

NOVEMBER 25, 2024

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024, IN THE HELEN KLEBERG GROVES COMMUNITY ROOM, 400 WEST KING AVENUE, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS AT 5:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R. Fugate, Mayor
Edna Lopez, Commissioner
Hector Hinojosa, Commissioner
Leo Alarcon, Commissioner

CITY COMMISSION ABSENT:

Norma N. Alvarez, Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Derek Williams, Systems Administrator
Kyle Benson, IT Director
Emilio Garcia, Health Director
Rudy Mora, City Engineer
Erik Spitzer, Director of Economic & Development Services
Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief
Diana Gonzalez, Human Resources Director
Janine Reyes, Tourism Director
Alicia Tijerina, Special Events Coordinator
Susan Ivy, Park Director
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
Deborah Balli, Finance Director
Joseph Ramirez, Engineer Assistant
Manny Salazar, Director of Economic Development
James Creek, Fire Department
Leticia Salinas, Accounting Manager
Nick Chapa, IT
Charlie Sosa, Purchasing Manager
John Blair, Police Chief
Mike Mora, Capital Improvements Manager

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with four commission members present. Commissioner Alvarez was absent from the meeting.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

The invocation was delivered by Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting – November 12, 2024

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of November 12, 2024 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting “FOR”..

II. Public Hearing - (Required by Law).¹

1. Public Hearing to consider the advisability of the creation of Reinvestment Zone Number Three, City of Kingsville, Texas for Tax Increment Financing Purposes pursuant to Chapter 311, Texas Tax Code. (Economic Development Director).

Mayor Fugate opened this public hearing at 5:02 p.m. He further announced that this is a public hearing and if anyone would like to speak on behalf of this item they may do so now with a five-minute limit. The City Commission cannot extend additional time.

There being no comments or further discussion, Mayor Fugate closed this public hearing at 5:05.

III. Reports from Commission & Staff.²

“At this time, the City Commission and Staff will report/update on all committee assignments which may include but is not limited to the following: Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Historical Board, Housing Authority Board, Library Board, Health Board, Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Conner Museum, Keep Kingsville Beautiful and Texas Municipal League. Staff reports include the following: Building & Development, Code Enforcement, Proposed Development Report; Accounting & Finance – Financial Services - Information,

Investment Report, Quarterly Budget Report, Monthly Financial Reports; Police & Fire Department – Grant Update, Police & Fire Reports; Street Updates; Public Works-Building Maintenance, Construction Updates; Park Services - grant(s) update, miscellaneous park projects, Administration –Workshop Schedule, Interlocal Agreements, Public Information, Hotel Occupancy Report, Quiet Zone, Proclamations, Health Plan Update, Tax Increment Zone Presentation, Main Street Downtown, Chapter 59 project, Financial Advisor, Water And Wastewater Rate Study Presentation. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time.”

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, reported that the next City Commission meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2024. The deadline for staff to submit their agenda items is Thursday, December 5, 2024.

Mayor Fugate spoke about the festivities that had occurred over this past weekend.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

1. Comments on all agenda and non-agenda items.

Krystal Emery, 1620 South 11th Street, commented that she is here as a concerned citizen regarding the circumstances surrounding the decision not to renew our City Manager's contract, which resulted in his resignation. I have concerns about the need for a thorough review and unbiased discussion of his contract, especially considering his positive impact on our community over the last five years. Mark McLaughlin has served our city not just once but twice now with dedication, professionalism, and a commitment to improving the lives of our citizens. His leadership has brought numerous positive developments, including a balanced city budget, competitive pay bands, housing, and economic growth. He navigated our city through the challenges of COVID and was instrumental in commissioning the USS Kingsville. His knowledge of base operations strengthened our base relations. His departure is a significant loss to our city's administration and raises critical questions about how key decisions such as contract renewals are made or, in this case, overlooked. I believe that a decision of this magnitude deserves more clarity and includes input from the citizens, as we are all impacted by City Hall's leadership. What will the costs be for conducting a new city manager search, and what will the potential loss of grant opportunities be during the interim? Will prospective candidates shy away as we look for our 4th city manager in under a decade? While I understand that the city manager's contract renewal is one of the few decisions within the commission's personnel purview, I strongly urge you to consider the ripple effects of this situation. The lack of transparency in how this has been handled sends a troubling message about this commission's motivations and accountability. Mark was a committed leader, and his unexpected departure leaves many of us uneasy about our city's future. It will also concern future candidates who make one short Google search to see that the newspaper headline was "City manager denied new contract, raise" without any explanation. We, as citizens, deserve a clear and fair process when decisions of this nature are made, especially when they impact the future of our community. I hope you will reflect on the importance of this issue and make a cohesive, level-headed decision in the weeks ahead. We now have to count on this commission to make an interim city manager appointment and search for a candidate we hope will serve this community for several years.

Norma Martinez, 406 E. Main, Bishop, TX commented that she sleeps in Bishop and works, shops, and gets medical care in Kingsville. She further commented that when she read the newspaper headline about Mr. McLaughlin, she was concerned as well. She interacted with city employees and their moral was high and were happy as they had received raises that had not been given in many years. There was progress in infrastructure for water and traffic and then there is no vote. She further stated that we should not be lost in semantics. He was still under a contract for an extension from his current contract but this was only because it was not acted upon to consider a renewal. The extension followed by a no vote, to her is a vote of no confidence. No confidence means the person is not valued, not appreciated, and his policies will not be supported. Is it a surprise that he resigned and went elsewhere? No, however the transparency, as the previous commenter noted, what did he do that was so poor in his performance that it required a no vote. The commissioners that voted no should offer a clear explanation for why they led to that. It should be a thinking process and not a feeling process. We should leave all emotions at the door. We are running a business, and it is called the City of Kingsville. That decision will cause a lot of distress emotionally, people are worried as to what is going to happen. The city will be searching for a new city manager again. The man was capable, and positive, and proved that he could do the job, as he has done the job. We will be losing all that experience. She further commented that she understands that he will start the new year in a new job and a new location and they will gain from our loss. This is a loss that can't be easily replaced. This is the kind of person you want to attract to the community, so why are we running him off?

Ms. Lisa Zavala, 301 Lemonwood commented that they are having a big issue with dogs. Now that Mark McLaughlin has resigned, can they expect real change in picking up all

these dogs. She understands that nobody likes to euthanize dogs, which a horrible part of the job, but it needs to be done. One of her co-workers recently got bit and it seems as every day they are getting bit. With the holidays coming up it will only get worse. She stated that they are hoping that there could be real change by making sure that they get fined if they are not on a leash, but something more needs to be done.

Mrs. Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary, read a public comment on the record on behalf of Lisa Zavala, 301 W. Lemonwood Dr., Kingsville, TX. The comment read as follows: "Our streets are over with stray dogs that prevent me from doing my job as a letter carrier. I've called on the same loose dogs multiple times and the next day they are out again. We need the city to step up and start fining the owners and catching these dogs now so that we are not harmed while delivering. When can we expect this change?"

V.

Consent Agenda

Notice to the Public

The following items are of a routine or administrative nature. The Commission has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Commission Member in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote.

CONSENT MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(At this point the Commission will vote on all motions, resolutions, and ordinances not removed for individual consideration)

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

1. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend donations from Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson, and Vishal Raju Bhagat Foundation for the Parks Department Healthy Family Events. (Parks Director).

2. Motion to approve final passage of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to appropriate funding for emergency Fire Department vehicle repairs. (Fire Chief).

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

3. Consider introduction of an ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Kingsville, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code, creating Tax Increment Financing Reinvestment Zone Number Three, City of Kingsville, Texas. (Economic Development Director).

Mr. Manny Salazar, Economic Development Director, stated that this is the same as what was done in the past. He further introduced Mr. David Pettitt, who gave a presentation regarding Proposed Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #3.

4. Consideration and approval of: 1) Application Affidavit TWDB-0201, 2) Application Filing and Authorized Representative Resolution TWDB-0201A, and 3) Application Resolution-Certificate of Secretary TWDB-0201B, for the 2024-2025 Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) for funding by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the City of Kingsville proposed Wastewater Utilities near Sage Rd.-Abridged Application No. 16037. (City Engineer).

Mr. Rudy Mora, City Engineer stated that on November 7, 2024, the City held its pre-application meeting with the Texas Water Development Board to review full application requirements for the city's proposed wastewater utilities near Sage Road project under Abridged Application No. 16037, as part of the 2024-2025 Economically Distressed Areas Program. The full application is due on December 20th. As part of the submission, the following documents require approval by the City Commission: TWDB 0201 application Affidavit; TWDB 0201A Application Filing and Authorized Representative Resolution; TWDB 0201B Application Resolution-Certificate of Secretary. This project is designed to provide first-time wastewater services to 21 homes along Sage Road, between Armstrong and Young Drive, built before 2005. As part of the project, existing septic tanks will be demolished, service line connections to the proposed wastewater main and residential homes constructed after 2005 and homes built after 2005 and along the proposed main will

have the option to connect to the new wastewater system at their own expense. Utility funds will be used to repay the 3.6% interest, 20-year loan with a maximum repayment amount of \$138,000 per year.

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve 1) Application Affidavit TWDB-0201, 2) Application Filing and Authorized Representative Resolution TWDB-0201A, and 3) Application Resolution-Certificate of Secretary TWDB-0201B, for the 2024-2025 Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) for funding by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the City of Kingsville proposed Wastewater Utilities near Sage Rd.-Abridged Application No. 16037, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

5. Consideration and approval of Change Order No.1 CO-1 for Bid No. 24-04 for the GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-082-016-D218 Project 6: 10th Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project. (City Engineer).

Mr. Mora stated that this item is for Change Order No. 1 for Project 6 which addresses adjustments in contract cost and duration due to an increase in pipe diameter and necessary repairs for the 10th Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project. The existing pipe diameter is 18", not 12" as originally specified, and is suitable for Cast-in Place Pipe rehabilitation. CO-1 will add an estimated 85 calendar days to the contract time. Change Order No. 1 total is \$72,261.00 with additional contract time of 85 days.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve Change Order No. 1 CO-1 Bid No. 24-04 for the GLO CDBG-MIT Contract No. 22-082-016-D218 Project 6: 10th Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project, seconded by Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

6. Consideration and approval of awarding Bid No. 25-05 for 23-24 Citywide Miscellaneous Concrete and Drainage Improvements Phase 3, as per staff recommendation. (City Engineer).

Mr. Mora stated that bid no. 25-05 was advertised on October 10th and October 17, 2024, in the local newspaper and on the city's website. The bids were received by the deadline of 2:00 p.m. on November 5, 2024, from two bidders: Donald Hubert Construction Co. of Kingsville, TX, and RXDX for Sinton, TX. Base bids ranged from \$514,417.24 to \$535,930.00. Per Local Government Code Chapter 271, if a local bidder's price is within 5% of the lowest bid from an out-of-town bidder, the contract may be awarded to the local bidder or the lowest bidder, or all bids may be rejected. Mr. Mora further stated that staff recommends awarding the base bid, Alternate Bid 1, 2, and 4 to the local contractor, Donald Hubert Construction Co. in the amount of \$1,550,299.13.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve awarding Bid No. 25-05 for 23-24 Citywide Miscellaneous Concrete and Drainage Improvements Phase 3, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

7. Consideration and approval of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Standard Form of Agreement Between City and Contractor, Donald Hubert Construction Co., for City-wide Miscellaneous Concrete and Drainage Improvements Phase 3. (Bid No. 25-05 awarded 11/25/24). (City Engineer).

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve the resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Standard Form of Agreement Between City and Contractor, Donald Hubert Construction Co., for City-wide Miscellaneous Concrete and Drainage Improvements Phase 3. (Bid No. 25-05 awarded 11/25/24), seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

8. Consideration and approval of a resolution authorizing the Award of Administrative/Project Delivery Service Provider Contract(s) for the 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund Program. (awarding RFP#25-07 for Grant Administrative Services, as per the evaluation committee recommendation). (City Engineer).

Mr. Mora stated that the city issued RFP #25-07 for Administrative Services, which was advertised on November 7 and November 14, 2024, in the local newspaper and on the city's website. Proposals were received by the deadline of 2:00 p.m. on November 19, 2024, from the following firms: GrantWorks Inc., Austin, TX, and Langford Community Management Services, Liberty Hill, TX. Mr. Mora stated that there is no financial impact by awarding RFP# 25-07 for administrative services. These services will be paid for from contingent awarded grant funds. It is staff recommendation to award administrative services to GrantWorks, Inc. and negotiate a contract.

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve a resolution authorizing the Award of Administrative/Project Delivery Services Provider Contract(s) for the 2025-

2026 Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund Program. (awarding RFP#25-07 for Grant Administrative Services, as per the evaluation committee recommendation), seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

9. Consideration and approval a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Block Development Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund, and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's Executive Officer and the City Manager to act as the City's Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program; repealing all conflicting resolutions and providing for an effective date. (City Engineer).

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Block Development Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund, and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's Executive Officer and the City Manager to act as the City's Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program; repealing all conflicting resolutions and providing for an effective date, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

10. Consideration and approval of awarding RFQ No. 25-01 for Professional Engineering Services for Low Water Crossing Project on West Avenue D, as per the evaluation committee recommendation. (City Engineer).

Mr. Mora stated that RFQ #25-01 is for Professional Engineering Services that was advertised on October 3, 2024, and October 10, 2024, in the local newspaper and the city's website. Statements of qualifications were received before the deadline of 2:00 p.m. on October 29, 2024. The following two firms submitted SOQs: Collier Engineering & Design from Corpus Christi, TX, and International Consulting Engineers (ICE) from Corpus Christi. An evaluation committee reviewed the submissions. The committee recommends awarding the RFQ to International Consulting Engineers (ICE). The next step is to negotiate a contract for professional engineering services.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve awarding RFQ No. 25-01 for Professional Engineering Services for Low Water Crossing Project on West Avenue D, as per the evaluation committee recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

11. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to setup budget for rolled over purchase orders. (Finance Director).

Mrs. Deborah Balli, Finance Director, stated that at the end of each fiscal year, there are outstanding purchase orders that have been created and sent to vendors, and due to various reasons, they remain outstanding.

Introduction item.

12. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to appropriate funding received on the sale of the Old Hospital Property. (in the 400 Block of West Caesar Ave.; sale was approved on 10/28/24 via Resolution #2024-88). (Finance Director).

This budget amendment is for funds received for the sale of city property, old hospital property.

Introduction item.

13. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to appropriate funding for emergency plumbing repairs to Fire Station #2. (Purchasing Manager).

Mr. Charlie Sosa, Purchasing Manager, stated that this item authorizes the approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$12,800.00 to cover emergency repairs to the main plumbing line at Fire Station 2 in the facilities line item. Staff is requesting is that the additional funds be transferred and approved.

Introduction item.

14. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend the Border Zone Fire Department Grant Award #5106101 for Fire Rescue Equipment. (Fire Chief).

Mr. Juan J. Adame, Fire Chief, stated that the Kingsville Fire Department is requesting to amend the City of Kingsville FY 24-25 budget to accept and expend the Border Zone Fire

Department Grant award #5106101. The Kingsville Fire Department has been awarded a Border Zone Grant in the amount of \$69,000 to purchase two sets of rescue equipment. There is no financial impact on the city.

Introduction item.

15. Consideration and approval of the purchase of SCBA units and SCBA Cascade System for the Fire Department from Municipal Emergency Services via BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation. (Fire Chief).

Chief Adame stated that the Fire Department requests approval and funding to replace expiring Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units and the SCBA Cascade System. These SCBA units are essential for firefighter safety, supplying breathable air in hazardous environments. The current units are reaching the end of their service life and will soon no longer meet NFPA and OSHA safety standards. Expired equipment poses significant risks, including compromised air supply and potential equipment failure during emergency operations, which could endanger firefighter safety and effectiveness in critical situations. The total cost to replace the expiring SCBA units is \$296,712.30, and the Cascade System replacement will cost \$104,922.48.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the purchase of SCBA units and SCBA Cascade System for the Fire Department from Municipal Emergency Services via BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative, as per staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Hinojsa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

16. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to appropriate funding for the purchase of IBC Books for the Planning Department. (Director of Planning & Development Services).

Mr. Erik Spitzer, Director of Planning & Development Services, stated that on October 28th the city commission passed an ordinance to approve the adoption of the 2024 International Building Code. On November 18th this ordinance went into effect. To satisfy the requirement to have hard copy of IBC books on hand, the Planning Department ordered the full set of 2024 IBC on November 15, 2024.

Introduction item.

17. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to appropriate funding for the inspection work by Bureau Veritas for the Planning Department. (Director of Planning & Development Services).

Mr. Spitzer stated that in the spring of this year, the city's only building inspector resigned and left the city. To continue continuity, the Planning Department exercised an existing contract with Bureau Veritas to perform these city-required inspections. The Planning Department currently owes \$6,179.08 for building inspections and plan review fees performed by Bureau Veritas during October. All fees collected for inspections and plan review fees are paid directly to the general fund. The request is for \$6,179.08 from the general fund to be transferred to Planning Department Professional Services account.

Introduction item.

18. Consider a resolution authorizing the City to submit an application to the Ed Rachal Foundation for grant funds for Park recreational program funding and Thompson Park basketball court lighting improvements. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Susan Ivy, Parks Director, stated that Kingsville Parks and Recreation has experienced an increase in programming needed in our growing community to provide healthy programming for kids and families. The request is for permission to apply for a \$25,000 grant from the Ed Rachal Foundation. It is being asked that \$7,000 of the \$25,000 grant application be budgeted for salaries for the program.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution authorizing the City to submit an application to the Ed Rachal Foundation for grant funds for Park recreational program funding and Thompson Park basketball court lighting improvements, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

19. Consideration and approval of a resolution accepting SECO Grant award and authorizing the City Manager to act on the City's behalf with such program. (\$25,000 award for Park Rec Hall Lighting Project). (Parks Director).

Mrs. Ivy stated that this is a request for approval of the \$25,000 award from SECO and authorized the City Manager to sign same. This project would increase funding available to complete the lighting project.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution accepting SECO Grant award and authorizing the City Manager to act on the City's behalf with such program. (\$25,000 award for Park Rec Hall Lighting Project), seconded by

Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

20. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend the OGG Grant Award for the Body Worn Camera Grant Program #5094901. (Police Chief).

Mr. John Blair, Police Chief, stated that the Police Department is requesting approval for the acceptance of funds from the Office of the Governor and a budget amendment to place funds into Fund 207-5-2100-71200. As a qualifying agency, the Kingsville Police Department has met all statutory requirements as defined in the Texas Occupation Code. These include compliance with the necessary policies, officer eligibility, training standards, and reporting obligations. These measures ensure that the department is well-prepared to effectively deploy body-worn cameras and manage the associated technology in accordance with state guidelines. A total of \$46,479.37 was received for the purpose of obtaining and upgrading the police department's body-worn camera program.

Introduction item.

21. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend the Local Border Security Program Grant Award #2994110 for Police overtime. (Police Chief).

Chief Blair stated that the police department is requesting approval for acceptance of funds from the Office of the Governor and has a budget amendment to place funds in Fund 017. A total of \$78,000 was received for the purpose of support for the department's border security initiatives and related law enforcement operations. This funding is essential to safeguarding the citizens of Kingsville and strengthening public safety.

Introduction item.

22. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Grant Program. (Police Chief).

Chief Blair stated that the police department is requesting approval for acceptance of funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and a budget amendment to place the funds in Fund 108. Body armor is a critical piece of safety equipment that enhances officer protection in the field. The BVP grant funding will allow KPD to replace outdated vests and provide new officers with state-of-the-art body armor that meets current safety standards. This initiative supports KPD's ongoing commitment to officer safety while ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Introduction item.

23. Consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget to accept and expend the Operation Lone Star Grant Award #4385703 for various Police Department expenditures. (Police Chief).

Chief Blair stated that this grant supports initiatives such as increased patrols, specialized training, equipment procurement, and enhanced operational capabilities. These resources enable law enforcement agencies to address human trafficking, drug smuggling, and other criminal activities that pose a threat to community safety. The Kingsville Police Department has fulfilled all eligibility requirements, including the establishment of operational plans and accountability measures to ensure the effective use of the grand funds. By leveraging this funding, the Kingsville Police Department will bolster its ability to protect the Kingsville community and support regional efforts to combat border-related crime.

Introduction item.

24. Consider authorizing use of Tourism Fund Balance and Tourism ARP Funds for the Tourism parking lot overlay project. (Tourism Director).

Ms. Janine Reyes, Tourism Director, asked the Commission to not take any discussion or action on this item at this time.

No discussion or action was taken.

25. Consideration and approval of a resolution authorizing the sale of the City's real property located at 811 East Vela Street, Kingsville, Texas, also known as Sims 2, Block 4, Lot 1-3, S/2 4 & S ¼ 5. (Director of Planning and Development Services).

Mr. Spitzer stated that for years, the owner of the residence at 813 E Vella erected and used non-permitted, non-approved structures on an adjacent city parcel of land, under the impression that parcel belonged to her. The Planning Department was notified of the situation and contacted the owner on July 17th, 2024, to ascertain if she was interested in purchasing this parcel of land from the City of Kingsville; she indicated she was interested and, in fact, contacted the City Attorney the week of November 4th to inquire about the current status. A fair market value of \$5,000 was determined on November 14, 2024 using a local realtor and considering the parcel of land is in the flood plain and has a city owned

20ft utility easement running through the property. The department recommends approval of selling this parcel of land to Ms. Espinosa at fair market value.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution authorizing the sale of the City's real property located at 811 East Vela Street, Kingsville, Texas, also known as Sims 2, Block 4, Lot 1-3, S/2 4 & S ¼ 5, seconded by Commissioner Alarco. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

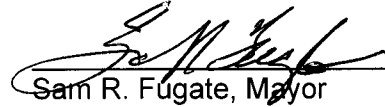
26. Consideration and approval of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an EPA Community Change Grant Statutory Partner Agreement between Water Finance Exchange and the City of Kingsville. (City Engineer).

The city is currently pursuing funding with the Texas Water Development Board for wastewater treatment plant project funding through the EPA Community Change Grant. The services with WFX would not cost the city any direct expenses as WFX only gets paid from grant funds if they successfully obtain funding for the city.

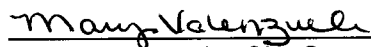
Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an EPA Community Change Grant Statutory Partner Agreement between Water Finance Exchange and the City of Kingsville, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa and Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

VI. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary