

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

MINUTES of a **Special 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, July 30, 2019, at 5:00 P.M.** with the following members present:

JUAN “TREY” MENDEZ III

Mayor

JOHN F. COWEN, JR.
NURITH GALONSKY PIZANA
JESSICA TETREAU
JOEL MUNGUIA
BEN NEECE

COMMISSIONERS
At-large “A”
District 1
District 2
District 3
District 4

NOEL BERNAL

CITY MANAGER

HELEN RAMIREZ

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

MICHAEL LOPEZ

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

RENE DE COSS

CITY ATTORNEY

GRISELDA ROSAS

CITY SECRETARY

ABSENT

**COMMISSIONER ROSE GOWEN – At-
Large “B”**
**ELIZABETH WALKER – ASSISTANT
CITY MANAGER**

A quorum being present, Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III, asked Ms. Griselda Rosas, City Secretary, to read the call to consider the following matters as posted and filed for the record in The Office of the City Secretary on July 26, 2019.

ROLL CALL:

INVOCATION:

The invocation was led by Pastor Brad Burkes, from the Embassy of the Spirit Church of Brownsville, Texas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

UNITED STATES PLEDGE * TEXAS PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge was led by Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion by Commissioner Ben Neece seconded by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana and carried unanimously, the Executive Session convened at 5:05 p.m.

- A) **Consultation with attorney to receive confidential legal advice pursuant to Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code, on a matter related to the implementation of Texas Local Government Code Sec. 501.073 to operations of the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation, in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.**
- B) **Consultation with attorney to receive confidential legal advice pursuant to Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code, on a matter related to the reinstatement or creation, structure, operation and interaction of the Audit and Oversight Committee and the Internal Auditor’s Office, where the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.**

Upon conclusion of Executive Session Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III, convened the and Regular Meeting at 6:08 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau arrived during Executive Session.

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WORK SESSION: (Open to the Public)

A) Storm and Water Drainage

Mr. David Licon, Engineer I, gave a brief presentation in regards to the Storm and Water Drainage noting that the goal was to have collaboration between local, state, federal partners on future projects/opportunities for the City of Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley. Mr. Licon invited the Commission to the Storm Water & Drainage Forum to be held on August 1, 2019 at the Brownsville Event Center, located at 1 Event Center from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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1. 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 Nurith Galonsky Pizana seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously, Consent Agenda Items “a’ through “c” were **approved.**

ITEMS No. “a” through “c”

- a) **APPROVAL** on **SECOND** and **FINAL READING** on **Ordinance Number 2019-1485-C**, amending the City of Brownsville Code of Ordinances Chapter 18 – Buildings and Buildings Regulations, Section 18-123, by modifying building permit fees for certain residential permits; specifying a retroactive date; and dealing with related matters.
- b) Consideration and **ACTION** to amend a term contract for Temporary Employment Services.
- c) Consideration and **ACTION** to authorize a term contract renewal for Architectural Services.

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2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: PLEASE NOTE:

Mr. Eugene Fernandez had signed up for Public Comment, but was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Enrique Melguizo expressed his concerns and opposition regarding the changing of the name of E. Fronton Street.

Mr. Don Clapper expressed his concerns regarding a historical home located at 333 E. Adams Street that has now been condemned.

Mr. Juan Rene Hernandez, on behalf of Mr. Ernesto Hernandez and as a representative of the residents, expressed his concerns and opposition regarding the changing of the name of E. Fronton Street

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:

- 3. **Discussion, Consideration and possible ACTION to remove Commissioner Jessica Tetreau, from the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation Board of Directors (GBIC), pursuant to Section V subsection (c) of the City of Brownsville’s Policy on Board and Commission Member Appointment and Eligibility, and appoint her replacement.**

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau thanked the public for their understanding regarding her resignation from the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation Board of Directors and expressed her reasons as to why she is resigning.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved to **table** the agenda item. The motioned was seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia, **failed** as follow:

Ayes: Commissioners Jessica Tetreau and Joel Munguia

Nays: Commissioners Nurith Galonsky Pizana, John Cowen, Jr., Ben Neece, Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved to appoint Carlos Guerrero to the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia, **failed** and as follow:

Ayes: Commissioners Jessica Tetreau, Joel Munguia

Nays: Commissioners Nurith Galonsky Pizana, John Cowen, Jr., Ben Neece, Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved to appoint Erasmo Castro to the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation Board of Directors. There was no second motion.

Commissioner John Cowen, Jr. moved to **appoint Nico Schaeffer** to the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation Board of Directors to serve the unexpired term. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana and carried as follow:

Ayes: Commissioners John Cowen, Jr., Nurith Galonsky Pizana, Ben Neece, Mayor Juan “Trey” Mendez III

Nays: Commissioners Jessica Tetreau, Joel Munguia

4. Discussion, Consideration and possible ACTION to reinstate the Audit and Oversight Committee with parameters of structure, operation and interaction with the Internal Auditor’s Office.

Commissioner Nurith Galonsky-Pizana moved to reinstate the Audit and Oversight Committee with parameters of structure, operation and interaction with the Internal Auditor’s Office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible ACTION to adopt policies and procedures for Internal Auditor’s Office.

Mr. Noel Bernal, City Manager, recommended to the Commission to table the agenda item for the next meeting since it coincides with the Audit and Oversight Committee.

Commissioner Ben Neece moved to **table** the agenda item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

6. Consideration and ACTION to approve an amendment to Planning Consultant Services Contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Ms. Helen Ramirez, Deputy City Manager, gave a brief explanation of the agenda item.

Discussion ensued amongst the Commission and City Staff in regards to the agenda item.

Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana moved that the amendment, not to exceed \$84,000.00, for Planning Consultant Services Contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc., be **approved**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

7. Consideration and ACTION to authorize the Mayor to adopt Resolution Number 2019-063, authorizing execution of an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for a Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Project.

Mr. R.J. Garza, Brownsville Metro Assistant Director, gave a brief explanation of the proposed resolution.

Commissioner Nurith Galonsky Pizana moved that **Resolution Number 2019-063**, authorizing execution of an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for a Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Project, be **adopted** and the Mayor be **authorized** to execute the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jessica Tetreau and carried unanimously.

8. Consideration and ACTION to award Change Order #4 to SpawGlass Contractors, Inc., for the Terminal Project at Brownsville South Padre Island International Airport in the amount of \$218,396.11.

Mr. Bryant Walker, Airport Director, gave a brief explanation of the proposed agenda item.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that Change Order #4 to SpawGlass Contractors, Inc., for the Terminal Project at Brownsville South Padre Island International Airport in the amount of \$218,396.11, be **approved**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia and carried unanimously.

9. Consideration and ACTION to approve a variance to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 82 “Solid Waste”; Section 82-60 “Variance”.

Mr. Michael Lopez, Assistant City Manager, gave a brief explanation of the proposed agenda item recommended approval to allow within Chapter 82 “Solid Waste” of the City of Brownsville Code of Ordinances, in which it would provide landfill staff the ability to continue using the cost per tire method without formally adopting the tire fee structure. The fee structure would continue until further review and an analysis of cost of service(s) is performed.

Commissioner Ben Neece moved that a variance to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 82 “Solid Waste”; Section 82-60 “Variance”, be **approved**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Joel Munguia and carried unanimously.

10. Consideration and ACTION on Resolution Number 2019-069, to formalize street naming policy for the City of Brownsville.

Mr. Carlos Lastra, Engineering Director, gave a brief explanation of the proposed resolution.

Discussion ensued amongst the Commission and City Staff in regards to the proposed agenda.

Commissioner Jessica Tetreau moved that **Resolution Number 2019-069**, to formalize street naming policy for the City of Brownsville, 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 7:22 p.m.

Approved this 20th day of August, 2019.

Juan "Trey" Mendez III
Mayor

Attest:

Griselda Rosas
City Secretary



Respectfully submitted by:
Yolanda Galarza, Administrative Supervisor
Office of the City Secretary