MINUTES of a Special Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Brownsville, Texas, held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., with the following members present via Webex Teleconference Meeting by logging on at: https://brownsville.webex.com/brownsville/j.php?MTID=mc60aef3e0acc097b8e89d0e710489144
Meeting Number: 269 204 998

Juan "Trey" Mendez III
Mayor

COMMISSIONERS
John F. Cowen, Jr.
At Large “A”
Rose Gwenn
At-Large “B”
Nurith Galonsky Pizana
District 1
Jessica Tetreau
District 2
Joel Munguia
District 3
Ben Neece
District 4

Noel Bernal
CITY MANAGER

Helen Ramirez
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

Bryant Walker
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

René De Coi
CITY ATTORNEY

Griselda Rosas
INTERIM CITY SECRETARY

Absent

Elizabet Walker – Assistant City Manager

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 April 09, 2020.

b) Invocation

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one signed up for public comment.
1. Discussion regarding the City of Brownsville response to the urgent public necessity concerning COVID-19, otherwise known as Coronavirus, including but not limited to:
   
a. **Continuity Plan Update:** City staffing, facilities and services, including actions and continuity of such operations;
b. **Financial Update:** Emergency Procurement; and
c. **Drive-thru collections/testing site update**

   Mr. Noel Bernal, City Manager, briefly updated the Commission on the COVID-19. Mr. Bernal further noted that due to this latest update, changes had been implemented including closing the building to the public, 12% of City staff was teleworking, and the other 88% were still working on site.

   Mr. Lúpe Granado, Finance Director, briefly informed the Commission of the financial expenditures during COVID-19, noting that the total expenditures to date was $1,599,247 of which 75% would be reimbursed by FEMA. He further noted that the majority of these expenditures were being used on personnel, mainly Police and Fire overtime, and the emergency procurement was mostly spent on PPE masks with the rest on medical staff and testing kits. The City was currently paying for the uninsured patients being tested at the site.

   Brief discussion ensued amongst the Commission.

   Dr. Arturo Rodriguez, Director of Public Health, briefly informed the Commission of the following:
   
   - 1,020 tests had been administered to date
   - 56% had been insured and 43% non-insured
   - 61 positive and 900 negative with 59 pending results
   - New tests were being considered for faster results.

2. **Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2020-033, authorizing the City Manager for the City of Brownsville to modify and update the Voluntary Sick Leave Pool and Bank Policy and the Negative Sick Leave Bank Policy pursuant to the creation of these policies by the City Commission.**

   Mrs. Perla Cepeda, Director of Human Resources, briefly informed the Commission noted that due to the current COVID-19 pandemic crisis, it has been identified the necessity to modify sections of the City of Brownsville Personnel Policies Manual, by adjusting and provide sick leave for employees whom may not otherwise qualify for necessary leave.
Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that Resolution Number 2020-033, authorizing the City Manager for the City of Brownsville to modify and update the Voluntary Sick Leave Pool and Bank Policy and the Negative Sick Leave Bank Policy pursuant to the creation of these policies by the City Commission, be **approved**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia and carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, upon duly made motion the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Approved this ___4th___ day of ____August____, 2020.

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Trey Mepdez
Mayor

Attest:

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Griselda Rosas
Interim City Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:

Olanda Galarza, Administrative Supervisor
Office of the City Secretary