

HARLINGEN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT BOARD  
MEETING

September 14, 2015

A meeting of the Harlingen Community Improvement Board was held Monday, September 14, 2015 at 1:00 p.m., City Hall, Town Hall Meeting Room, located at 118 E. Tyler, Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Harlingen Community Improvement Board

Jesse Robles - President

Gina Cano-Monreal – Secretary

Paul J. Durant

Deloria Davis

John Guevara

Danny Villarreal

Daniel Arazia

Also Present

Mayor Chris Boswell

Commissioner Tudor Uhlhorn

Staff Present

Dan Serna, Interim City Manager

Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

Richard Bilbie, City Attorney

President Jesse Robles called the meeting to order and stated the agenda had been duly posted accordingly to State law.

President Robles announced he would change the order of agenda to discuss the executive session items:

- 4) Executive/Session on the following items:
  - a) Pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A., Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 and 551.072 regarding the negotiations for the purchase and development of the Baxter Building in downtown Harlingen and possibly seek legal advice from counsel regarding said negotiations between the City of Harlingen and Flint Hills Development Group, LLC.
  - b) Pursuant to Chapter 551, Subchapter D, V.T.C.A., Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 and 551.87 regarding deliberations relating to economic development negotiations with respect to the Hotel/Conference Center Project and/or to discuss or deliberate financial matters and seek legal advice from the City Attorney regarding the subject matter.

At 1:03 p.m. President Robles announced the Harlingen Community Improvement Board would convene into executive session to discuss Item 4 (a) and (b).

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to convene into executive session to discuss Item 4 (a) and (b). Motion carried unanimously.

At 1:42 p.m., President Robles announced the Harlingen Community Improvement Board had completed its executive session and declared the meeting open to the public.

President Robles proceeded with the following items and stated he would entertain a motion for each of the set of minutes.

1) Consider and take action to approve the following sets of minutes:

a) April 17, 2015 – Jt. Special Meeting of the City Commission and Harlingen Community Improvement Board.

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to approve the minutes of April 17, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

b) March 18, 2015 – Jt. Special Meeting of the City Commission and Harlingen Community Improvement Board.

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to approve the minutes of March 18, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

c) February 4, 2015

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to approve the minutes of February 4, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

d) August 20, 2015

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Araiza to approve the minutes of August 20, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

e) August 6, 2013

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to approve the minutes of August 6, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Consider and take action to discuss and approve the FY 2015-2016 Budget.

Dan Serna, Interim City Manager stated the projected revenues for the Harlingen Community Improvement Board (4B) for FY 2015-2016 was \$1,295,532 and expenditures (unallocated projects) - 1,295,532. The ending fund balance was \$2,821,263. Once the projects were identified staff would

present a list of the projects for the board's consideration. He recommended approval of the proposed budget for FY 2015-2016.

Motion was made by Mr. Villarreal and seconded by Mr. Araiza to approve the Harlingen Community Improvement Board Budget for FY 2015-2016. Motion carried unanimously.

3) Update on the following Projects:

a) 25<sup>th</sup> Street Trail Project

Mr. Serna reported the 25<sup>th</sup> Street Trail was completely paved. There were some pending items such as the installation of signs and other items that the contractor needed to address. The contractor, City Engineer and Project Manager inspected the project on a regular basis and were meeting with TXDOT to make sure the City's interest was protected. There was no projected completion date yet.

Javier Mendez, Parks and Recreation Director stated in honor of Arbor Day, oak trees were donated to Harlingen Proud and some of those trees would be planted along the trail.

Mr. Mendez highlighted several other projects that could be considered for the 25<sup>th</sup> Street Trail Project such as, pergolas, water drip irrigation, and exercising equipment along the trail.

Mr. Serna stated staff was working with Keep Harlingen Beautiful on the "National Make a Difference Day" to beautify the canal banks on Harrison Avenue and Jefferson Street near the trail to make the area more attractive. Thirty oak trees were donated and the City had allocated funds to purchase an additional thirty trees. Additional trees may be added to the trail in the future. The focus was to finalize the project and beautify the canal banks.

Commissioner Tudor Uhlhorn recommended that trail etiquette; kiosks and exercising equipment be considered for Pendleton Park and Harlingen City Lake.


Mr. Araiza recommended the installation of lights to deter illegal activities.

b) Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Serna reported the City's Proposed Comprehensive Plan was still being reviewed by staff for possible revisions. Staff was meeting on a regular basis to finalize the plan before the end of the year.

Motion was made by Mr. Guevara and seconded by Mr. Villarreal to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:  
  
Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

HARLINGEN COMMUNITY  
IMPROVEMENT BOARD  
  
Jesse Robles, President