STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BEXAR
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO


The San Antonio City Council convened in a Work Session at 3:00 pm Wednesday, February 6, 2008, Municipal Plaza Building with the following Councilmembers present: Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger.

I. A REVIEW OF THE 4 PROPOSITIONS WITHIN THE CATEGORIES OF SAN ANTONIO RIVER IMPROVEMENTS, AMATEUR SPORTS FACILITIES, COMMUNITY ARENAS, AND CULTURAL FACILITIES.

Judge Nelson Wolff introduced the four propositions and noted that the election would take place on May 10, 2008. Mr. Seth Mitchell spoke of the visitor tax, which is comprised of a 1.75% hotel occupancy tax and a 5% short-term motor vehicle rental tax, noting that the tax had been used to finance the AT&T Center in 1999. He stated that the bonds issued to finance the County's contribution to the AT&T Center would be paid off early. He highlighted the citizen committees which were formed to review the proposals and make funding recommendations, and noted their evaluation criteria.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the San Antonio River Expansion & Improvements Project funding would be $125 million. He referenced the Amateur Sports Facilities of $80 million and discussed plans for the individual sites throughout the City. Mr. Mitchell noted that $100 million in funding would go to Community Arena and Grounds with Freeman Coliseum receiving $10 million, Exhibition and Stock Show Facilities receiving $15 million, and the AT&T Center receiving $75 million. He noted that both the Stock Show and the Spurs Organizations would contribute $0.16 for every $0.84 paid by the visitor tax and that the Spurs' Lease was extended by five years. Lastly, Mr. Mitchell spoke of the Performing and Cultural Arts Facilities and stated that the Alameda Theater would receive $6 million, the Dolph and Janey Briscoe Western Art Museum would receive $4 million, and the new Performing Arts Center would receive $100 million. The total for all propositions was $415 million which the County hoped to leverage into $735 million.

Mayor Hardberger asked for confirmation that citizens would not pay for the improvements and asked how the County planned to leverage the funds. Mr. Mitchell stated that all the money budgeted for the projects would be paid from the visitor tax and explained that the County was looking for private and public partnerships to expand and stretch funds.

Councilmember Cortez stated that he was pleased with the citizen committees that evaluated the projects and asked what the County was planning in terms of maintenance for the sports facilities. Mr. Mitchell stated that in the agreements, it would be noted that the developers would be the owners of the property and therefore be responsible for maintenance. He added that the County's role would be to fund the projects and that they would recommend seventy-five year leases. Councilmember Cortez stated that since the propositions benefitted children, he felt the election would be successful.
Councilmember Cibrian expressed her support for the propositions and reiterated that property and sales taxes would not increase. She stated that San Antonians took their children all over the state to participate in sports, but now they could stay in the City to play competitive sports. Councilmember Galvan noted that she was impressed with the revenue but asked why there were no sports projects located in District 5.

Councilmember Rowe requested the amount being spent in each district and asked what the pay-off period would be for the bonds. Mr. Mitchell stated that he did not have that information but that they expected it to be 35-40 years. He added that they also expected the issuance to be similar to the AT&T Center in that every dollar earned would go toward paying the bonds off as soon as possible. Judge Wolff mentioned that if the area continued to grow as it had in the past few years, the bonds could be paid off in 20 years.

Councilmember Clamp expressed his support for the proposals stating that the money was going to good use and the entire community would benefit from the projects. Councilmember Herrera made mention of a community meeting in her district that Judge Wolff would be attending and asked him to address the proposals.

2. STATUS OF PERFORMING ARTS CENTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

Ms. Penny Postoak Ferguson outlined the background of the Performing Arts Center noting that Bexar County had hired Franks and Associates to develop an operating business plan in December 2007. She summarized the plan noting that there was a need for a 2,000 seat multi-use facility with outstanding acoustics and space for offices, rehearsal, and classes. Additionally, that the facility would be sustainable with a minimum $10 million reserve fund and that the facility would be an important gateway to the River North Development Master Plan. This would take close to six years to complete.

Ms. Ferguson stated that the City had agreed to facilitate discussion on parking for the facility. She mentioned the City's responsibilities per the Memorandum of Understanding noting the following: 1) the City would convey the property to the Bexar County Performing Arts Center Foundation contingent on a successful county referendum vote, 2) the City will operate the facility through a lease until construction begins, and 3) the City would turn over Fire Headquarters one year prior to construction of Municipal Auditorium. She addressed revert clauses and obligations of the Bexar County Performing Arts Center Foundation as well as rights assessed to the City and Bexar County. Ms. Ferguson noted that the Foundation would have naming rights for all interior rooms, but the City and County would have naming rights for the facility unless a single donor was to contribute 10% of the cost of the facility. She added that City approval would be required for naming the Fire Headquarters. Lastly, Ms. Ferguson presented next steps in the process.

Mr. Bruce Bugg, President of the Bexar County Performing Arts Center Foundation, stated that a facility for performing arts would benefit the children of San Antonio. He noted studies that maintained that children exposed to art had better reading, science, and mathematical skills. Mr. Bugg noted his dedication to the success of the project and stated that the City would no longer be responsible for $500,000 a year in maintenance costs for the Municipal Auditorium.

Councilmember Herrera noted that she was a season ticket holder to the symphony and that she had sensed some hesitation from the symphony. She inquired about the discussion which had taken place between the Foundation and the Symphony. Ms. Debbie Montford stated that everyone had been
included in discussions and that even though there were some details that still needed to be worked out, all were in support of the facility. She stated that it was a community center and was not being built to specifically accommodate the symphony, the opera, or any other entity.

Councilmember Cibrian stated that San Antonio did not have suitable facilities for symphony or opera performances. She noted that the naming rights for the facility were very important and that she was pleased that Memorial Plaza was incorporated into the Master Plan.

3. OVERVIEW OF CITY PROJECTS (BOND AND OTHERS) TO BE POSITIVELY IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSED PROPOSITIONS.

Mr. Peter Zanoni provided an overview of several projects included in the visitor tax initiative along with the amount contributed by the City’s Capital Budget. He highlighted the following: San Antonio River Improvements, the Alameda National Center for Latino Arts & Culture, and the Dolph & Janie Briscoe Western Art Museum. He highlighted the Regional Sportsplex & Special Needs Park, UTSA Athletic Complex, the Culebra Creek Soccer Park, the Southeast Skyline Baseball at Southside Lions Park, and the Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, their total budgets, plans, and relation to the City.

Councilmember Cisneros thanked staff for their work.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Hardberger adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

The San Antonio City Council convened in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2008 at 9:00 am in the City Council Chambers.

The Invocation was delivered by Rev. C.J. Littlefield, Pastor, New Union Baptist Church, guest of Mayor Hardberger.

Mayor Hardberger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

City Clerk, Leticia M. Vacek, took the Roll Call and noted a quorum of the Council with the following present: Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger.

MINUTES

Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Minutes for the January 7, 2008 Special City Council Meeting and the January 10, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Cisneros, McNeil, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. NAY: None. ABSENT: Ramos.
CONSENT AGENDA: Items 4 – 14

Consent Agenda Items 7, 8, 11, and 14 were pulled for Individual Consideration. Councilmember Rowe moved to approve the remaining Consent Agenda Items. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda prevailed by the following vote:

AYES: Cisneros, McNeil, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. NAY: None. ABSENT: Ramos.

2008-02-07-0092

Item 4. AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BID FROM ALAMO DOOR SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE THE AVIATION DEPARTMENT WITH THE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION OF METAL JET WAY GATE DOORS FOR A COST OF $83,175.00, FROM THE AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND.

2008-02-07-0093

Item 5. AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BIDS OF VARIOUS COMPANIES TO PROVIDE THE CITY WITH VARIOUS TYPES OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES ON AN ANNUAL CONTRACT BASIS FOR FY 2007-2008 FOR A COMBINED ESTIMATED COST OF $165,000.00, INCLUDING: (A) HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL BORING AND (B) VERMEER TG BRUSH TUB GRINDER PARTS & SERVICE.

2008-02-07-0094

Item 6. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER 4 IN THE AMOUNT OF $173,396.45 TO THE $4,084,601.70 CONTRACT WITH GARCO CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC., FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE FACILITY AT STINSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FOR A REVISED CONTRACT VALUE OF $4,257,998.15.

2008-02-07-0097

Item 9. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO LEASE FROM COVINGTON ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC APPROXIMATELY 1,700 SQUARE FEET OF OFFICE SPACE, AT 1803 VANCE JACKSON, DISTRICT 1, FOR A COUNCILPERSON CONSTITUENT OFFICE, WITH A THREE-YEAR TERM AND A MONTHLY RENTAL OF $1,700, AND WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF RENEWAL.

2008-02-07-0098

Item 10. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A 5-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AHR AVIONICS, INC. FOR 108,900 SQUARE FEET OF GROUND SPACE AND 21,902 SQUARE FEET OF HANGAR SPACE AT SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR ANNUALS RENTALS OF $84,486.24.

2008-02-07-0100

Item 12. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH SOUTHWEST GENERAL HOSPITAL, L.P. D/B/A SOUTHWEST GENERAL HOSPITAL INCREASING THE MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES AGREEMENT FROM $125,000.00 TO $139,111.00 FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2005 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007 IN ORDER TO CLOSE FINAL BILLING RELATED TO THIS GRANT AND SERVICES PROVIDED.
Item 13. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY FOR PROPERTY INSURANCE COVERAGE, AND TO THE RSUI GROUP FOR EXCESS COVERAGE FOR THE CITY FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING FEBRUARY 28, 2008 FOR A COMBINED TOTAL PREMIUM OF $1,243,918, FROM THE LIABILITY SELF-INSURANCE FUND.

[CONSENT ITEMS CONCLUDED]

ITEMS PULLED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

The City Clerk read the following Ordinance:

Item 7. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING $400,000.00 AMENDMENTS TO FOUR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH ARIAS & ASSOCIATES, DRASH CONSULTING ENGINEERS (TERRACON), INC., FUGRO SOUTH, INC., AND RABA-KISTNER CONSULTANTS, INC., FOR INDEFINITE DELIVERY OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH CITY-WIDE PROJECTS.

Councilmember Cortez asked if these were City-wide Projects and for clarification of indefinite delivery. Mr. Mike Frisbie stated that said contracts were for on-call services for materials testing. Councilmember Cortez inquired why these contracts were being amended rather than going out for new bids, stating his concern that small businesses who might be interested in bidding would not be allowed that opportunity. Mr. Frisbie responded that with the Bond Program, it was easier to renew those contracts that were already in place but would keep that in mind for future contracts.

Councilmember Cortez moved to adopt the proposed Ordinance. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Cisneros, McNeil, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. NAY: None. ABSENT: Ramos.

The City Clerk read the following Ordinance:

Item 8. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $1,800,002.00, TO PROVIDE UPGRADES TO THE ALAMODOME FACILITY/LIFE SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, LIGHTING CONTROLLER, AND VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVES, INCLUDING LABOR, MATERIALS, AND EQUIPMENT; AND TO BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 2008 AND REIMBURSED BY STATE FUNDS.

Councilmember Cisneros recused herself on said item by exiting the Council Chambers and noted that she had submitted the recusal forms to the City Clerk.
Mrs. Vacek read written testimony from Faris Hodge Jr. who wrote that the Alamodome should be named after him.

Councilmember Rowe moved to adopt the proposed Ordinance. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** McNeil, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. **NAY:** None. **ABSENT:** Ramos. **ABSTAIN:** Cisneros.

At this time, Councilmember Ramos entered the meeting and Councilmember Cisneros re-entered the Council Chamber.

The City Clerk read the following Ordinance:

**2008-02-07-0099**

Item 11. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A $400,000 GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE SAN ANTONIO TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATOR INITIATIVE NETWORK FOUNDATION (SATAI) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING AND FACILITATING THE COMMUNITY’S TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked for a general scope of said project. Mr. Robert Peche stated that this was an agreement with SATAI who had received $500,000 but due to successful fundraising, that amount had been reduced to $400,000 and would continue to decline over the next three years. He noted that SATAI was the designee for the region for the South Texas Center for Innovation and Commercialization which is part of the Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) for the State. Mr. Peche added that they administer an Angel Network that instructs technology entrepreneurs on various courses of study such as developing a business plan and assembling a management team.

Several Councilmembers thanked SATAI for their technology work in the community and their great partnership with the City.

Councilmember Rodriguez asked to meet with SATAI to ensure that certain types of technology companies are being targeted and moved to adopt the proposed Ordinance. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. **NAY:** None. **ABSENT:** None.

The City Clerk read the following Ordinance:

**2008-02-07-0102**

Item 14. AN ORDINANCE FOR THE DISANNEXATION OF SOUTHSIDE INITIATIVE STUDY AREAS 1 (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE 532.59- acre parcel known as the Crosswinds at Southlake Special Improvement District), 4, 6, and 7 (the Southside Expansion Area) FROM LIMITED PURPOSE STATUS.
Mrs. Vacek read written testimony from Faris Hodge, Jr. who stated that lowering taxes would not work. He added that annexing land costs the taxpayers a lot of money and that the City should not give tax breaks to large companies like Toyota. He wrote that the City and the County should combine their police forces to save money and that the City is short of Code Compliance Officers, Police Officers, Fire Personnel, and Health Inspectors so taxes should not be lowered.

Councilmember Cortez asked for an overview of the process that had been followed for disannexation and what it meant for the residents. Mr. Jesus Garza stated that residents in the Limited Purpose Annexation Areas could vote in general municipal elections except for those that dealt with bond funds or sales tax revenue. He added that they could not run for public office or city municipal office, and did not pay ad valorem taxes or sales tax in the area. Due to these factors, they could not receive direct municipal services.

Mr. Garza stated that a Zoning Plan was developed for the area and that it would stay in place after the disannexation for limited purpose. He added that the City South Management Authority would serve as the Zoning Board for those areas and that once disannexed, the residents would not be able to vote in municipal elections and would revert to ETJ status.

Councilmember Cortez moved to adopt the proposed Ordinance. Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Herrera, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, Clamp, and Mayor Hardberger. **NAY:** None. **ABSENT:** None.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

Ms. Sheryl Sculley reported on the following:

- The Aviation Department is expanding airline service and it was announced that Northwest Airlines would begin a daily non-stop between San Antonio and Indianapolis, Indiana on May 2nd. This will be Northwest’s fourth daily non-stop destination from San Antonio.
- The Neighborhood Services Department received a $250K Grant from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The funds will be utilized to provide assistance to low-income Texas War Veterans with down payments and closing costs. For additional information, Veterans should contact 207-7881.
- The City of San Antonio was recognized by the Local Chapter of the American Diabetes Association for participation in the 2007 Step Out to Fight Diabetes Walk held in October 2007. Nearly 200 City Employees and their families participated and raised close to $12,000.
- Later today, a report will be distributed on the Top 10 Worst Code Offenders. This will include a list of the properties, as well as a strategy for the development of a Rapid Response Team targeting the Top 10 Offenders. This team is a collaborative effort among the Code Compliance Department, City Attorney’s Office, and the Police and Fire Departments.
- Chief McManus reported on an incident that occurred the previous evening involving a double shooting in the 1100 block of Commerce Street. Within ten minutes of the shootings, the Violent Crime Apprehension Team (VCAT) arrived on the scene, as well as various Gang Unit Officers and U.S. Marshals. Approximately four hours later, they apprehended the suspect.
POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Councilmember Galvan recognized Ruben Nieto, Youth Commission Representative for District 5. She highlighted his numerous achievements and community involvement and noted he was here today participating in a Job Shadow Program with Council District 4.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hardberger recessed the Regular Meeting at 10:11 am to convene in Executive Session for the purposes of:

A. Discuss legal issues related to Estrada v. City of San Antonio, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

B. Discuss legal issues related to El Dorado Amusement Co., Inc. v. City of San Antonio, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Mayor Hardberger reconvened the Regular Meeting at 2:05 pm at which time it was noted that the City Council had been briefed on the above-styled matters but took no action.

ZONING ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

2008-02-07-0103

Item Z-1. ZONING CASE # Z2007276 CD (District 8): An Ordinance changing the zoning district boundary from "R-6" Single-Family Residential District to "O-1" Office District on Lot 4, Block 10, NCB 14720, 4118 Honeycomb Drive, as requested by Christopher Pettit, Applicant for Christopher Pettit, Owner. Staff and Zoning Commission recommend Denial.

Mr. Chris Looney presented the proposed Zoning Case.

Mr. Ted Trakas, President of the Vance Jackson Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the zoning request with conditional uses and cited several restrictions. He noted that the rezoning would allow Mr. Chris Pettit to continue his practice which has been a positive presence in the area.

Mr. Chris Pettit thanked Councilmember Cibrian for working out a compromise on said item. He stated that the conditions were reasonable and everyone involved was pleased with the results.

Mr. Habib Erkan, Earl & Avuba, noted that he was a representative for Mr. Pettit. He thanked Councilmember Cibrian for resolving issues related to said item. He noted that the zoning request was being amended from O1 (Office District) to CD (Conditional Use).

Mr. Bob Goodson spoke in favor of the item and thanked Councilmember Cibrian for her work. He noted that he had originally been in opposition because of drainage issues.

Mr. Jim Stewart thanked Councilmember Cibrian for her work on said zoning case. He stated that they had worked on said item for quite a while and that at times, it seemed as though issues would not be resolved. He noted that the property would revert to residential zoning if the current owner sold it.
Councilmember Cibrian moved to adopt the proposed Zoning Item with the conditions as outlined and agreed to by the property owner, Chris Pettit, as follows: there shall be no exterior display or sign with the exception that a nameplate, not exceeding three square feet in area, may be permitted when attached to the front of the main structure; no construction features shall be permitted which would place the structure out of character with the surrounding neighborhood; businesses or office hours of operations shall not be permitted before 7:00 am or after 6:00 pm; no additional parking shall be allowed in the front of the house other than what the existing driveway accommodates; and that a retaining wall shall be built to alleviate drainage. Councilmember Rowe seconded the motion.

AMENDING CHAPTER 35 OF THE CITY CODE THAT CONSTITUTES THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO BY CHANGING THE CLASSIFICATION AND REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN AS: Lot 4, Block 10, NCB 14720 TO WIT: From "R-6" Single-Family Residential District to "R-6" (CD- Law Office) Residential Single-Family District with a Conditional Use for a Law Office provided that all conditions imposed by the City Council are adhered to.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, and Clamp. NAY: None. ABSENT: Herrera and Mayor Hardberger.

2008-02-07-0104

Item Z-2. ZONING CASE # Z2008048 (District 9): An Ordinance changing the zoning district boundary from "R-5" Residential Single Family District and PUD "MF-33" Planned Unit Multi-Family District to "MF-40" Multi-Family District on the West 72.6 Feet of Lot 69, Lot 70, the West 72.6 Feet of Lot 71, the East 72.6 Feet of Lot 72, the East 72.6 Feet of Lot 74, Lot 82, Lot 77, Lot 78 and Lot 94, NCB 11888, 1607, 1615, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1627 and 1715 West Terra Alta as requested by Brown, P.C., Applicant for Kimberly Marks, Virginia Snell, Emily Dial and Miodrag Jeremic, Owners. Staff recommends Denial. Zoning Commission recommendation pending February 5, 2008 hearing.

Mr. Chris Looney presented the proposed Zoning Case.

Councilmember Rowe moved to adopt the proposed Zoning Item. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion.

AMENDING CHAPTER 35 OF THE CITY CODE THAT CONSTITUTES THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO BY CHANGING THE CLASSIFICATION AND REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN AS: The West 72.6 Feet of Lot 69, Lot 70, the West 72.6 Feet of Lot 71, the East 72.6 Feet of Lot 72, the East 72.6 Feet of Lot 74, Lot 82, Lot 77, Lot 78 and Lot 94, NCB 11888 TO WIT: From "R-5" Residential Single Family District and PUD "MF-33" Planned Unit Multi-Family District to "MF-40" Multi-Family District.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Cisneros, McNeil, Ramos, Cortez, Galvan, Rodriguez, Cibrian, Rowe, and Clamp. NAY: None. ABSENT: Herrera and Mayor Hardberger.

At this time, Mayor Hardberger recessed the Regular Meeting at 2:41 pm and noted that the Council would reconvene at 5:15 pm for Ceremonials.
CEREMONIAL ITEMS

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Alice Cisneros presided over the meeting and addressed the Ceremonial and Citizens to be Heard portions of the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Cisneros recognized students and representatives from Thomas Edison High School, located in District 1, for being named a 2008 Bronze Finalist among America’s Best High Schools as ranked by the U.S. News & World Report. The process that determined the best high schools included: ensuring the schools served all of their students well, using state proficiency standards as the measuring benchmark, and assessing the degree to which schools prepared students for college-level work.

Mayor Pro Tem Cisneros presented a proclamation to the American Heart Association who will use the month of February 2008 to create awareness concerning cardiovascular disease in women. Several events and activities are planned throughout their “Go Red for Women Month” to encourage citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Pro Tem Cisneros recognized Lupe Torres, Center for Healthcare Services (CHS), who invited the Council to a meeting at their office to learn more about the services they offer. She added that CHS would like to address specific issues within each district and noted that CHS had received three national awards over the past two years for their collaborative efforts in the community.

Councilmember Rodriguez recognized Dale Jenssen and Dr. Kellen McIntyre on the upcoming On and Off Fredericksburg Road Studio Tour which will be held February 9 & 10, 2008, from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm. The mission of the tour is to enhance the appreciation for the arts in the community, and stimulate neighborhood revitalization. Works of art on exhibit are from artists who live and work in the Monticello Park, Jefferson, Woodlawn Lake, Los Angeles Heights/Keystone, and Beacon Hill Neighborhoods.

Councilmember Galvan invited everyone to the Grand Opening of her second Field Office located at 3226 Nogalitos Street on Saturday, February 9th beginning at 10 am.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Artman Bland noted the story of the Good Samaritan and ask that Council keep God’s Word in mind as they create policy. He stated that CPS had made improvements in his neighborhood, but left his sewage disconnected. He added that it took them a long time to return to fix it and then charged him for the repairs.

Mr. Mark Perez noted that the hazardous chemical company he had complained about was moving to New Braunfels. He stated that City staff was not properly trained because they never cited the company for their violations.

Ms. Patricia Brady spoke on the Our Body: the Universe Within exhibit at the Witte Museum. She reported that the Chinese Communist Party claimed that the bodies in the exhibit were legally obtained, anonymous, unclaimed people with no known relatives. She claimed that the Party treats their people
poorly and that they do not comply with the rest of the world’s laws. Ms. Brady asked that Council ban
the exhibit until they can confirm if it complies with American Law.

Ms. Catrina Jacobo stated that the Mirasol buy-backs had not helped the majority of Mirasol residents
because SAHA paid what the residents owed the bank. She claimed that the appraisals were in SAHA’s
favor and added that when Councilmember Patti Radle had the Homeowners vote on Task Force
Representatives, Janet Ahmad and George Alejos were voted as back-ups, but had not been allowed to
fill in.

Mr. Guadalupe Lopez noted that he had come from a SAHA meeting and appreciated that the Mayor
had appointed a new board who seemed very interested in helping the Mirasol Residents. Mr. Lopez
stated that since Councilmember Galvan had become involved, things kept getting better and he
encouraged the rest of the Council to join her efforts.

Ms. Henrietta DeHoyos gave her time to Mr. George Alejos who noted his approval of the new SAHA
Board. He stated that Stephanie Battle made $19,000 when she sold her home and was currently living
under Section 8, which violated SAHA policy. He added that another gentleman was denied Section 8
when he sold his home and was told that no one would qualify for it. Mr. Alejos claimed that Randy
Zaragoza was also receiving preferential treatment. Lastly, he thanked Councilmembers Galvan and
Cibrian for getting involved.

Ms. Sara Olivares, Mirasol Resident, stated that she needed an operation due to nerve damage which
was the result of contaminated air in her home. She brought medical paperwork to prove that her home
had not passed inspection. She stated that she had been served with an eviction notice and asked
Councilmember Cisneros and Former Mayor Henry Cisneros to help her.

Mr. Faris Hodge, Jr. praised Councilmember Cibrian for her service to the community and voiced his
support for Councilmember Galvan. He expressed concern about not being allowed to use the restroom
at a public city facility and too many lights not working in the downtown area. Lastly, he sang a song
for the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Cisneros adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm.

APPROVED

PHIL HARDBERGER
MAYOR

Attest: LETICIA M. VACEK
City Clerk

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