

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

The McAllen Board of Commissioners convened in a Workshop on **Monday, February 12, 2018** at 3:45 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, Commissioner John Ingram and Commissioner Veronica Whitacre

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 FEBRUARY 12, 2018 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA, TO BE DISCUSSED AT SUCH MEETING.

Questions were asked at to items 2F, 2G and 2H (EDC Programs).

2. DISCUSSION OF PARK CIRCLE SUBDIVISION VARIANCE REQUEST.

Staff gave a brief presentation of Park Circle Subdivision Variance Request. It was briefly explained that the current variance request offers the dedication of 100 ft. of Right of Way for Freddy Gonzalez Road through the property between North 23rd Street and North 20th Street beyond the borders of the Park Circle Subdivision. Their offer is subject to participation by the City in roadway improvements at 75% of cost and participation at 12.5% for each side, by abutting property owners/developers in the future. The current variance request was briefly highlighted as follows:

- Dedication of 100 feet of Freddy Gonzalez ROW from 29th to 23rd
- City responsible for constructing the roadway, sidewalks and drainage
- Developer to participate with 12.5% of improvements on each side of roadway, with the City participating with 75% of the improvements

Staff mentioned that various options have been discussed to address the property owner's proposal as follows:

- Approve dedication of 50 ft of Right of Way and Developer to escrow or build their portion of street improvements along Freddy Gonzalez in the proposed Park Circle Subdivision. The remaining 50 ft. to be dedicated including share of improvements when property to the north develops. (Current City Policy)
- Approve dedication of 100 ft of Right of Way for Freddy Gonzalez in the proposed Park Circle Subdivision and waive Developer participation for current subdivision and the tract abutting Freddy Gonzalez to the north of Park Circle Subdivision (Staff Recommended Option)
- Approve dedication of 100 ft of Right of Way for Freddy Gonzalez Road between 23rd Street and 29th Street subject to City paying 75 % of road improvements and that future buyer/developer of the property will pay remaining 25% of the development cost at 12.5% per side. (Developer's Request)

A lengthy discussion ensued. Comments and concerns were shared by the Mayor and City Commission. Questions were raised as to: 1) Were projects prioritized, 2) Subdivision Ordinance, 3) MPO, 4) Roads, 5) Utilities-Drainage & Water, 6) Who owned the property, 7) Sprague projected as part of Thorough Fare Plan and 8) Arterials

Staff noted that said item was listed on the Regular City Commission Agenda for consideration. Mayor and City Commission thanked staff for their presentation.

3. REPORT ON THE 2017 McALLEN HOLIDAY PARADE.

Staff gave a recap report noting that the McAllen Holiday Parade, McAllen's biggest and brightest event of the holiday season took place on Saturday, December 2nd, 2017. The parade featured

more than 50 illuminated floats, 34 large inflatable character balloons, 17 bands and a celebrity filled line-up including Dallas Cowboys stars, actors and television personalities.

Staff reviewed the following key points:

- Largest Illuminated Holiday Parade in Texas
- Attracted more than 1 ¼ of million in 4th year
- Celebrity appearances
- Billboards
- Corporate Sponsorships
- Economic Impact

Staff noted that in its 4th year, the McAllen Holiday Parade attracted more than one quarter of a million spectators from Texas and Northern Mexico. It was noted this year the McAllen Holiday Parade featured Celebrity appearances by major athletes and television stars. Also noted was that this year there were a total of 14 Marching Bands, 53 Illuminated Floats and 1000 Event Volunteers.

Staff briefly discussed television coverage as follows:

- United State Markets included Rio Grande Valley, Laredo and Corpus Christi
- Mexico Markets included Monterrey, Nuevo Leon; Saltillo, Coahuila
- Local and Regional Network Affiliates included: ABC, CBS, FOX, Univision, Unimas, Telemundo, MultiMedios and Telexitos

A lengthy discussion ensued. Comments and concerns were shared by the Mayor and City Commission. Staff answered questions posed by the Mayor and City Commission.

In addition to the Holiday Parade Presentation, Mr. Michael Uhrbrock and Mr. Sai Mullapudi with UTPA Data Center, gave a brief presentation on the Survey and Economic Impact results of the McAllen Holiday Parade. Comments and concerns were shared by the Mayor and City Commission. Staff answered questions posed by the Mayor and City Commission.

Mayor Darling and the City Commission thanked the team for their presentation.

4. DISCUSS FORMAT OF CITY MANAGER'S REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT.

Said item was not addressed.

5. DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED APPROACH MEDIAN ON 2ND STREET BETWEEN HIGHWAY BUSINESS 83 AND BEECH AVENUE.

Said item was not addressed.

6. 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) CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES RELATED TO WATER DISTRICT #3. (SECTION 551.071, T.G.C.)
- B) CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES RELATED TO RISK, CLAIMS AND DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING. (SECTION 551.071, T.G.C.)
- C) CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS. (SECTION 551.087, T.G.C.)
- D) EVALUATION OF THE CITY MANAGER. (SECTION 551.074, 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