, 2020</td>
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<td>Planning</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Jan. 20-22, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omar Ochoa</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Jan. 20-22, 2020</td>
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d) Consideration and ACTION to approve a Change Order to TxDOT Boca Chica Boulevard Raised Median Project Contract in the amount for $209,901.14, as budgeted.

e) Consideration and ACTION to award a term contract Bid #CTP-03-1220, for the purchase and delivery of traffic paint for the City of Brownsville Engineering/Public Works Department in the amount not to exceed $65,000, as budgeted.

f) Consideration and ACTION to award Bid #CBT-04-1220, for the Construction of the Belden Trail Phase III Project to Villarreal Construction, in the amount of $289,038.30, as budgeted.
g) Consideration and ACTION to authorize the Brownsville Police Department to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for the acceptance of a grant award for the Multi-Agency Inter-jurisdictional South Texas Auto Theft Enforcement Task Force between the City of Brownsville, Texas, the City of McAllen, Texas, the City of Pharr, Texas and the City of Edinburg, Texas.

h) APPROVAL on SECOND and FINAL READING on Ordinance Number 235-2019-061, to rezone from Dwelling “A” (DA) to Dwelling “G” (DG) for Lot 9, Block 7, Villa Maria Gardens Subdivision, located at 432 West Washington Street. (District 4)

i) APPROVAL on SECOND and FINAL READING on Ordinance Number 235-2019-062, to rezone from Dwelling “G” (DG) to Apartment “H” (AH) for Lots 23 and 24, Block 1, Canyon Valley Replat Subdivision, located at 3704 Menchaca Court. (District 4)

j) APPROVAL on SECOND and FINAL READING on Ordinance Number 235-2019-064-S, to allow a restaurant, a Medium Retail (3C) use, in Dwelling “A” (DA) for Lots 40 & 41, La Villita Unit No. 4 Subdivision, located at 313 Manzano Street. (District 1)

k) APPROVAL on SECOND and FINAL READING on Ordinance Number 235-2019-065, to rezone from General Retail “H” (4CH) to General Retail “J” (4CJ) for Lots 7 and 8, Block 96, Brownsville Original Townsite, located at 905 East Adams Street. (District 4)

l) APPROVAL on SECOND and FINAL READING on Ordinance Number 235-2019-066, to rezone from Dwelling “A” (DA) to Dwelling “G” (DG) for Lot 2, Block 76, West Brownsville Addition, located at 1815 West Madison Street. (District 4)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing and ACTION on FIRST READING on Ordinance Number 2019-1664, annexing territory to the City of Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas and extending the boundaries of said City; and adopting a service plan.

Ms. Ana Hernandez, Planning & Redevelopment Assistant Director briefly explained the proposed ordinance noting that the City of Brownsville had submitted a petition for voluntary annexation to the City of Brownsville for 95 acres located in Cameron County, along Southmost Boulevard and South Indiana Avenue. Ms. Hernandez further noted that the property is located in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), currently unpopulated and is the present site of the Brownsville Police Department training facility and future site of a tactical training center.

A brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rose Gowen seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia and carried unanimously, the public hearing was closed.
Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that Ordinance Number 2019-1664, be adopted at first reading, annexing territory to the City of Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas and extending the boundaries of said City; and adopting a service plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana and carried unanimously.

2. **Public Hearing and ACTION on FIRST READING on Ordinance Number 2020-1569-A, amending Chapter 102 “Utilities” and which provides for Electric, amending Sections 102-204 and 102-218 to provide for adjustments to Electrical Service Rates, Fees and Chargers for Municipal Street Lighting and Private Security Lightning; and providing a severability clause and effective date.**

   Mr. Leandro Garcia, Brownsville Public Utilities Chief Finance Officer, briefly informed the Commission of the proposed ordinance noting that the study of restructuring and revision of charges for streetlights and private security lightning, including fixtures utilizing light-emitting diodes (LED) and anticipating future conversion of all municipal streetlights to LED technology, as recommended by Black & Veatch.

   A brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.

   Upon motion by Commissioner Rose Gowen seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously, the public hearing was closed.

   Commissioner Rose Gowen moved that Ordinance Number 2020-1569-A, be adopted at first reading, amending Chapter 102 “Utilities” and which provides for Electric, amending Sections 102-204 and 102-218 to provide for adjustments to Electrical Service Rates, Fees and Chargers for Municipal Street Lighting and Private Security Lightning; and providing a severability clause and effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

3. **Consideration and ACTION to award Bid #CMB-70-1219, to Argio Roofing & Construction for the Roof & Window Replacement for the Children's Museum of Brownsville, in the amount of $658,000.00, as budgeted.**

   Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that the award for Bid #CMB-70-1219, to Argio Roofing & Construction for the Roof & Window Replacement for the Children's Museum of Brownsville, in the amount of $658,000.00, as budgeted, be approved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rose Gowen and carried unanimously.
4. Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2020-001, authorizing the approval and ratification of amendments to the Bylaws of the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation (GBIC).

A brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission regarding the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation (GBIC) Bylaws, noting that the Commission had approved the changes that were presented at the previous meeting and did not need to ratify the motion.

No action taken.

5. Consideration and ACTION on allocation of funding for Crossroads Interactive Festival.

Mr. Raniro Gonzalez, Director of Government & Community Affairs, briefly informed the Commission that the dates that have been allocated for the festival would be from February 24-26, 2020. He further noted that he was requesting approval from the Commission to allocate funding for the festival in the amount of $100,000.00; $50,000.00 from the Brownsville Convention Visitors Bureau (BCVB) and $50,000.00 from the Parking Meter Fund.

Brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.

Commissioner Ben Neece moved that the allocation of funding for Crossroads Interactive Festival, be approved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rose Gowen and carried unanimously.

6. Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2020-003, to amend Resolution Number 2019-091, authorizing the execution of an advanced funding agreement between the City of Brownsville and the Texas Department of Transportation for Hazard Elimination/Safety Project Off-system.

As per City staff, agenda item would be discussed at the next scheduled City Commission meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

7. Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2019-109, to remove and appoint a member(s) to the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation (GBIC).

[Tabled 12-10-19]

Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana expressed concern in regards to the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation (GBIC) absentee report that was provided to the Commission within the packet.

Mr. Mario Losoya, GBIC Executive Director briefly explained to the Commission the absentee report.

Brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.
Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana moved to remove Pedro Cardenas from the Greater Incentives Corporation (GBIC) Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ben Neece and carried as follow:

Ayes: Commissioners Galonsky Pizana and Neece
Nays: Commissioners Tetreau, Cowen, Jr., Gowen, Munguia and Mayor Mendez

8. **Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2020-002 to appoint a member(s) to the Downtown Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 3, City of Brownsville Board of Directors. TABLED 12/10/2019**

Resolution Number 2020-002 was approved as follow:

Commissioner Rose Gowen moved to appoint Linda Ufland to the Downtown Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 3, City of Brownsville Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau would appoint a member at the next scheduled City Commission meeting.

9. **Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2020-004, to appoint or reappoint member(s) to the Transit Advisory Committee.**

Commissioner Ben Neece moved to appoint **Guillermina Manjarrez** to the Transit Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana and carried unanimously.

10. **Consideration and ACTION to create an Environmental and Conservation Task Force.**

Mr. Noel Bernal, City Manager briefly informed the Commission that City Staff was seeking direction from the Commission on the creation of an Environmental and Conservation Task Force. Mr. Bernal further noted that the purpose of the task force would be to explore measures for improving upon the City’s existing environmental and conservation efforts based on best practices in these respective areas.

Brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that the creation of the Environmental and Conservation Task Force be **approved**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana and carried unanimously.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana, seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia and carried unanimously, the Executive Session convened at 6:13 p.m. to discuss the following item:

A) Deliberation of personnel matters pursuant to Section 551.074(1) of the Texas Government Code, related to the evaluation of a public officer or employee, to wit, City Attorney Rene De Coss.

Upon conclusion of Executive Session, Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez, III, convened the Regular meeting at 6:59 p.m. There was no action taken in Executive Session.

POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY ITEM(S) AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A) Deliberation of personnel matters pursuant to Section 551.074(1) of the Texas Government Code, related to the evaluation of a public officer or employee, to wit, City Attorney Rene De Coss. Tabled 12-10-2019

No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon duly made motion the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved this 4th day of February, 2020.

Juan “Trey” Mendez III
Mayor

Attest:

Griselda Rosas
Interim City Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:
Yolanda Galacza-Administrative Supervisor
Office of the City Secretary