

# CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MISSION CITY HALL NOVEMBER 01, 2021 at 4:30 PM

## MINUTES ABSENT:

#### PRESENT:

Dr. Armando O'caña, Mayor Jessica Ortega, Mayor Pro Tem Ruben D. Plata, Councilman Norie Gonzalez Garza, Councilwoman Alberto Vela, Councilman Gus Martinez, City Attorney Randy Perez, City Manager Anna Carrillo, City Secretary

#### ALSO PRESENT:

Raul Cruz Ricardo Salinas **Dave Hendricks** Jeff Meshberg Tomas Tijerina Jim Adams Greg Mitzell **Trey Martinez** Jai Adams Victor Ramos **David Flores** Juan Eliseo Gonzalez David Temming Yvette Lopez Mike Silva Tim Podanoffsky Miguel del Gado Norma Sanchez

### STAFF PRESENT:

David Flores, Asst. City Manager
Aida Lerma, Asst. City Manager
Juan Pablo Terrazas, Asst. City Manager
Angie Vela, Finance Director
Robert Hinojosa, Risk Management Director
Roxanne Casarez, Public Information Director
Charlie Longoria, Media Relations
Alex Fajardo, Media Relations
Rene Alvarez, Asst. Fire Chief
Joanne Longoria, CDBG Director
Rick Venecia, Boys & Girls Club Director
Brad Bentsen, Parks & Recreation Director
Adela Ortega, Food Pantry Manager
Roel Mendiola, Sanitation Director
Joel Chapa, Police Officer

## **CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum being present, Mayor Dr. Armando O'caña called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Discussion and deliberation on the current PSI contract and other matters incident thereto

City Attorney Gus Martinez advised the council the request made by Jim Adams from PSI to present the item in open session. Mr. Martinez also advised that citizens participation was not a part of the agenda.

Mayor O'cana recognized Attorney Rick Salinas to make comments. Mr. Salinas stated he had a former PSI employee present to give the council information.

(City Attorney may ask City Council to go into executive session on this item under the "Consultation with Attorney" exception before considering this matter in open session)

Mayor O'cana requested to convene in executive session to consult with the city attorney.

At 4:41 p.m., Councilman Ruben Plata moved to convene in executive session before considering item in open session pursuant to V.T.C.A. Gov. Code Sec. 551.001. Motion was seconded by Councilman Alberto Vela and approved unanimously 5-0.

At 4:55 p.m., Councilwoman Norie Garza moved to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved unanimously 5-0.

Jim Adams, General Manager from PSI was present to give a presentation he stated that he was ready to refute the four major claims the lawsuit was making.

The scope of the project was the installation of advanced metering infrastructure (28,821) residential and commercial water meters. Online portal for customers to view and track water consumption data in real-time. LED lighting replacement throughout the City's 32 facilities. He stated that the project benefits were to enhance customer service and transparency through real-time access to water usage for residential and commercial users. Enhance revenues by recouping water loss. Improve efficiency with automatic meter reading. Enhance customer service and transparency via real-time access to water usage data. Lower electric utility bills and maintenance costs. Savings received were to pay for the improvements with no impact on taxes.

Mr. Adams stated the first claim on the lawsuit was regarding bidding procedures he advised the council the service was a professional service and PSI was procured by the TIPS Co-op. The second claim was regarding a third-party engineer to look at the work. The city did engage a third-party engineer. NV5 conducted an extensive review and endorsed the project. The third claim was that the city did not comply with paragraph 302.006 having to do with meter guarantees. Mr. Adams stated that the meter guarantee portion would not be complete until the project was completed. A third party would be required to check the meters within the first five years of completion and verify that the meters were accurate as represented. The fourth claim is that this was a debt obligation he stated that no sinking fund was required for this project.

Mayor O'cana recognized Rick Salinas to speak for two minutes. Mr. Salinas requested the same amount of time be extended to his expert witness who was previously employed by PSI and had expert knowledge of the contract. Mr. Salinas stated he had been advised he would have been allowed to have his expert witness speak to the council.

Jeff Meshberg former PSI employee stated that there were lawsuits and federal investigations being pursued at this time. He stated he had a lot of knowledge regarding performance contracts.

At 5:29 p.m., Councilwoman Garza moved to convene in executive session pursuant to V.T.C.A. Gov. Code Sec. 551.001. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved unanimously 5-0.

At 6:55 p.m., Councilman Plata moved to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vela and approved unanimously 5-0.

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At 6:56 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Ortega mo Councilman Plata and approved unanimously	oved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by 5-0.
	Dr. Armando O'caña, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Anna Carrillo, City Secretary	