

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF MCALLEN**

The McAllen Board of Commissioners convened in a Workshop on **Monday, January 22, 2018** at 3:00 pm, at McAllen City Hall Third Floor (3rd) Commission Chambers, with the following present:

Mayor Jim Darling, Mayor Pro Tem Aida Ramirez, Commissioner Richard Cortez, Commissioner Joaquin Zamora, Commissioner Omar Quintanilla and Commissioner Veronica Whitacre

Absent: Commissioner John Ingram

Staff: City Manager Roy Rodriguez, City Attorney Kevin Pagan, Assistant City Manager Jeff Johnston, Assistant City Manager Joe Vera, City Secretary Perla Lara, Planning Director Juli Rankin, Fire Chief Rafael Balderas, Fleet Operations Manager Javier Galindo, Solid Waste Manager Mario Vela

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Darling called the meeting to order.

- 1. PRESENT QUESTIONS TO STAFF RELATING TO THE JANUARY 22, 2018 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA, TO BE DISCUSSED AT SUCH MEETING.**

There were no questions relating to the Regular City Commission Meeting of January 22, 2018.

- 2. PRESENTATION ON MCALLEN PARKS AND RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN.**

Staff gave a brief presentation on the City of McAllen Parks and Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The McAllen Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan 2018-2028 was reviewed as follows:

- Process
 - ✓ Survey-Online - Over 1,300
 - ✓ Focus-Focus Groups – 6 Adults / 2 Youth
 - ✓ Establish Goals
 - ✓ Establish Objectives
- Responses for Area of McAllen
 - ✓ North West
 - ✓ North East
 - ✓ South West
 - ✓ South East
 - ✓ Outside the City but in the ETJ
- Comprehensive Master Plan
 - ✓ Identify Needs and Priorities for Parks & Recreation
 - ✓ Update and Expand the Current Park Facility Inventory
 - ✓ Re-evaluate the needs for parks
 - ✓ Recommend strategies for acquiring, developing and operating and maintaining
 - ✓ Identify Improvements
 - ✓ Realize opportunities for Joint Use Agreements
 - ✓ Establish a priority park amenity listing for grant applications
 - ✓ Existing and future land use and distribution of property
- Top Ten Priorities for Park Development
 - ✓ Natatorium
 - ✓ Indoor Recreation Center
 - ✓ Splash Park
 - ✓ Trails
 - ✓ Playground
 - ✓ Add Lights at Current Parks

- ✓ Picnic Areas
- ✓ Upgrade Amenities at Parks
- ✓ Pavilions for Group Activities
- ✓ Dog Park

It was noted that prior to implementing the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan that the city should undertake the following:

- Develop partnerships with the County and neighboring cities for trail corridors and trails systems.
- Develop partnerships with area school district within the city limits and ETJ to establish joint use of school grounds.
- Develop interagency agreements with agencies who have facilities in areas in which the city does not provide programs for the community.
- Review the Parkland Dedication Ordinance to determine changes to meet today's environment.
- Investigate new and improved maintenance techniques for grounds, tree and plant maintenance in parks.
- Investigate all granting organizations for park development, programming and facility improvements.
- Improve training for staff at all levels.
- Check all lights and maintenance schedules to provide updated equipment and materials.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Comments and concerns were shared by the Mayor and City Commission. Questions were raised as it related to: 1) Responses for Area of McAllen and District 2, 2) Comprehensive Plan/Nature Center, 3) Promoting of Joint Use Agreement vs. Building New Facilities, 4) Top Ten Priorities and their order, 5) Cost to Build more Parks, 6) How do you justify / Redeveloping and 7) Getting the maximum dollar from staff. Staff answered questions posed by the Mayor and City Commission.

Mayor and City Commission thanked staff for their presentation.

3. STATUS REPORT ON BICENTENNIAL AND I2 CONSTRUCTION.

Mr. Hector Siller with TxDot gave a brief presentation on Bicentennial and I2 Construction. The following was highlighted:

- Project Information
- Project Limits
- Construction Details
 - ✓ IH – 2 & Bicentennial Boulevard
- Progress of Work
 - ✓ Bicentennial Bridge Progress
 - ✓ Bicentennial Access Ramp has been demolished to construct the main lane bridge
 - ✓ Drilled shaft crew to mobilize in late January to early February
 - ✓ Continued work on retaining walls
 - ✓ Work on embankment on the bridge approaches
 - ✓ 10th Street & 23rd Street Bridge Raising
 - ✓ This work will take place at night and completed one at a time
 - ✓ Estimating mid February to begin raising the bridges
- 10th Street and 23rd Street Bridges
 - ✓ Begin raising by early February (Night Work & Night Closures)
 - ✓ During raising operations, we may be closing the turnaround of each intersection
 - ✓ Potentially closing 1 lane in each direction for contraction equipment
 - ✓ Bridge raising will only occur at night
- Bicentennial Boulevard
 - ✓ Demolition of bridge will occur once our approaches has been completed between March and May
 - ✓ Switch traffic to newly constructed section between June-August

A discussion ensued. Comments and concerns were shared by the Mayor and City Commission. Questions were raised as it related to: 1) Bridge Raising, 2) Construction getting any worse, 4) Meeting the December 2019 Deadline, 5) Bicentennial Underpass and 6) Signals on Ware and Left Turn Only. Staff answered questions posed by the Mayor and City Commission.

Mayor and City Commissioner thanked staff for their presentation.

4. SUBDIVISION MONTHLY REPORT ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017.

A subdivision month report was given. No action required.

5. PROJECT STATUS REPORT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017.

A project status report was given. No action required.

6. STATUS REPORT ON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROJECTS.

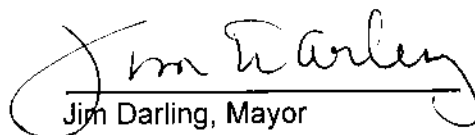
A status report on Parks and Recreation Department Projects was given. No action required.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION, CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.071 (CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY), SECTION 551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS) AND SECTION 551.087 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT).

- A) EVALUATION OF THE CITY MANGER. (SECTION 551.074, T.G.C.)
- B) CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES RELATED TO RFP/SOQ PROCESS. (SECTION 551.071, T.G.C.)
- C) CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS. (SECTION 551.087, T.G.C.)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.


Jim Darling, Mayor

Attest:


Perla Lara, TRMC/CMC, CPM
City Secretary