



## REGULAR MEETING

A MEETING OF THE CITY OF EDCOUCH WILL BE HELD BY  
TELECONFERENCE/VIDEOCONFERENCE VIA ZOOM : 1-800-000-0000 ACCESS CODE:  
000000  
ON THURSDAY JULY 09, 2020  
COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

THIS CITY OF EDCOUCH MEETING WILL BE HELD USING TELE CONFERENCE  
SYSTEM/VIDEO CONFERENCING VIA ZOOM AND IS AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNOR  
GREG ABBOT'S TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN ASPECTS OF TEXAS OPEN  
MEETINGS ACT WHICH ALLOWS FOR A GOVERNING BODY TO HOLD A "VIRTUAL"  
MEETING SO AS TO AVOID GATHERING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND/ OR BOARD  
MEMBERS, AND STAFF IN A PHYSICAL SETTING THAT MIGHT CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC  
HEALTH RISK.

PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN WRITING NO LATER THAN THIRTY  
(30) MINTUES IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING BY THEM TO MANNY HERNANDEZ AT  
[mannyhernandez@cityofedcouch.org](mailto:mannyhernandez@cityofedcouch.org). In the body of the email please include date, your name, your  
address, phone number, agenda item # if applicable of subject of discussion, and your comments.  
DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

### AGENDA

- A. **Call Meeting to Order**
- B. **Roll Call**
- C. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. **Invocation**
- E. **Public Comments**
- F. **Discussion and possible action on approval of Minutes:**
  1. **Special Meeting Minutes of 06/18/2020**
- G. **Discussion and Latest update on COVID 19 Pandemic**
- H. **Discussion and Possible action to approve Request for Grant Administration Services by Resources Mobility Associates, Inc**
- I. **Discussion and Presentation on Library Project by Forged Technologies**
- J. **Adjournment**

**NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT THE PUBLIC MEETING**

City Hall is Wheelchair accessible & accessible parking spaces are available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this Meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's Office at 956-262-2140 or Fax 956-262-2920 for further information. Braille is not available.

If during the course of the meeting, The City Council should determine that a Closed Session or meeting is authorized by section 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076, 551.084, 551.086 of the Government Code or Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, notice of Closed or Executive Session will be given after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice pursuant to Section 551.101 of the Local Government Code. Should any final motion, decision, or vote be required in the opinion of the council with regards to any item during the meeting, then such final action, decision, or vote shall be made during the open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of the Public Meeting.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of said Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Edcouch was posted on the main entrance to Edcouch City Hall on the 06th day of July at 5:00 pm and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled time of said meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated (Open Meetings Act).

**WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, THIS 06<sup>h</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Victor H. De La Cruz**  
**City Manager**

**Regular Meeting**  
**07/09/2020**  
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**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY OF EDCOUCH**

211 W. SOUTHERN AVE., EDCOUCH, TEXAS  
THURSDAY, JULY 09, 2020  
COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

**AGENDA**

- K. Call Meeting to Order** Meeting was called to Order by **Mayor Gonzalez at 6:00p.m.**
- L. Roll Call** Roll call was called by **Mr. Manuel Hernandez Jr** as follows:

	Present	Absent	City Staff:
<b>Mayor: Virginio Gonzalez Jr.</b>	_X_	___	<b>Victor H. De La Cruz, City Manager</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem: Flores</b>	_X_	___	<b>Manuel Hernandez Jr., Fin./Grants</b>
<b>Alderman: Joel Segura</b>	___	_X_	<b>Chief: J. Quintana</b>
<b>Alderman: John Chapa</b>	_X_	___	
<b>Alderman: Robert Gutierrez</b>	_X_	___	
<b>Alderman: Lorenzo Cabrera</b>	_X_	___	
<b>City Attorney: Orlando Jimenez</b>			

Mayor, we have a quorum.

- M. Pledge of Allegiance** Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Victor H De La Cruz**
- N. Invocation** Invocation was led by **Victor H De La Cruz**
- O. Public Comments**
- P. Discussion and possible action on approval of Minutes:**

- 1. **Regular Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2020. Mr. De La Cruz:** Minutes are on your package if you have any questions.

**A motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 18,2020 was made by Alderman Flores \_\_\_\_\_, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman Chapa\_\_\_\_\_ . All Voted Aye/ Motion Carried.**

**Q. Discussion and Latest Update on COVID 19 Pandemic**

**Hugo:** I know we are in this type of environment here with the zoom. The testing has really skyrocket as far as the amounts as far as the testing that is being done on a daily basis. As a matter of fact today there was over 1200 cases reported and so everybody knows the severity of the situation that we are in. We are right now at this point in time The City of Edcouch fully operational. We can say that all of our people are back on track. We did have some people that were out. Everybody is back on track. We are taking the necessary precautions. We are working on work plans. Work plans as you all know are obsolete now. We are adding new things on this work plan. So with that said if anyone has any questions. Thank you

**R. Discussion and Possible Action to action to approve Request for Grant Administration services by Resource Mobility Associates, Inc**

**Hugo:** This is for the GLA. Basically, what GLA is is it's a grant that is out there. During the years of the floods from 2015,2016,2017 there was this grant that was developed to help the communities that were impacted by these floods and as we know The City of Edcouch had two of those. This is in an effort for us to move on and bring back the Wastewater Development Project and then

amongst other things that this grant offers so at this time we would like for your approval to move forward with this.

**A motion to approve Request for Grant Administration Services by Resource Mobility Associates Inc, was made by Alderman \_\_Flores\_\_\_\_\_. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman \_\_Chapa\_\_\_\_\_. All Voted Aye/Motion Carried**

**S. Discussion and Presentation on Library Project by Forged Technologies**

**Manny:** Before we get Mr. Izzy to proceed, I just like to state for the record that Commissioner Rob Gutierrez has joined our city meeting.

**Issy:** I am going to share my screen so I can show the power point that we put together you and explain some of the things or all that is going to be going into the library as far as technology is concerned. As I was saying, we are the IT company for the city, and I want to thank you. I am the executive vice-president my name is Issy and we put together this technology package for the new community center and the digital library so I am going to go ahead and show you kind of a rendering of what it is going to look like. And it is not so much the cosmetics of the building more so the technology. The cosmetics might change but the technology portion and the furniture we free style on that. Ok so when you are come in from the currier from the entrance you see the door. When you come into the left you see a desk with the copy machines so here in this area is the receptionist area. In this area there is going to be a print shop like a little Kinkos Copy Zone type deal where the library or the city can generate revenue to pretty much jobs like the Kinkos does. Whether it is booklets or graphics, but it is going to have a live production machine that does all the same type of work or jobs like the Kinko does or a Copy Zone. In there as well there will be a POS that is going to enable the library to charge for credit card or cash transactions to help generate money. They are going to have an Apple iMac Pro. That is going to have the software call Currel that is going to allow the graphic artist to go ahead and create templates of jobs that they need to do. Within this building there is going to be a professional phone system. There is going to be access points all around the building. This is another shot looking towards the reading area of the library. The access points are going to enable this to be a two-part thing. It is going to be a wireless technology center, but it is also going to act as a COVID technology center in the future in case it that has to happen. As we keep looking forward, we are going to put some furniture that we are going to put. There will be a couple of bookshelves. The bookshelves are going to have about three thousand hard back books and paperback books but the thing is this is digital, so we have partnered up with a company called Bibliotonics and Overdrive. The biggest pretty much in the country when it comes to creating a digital library. A lot of the local libraries here in South Texas public schools have their e-books and we are going to provide fifteen thousand e-books for students, residents, and anybody from the community come in and access. So, one of the ways that they are going to access this is through tablets. We are going to have twenty Samsung tablets that an individual come in can log into and access over fifty thousand books. Along with this there is going to be a check in and check out system that will keep inventory of everything that is going on and off course we have paperback books that they can check in and check out. Another picture here of the reading area. This is the conference room. We are going to put a conference table with twelve executive chairs. There is going to be a speaker phone in the middle of the table. It is going to allow a conference call or a teleconference call. As you can see on the wall that is going to be an eighty-six-inch interactive smart board. Think of it as a huge tv with a computer embedded in the back which allows you to show power points show video and not only show but you can annotate. You can make drawings

;you can make notes if you have a presentation or a meeting. It shows instructional video. All this can be recorded. If somebody is not in the meeting it can be emailed to them. It can be printed out on the printer copier scanner as far as notes, trainings, even meetings if you choose to have meetings for the city. So that is the interactive digital board. Eighty-six inches. Then we go to the computer lab. In the computer lab we are going to add twenty stations. Ten on one side and ten on the other and because of Covid we were going to put them side by side but because of Covid what we are going to do now is that we are to skip a cubicle. With this and because of Covid as well the desks are actually going to be made. The technology is called an antimicrobial desks that is easy to clean it is easy to take germs off and to just maintain clean and then we are going to have dividers in-between just to get more privacy and more space to maintain social distancing. So what we did was we were going to get twenty computers. They are HP computers, twenty seven inch all in once. They are completely wireless. The screen with the computer embedded in the back. Wireless keyboard wireless mouse. State of the art as far as technology is concerned. What we did was we are going to have thirteen of those then we are going to have ten laptops that the community can check out and can walk around, lets see over here we have a little sitting area, they can sit here or in the meeting area and they can walk around with the laptops or of course the Samsung Tabs and they can get on to the internet they can off course get to the digital library. All this is going to be restricted. We are going to have a security system that prevents under eighteen year old, minors, from accessing things they are not suppose to. If they are adults, by law, there are certain things that we have to allow. Off course no pornography no adult sites but there are certain things that they have access to and we have software that is going to monitor all of that. And it is going to monitor when they log in and it is going to be where the sitting area. That is just kind of a picture of the Community Center. This is based of the plans that we have. I am not really sure if it is going to be put in there but I put it in just so you can see based on the layout. Then in the back we are going to have the control room, the IT room. Here there is going to be a server, a battery backup in case that the power goes out we will still be live, we will still be up and going. It is going to have a backup. If we are going to have so many computers we are going to have to monitor them so we are going to have a top notch security router that is going to allow us to control everything. So that is a little picture of the IT room. That is pretty much what we are going to put. Any questions?

Rene: Sir, what is the total cost of all this?

Issy: WE are looking at a budget of about \$219,000 and that covers all of the equipment. There is twenty PCs, twenty tabs, ten laptops, a live production for the print shop, there is a POS system, there is fifteen Wi-Fi pads, there is an iMac pro for the copy shop, there is a copy and a fax for the general public to use in case they want to scan, copy, print something that they researched on. It is going to cover the desks, the conference room the table, it is going to cover the back in IT the server, the router, the switches, the battery backup. It is going to cover the rack. It is going to cover the overdrive digital book. That is a pricey one that did the e-books, but it is going to cover fifteen thousand digital books that the library is going to own. Once you buy these, they are yours. You can add if you want so you can change it up. It is going to cover also the platform where you can monitor the e-books, you can monitor the hard-shell books, you can check out, check-in, the bar coding. It is going to cover that. It is going to cover the POS system. It is going to cover the sitting area the desks. It is going to cover the smart board, the phone system, the conference phone, it is going to cover the twenty-five hundred hard back books. And it is going to cover the dividers.

Hugo: Issy, on the breakdown that is fine. You can send us a breakdown of everything, and I will provide that to everyone. What I did want to ask is on the library on the actual books you said fifteen thousand books. How are these books selected or how were they selected?

Issy: Overdrive, they are the biggest library company in the nation. They have categories based on demographics, based on age groups, based on pretty much based to cater to the demographics. Now

they do the libraries here Mcallen Edinburg. They do pretty much every single school here in the Valley so they are very familiar with the demographics. They are very familiar with the stenses and so they break it down by categories. Now what we can do is we can get it from the kids, to the teens, to the adults and it is based of education some of it is just enrichment and what we do is we get a list. Now, we can get with the city and say “Look it is a lot of books and this is what they are recommending or do you have anything that you think we should have or take away?” But basically, they put it together because they have been doing this for thirty some years and they know the Valley pretty well.

Hugo: So the demographic, Mayor, I know you have experience with the school. And one of the things that we looked at when we were talking about going digital with our library was to be able to give the students of Edcouch, the students that live in Edcouch the opportunity to get out here and use this place for research or whatever they have but Mayor is there anything specific that the school kids might need or in addition to what we have right now?

Mayor: Well right now I am thinking about a couple of things so first off, the money source for this is the library funds? The \$400,000 that we had received from the additional grant.

Hugo: There is a combination Mayor, we had taken \$100,000 of that that went into the actual construction cost for the building itself. So we used that for doors and other items that were going to be approved by the library archives. Now the other part, part of it when you are looking at the screen you are looking at you are looking at the antimicrobial desk that Issy was talking about all of that we are looking for the Covid-19, the CARES Act refund that we are getting. But it is really hard right now to actually say ok it is going to cost us 290 but it actually costs us less and we can put some more money into other areas because we are going to get some of these monies reimbursed from the CARES Act.

Mayor: So the reason I am asking is I know that through the library there were so many requirements that we had for example hard books and the different sections that we had available. I just want to make sure that we cover everything that is spelled out there in that grant.

Hugo: I will pass this on to you Issy but we had recommended to Issy and to our IT company to contact library archives contacts that we have and yes you are right, it is extremely important Mayor that we stay within the guidelines because this is going to open the doors for future grants. So ill pass that same question on to Issy.

Issy: Yes so I have had numerous conference calls with the library archives and the different individuals within the committees that they have and two things; one have given them a list of everything that we just spoke about and one everything passed, everything got approved, everything met the guidelines and number two and this came from the office out of Austin, they were pretty impressed with the technology. Every time I would talk to them about technology and this and this that the city is doing she would try and talk to me and say you know what maybe you should not do that because they are not going to know how to do it, you know it might be beyond their skill sets but this is what they encounter throughout the state. And I said you know what we are the IT company, we got together with the city and this is what we put together, We have really been platforming the program and we are going to do all the training. And when I said that she said Wow, you guys are ahead of the game because big cities small cities that have these grants, these funds, and they have nothing like this. So she was amazed at everything at everything that is coming together and how it is going to be put together but we definitely got the approval. I have it via email and I have the hard copy.

Hugo: And let me add Mayor, I want to say this so that we can keep in mind that every time that The City of Edcouch has done something we have always been the leaders and we have always been on the leading edge in all projects that we have done up to now. This is no different from any of the other projects. We wanted for Edcouch to be the leaders. I mean this is a digital library unlike any of the other libraries including the big libraries and so I know that Issy, Forged Technology, and The City of Edcouch we are going to be taking big pride in what we are doing here because this is going to open the doors to a lot of small cities small locations and letting them know that they can get the same access to knowledge than anybody anywhere else. And that, I think at the end of the day Mayor is the most important part about all this is that we are giving our kids from The City of Edcouch the access to education.

Rene: I got a question Hugo. What is the life span with all the cost what is the life span and what are we going to get like as in if something goes down with this company on fixing with the total cost?

Issy: I can answer that. So let start I guess from us within our IT services we are the IT company for the city. We are the IT provider, so you get our services so like I mentioned first and foremost we are going to do all the training. We are actually going to have someone there for the first couple of weeks just to make sure whoever is running this is ok. They are good and they get comfortable with the technology. That is number one, number two lets start with the computers, The computers come up with warranty and it is included with the price. It starts with the manufacturer then off course it covers a waiver because we are your IT company as well. They come with anti-virus for three years. The switches and the servers they come with warranty as well, off course manufacturer then through us. The digital overdrive, the e-books, once you purchase them, they are yours, and they are yours forever all you have to do is as you please you add more you add more. We do have services though included in that for two years in case anything comes up so if we are having an issue or a glitch that is covered. The access points they all have manufacturers guarantee of course then our warranty as well. The phone system comes with a five-year warranty, the interactive board comes with a three-year warranty. Anything that is hardware the copiers come with full maintenance on the production machine and on the machine that is going to be for the public it comes with the toner, the tech support and the part is all included in this.

Hugo: One of the things that was discussed with library archives at the beginning was if we could use some of the monies that we got from the grant on an employee or whatever and we got denied that but when it came to the maintenance of the system itself they are covering that. Im not sure on the amount of time but I know that the contract that we have currently with the It company I had asked Issy maybe into looking to adding the maintenance cost onto that so there was a couple of discussions there but the maintenance cost is going to be paid through the library archives if I am correct.

Rene: As long as they can send anything to OJ on the maintenance, on any warranties, everything that has to do with anything for repairs or services. If OJ can revive all that stuff and make sure that all that makes sense for the city because I do not want to be stuck two years down the road we got computers down or we got laptops down or we got things that are breaking and people are wiping their hands saying hey we are not in charge no more it is all on the city and in two three years our library just goes down the drain.

Issy: We understand and I can send something in writing and it is standard procedure since we are an IT company whenever you sell any type of hardware there has to be the plan was in two to three years because there is a coffee shop because there is the library that kind of sustains and generates revenue so whenever the new ones come in if there is no more grants they can just get it from within the money that they are making.

Hugo: The whole goal I think at the end of the day, and thank you for that commissioner, because that is an extremely important part, I mean that is something that The City of Edcouch has gotten caught

before on technology, not to get too much into the water meters and all of that but I think we have learned from that and we move forward and we are going to take a look at everything all the warranties and make sure that anything that we do have out there. Now what I will say is that this is going to open the door for future grants like Issy was saying when we are looking at the coffee shop and we are looking at the printer shop that we are going to have. We are looking also for the use of the community center. We are hopefully going to be generating enough monies for that to be able to pay for someone to be there all the time and also for us to be able to maintain our own equipment and our own software and everything. So what we are looking at is that the library is going to be a standalone part of the city that is going to be able to manage itself. Off course it is to soon for me to call it but that is the goal.

Rene: Awesome.

Mayor: What is the time frame for completion? Of the total project? I know you are part of it with the technology but the library itself and the community what is the latest on the completion dates?

Hugo: We do not have a completion date Mayor, we are going to be having a meeting tomorrow. If we do postpone it but if we do I will ask that question and I will get back to you on that. I know that the completion date if I remember correctly six months from the start. We are moving forward, and I think that by November we should be starting to see the ending. Hopefully once I get approval from the library archives Forged Technology is going to be ordering all the equipment the furniture and all that so once they give us the green light, we are going to that. We are hoping to get that within a month.

Mayor: I know that the money for the community center we already have that but the 400 is that money still secured or questionable based on what is going on here?

Hugo: The money is secured. The only thing is that normally the way, well there are two ways that the library archives works. One is they work on reimbursement base so you make the expense and then they reimburse you but considering the position that Edcouch is in we sent them already a cost break down of the city, we sent them last years audit, and with that they are going to go ahead and send monies so that we can based on the expenditures that we have now. So that is why we are going to be waiting.

## **T. Adjournment**

**At 6:40\_\_ pm, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman: Cabrera, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman: Flores. All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.**

**Take Notice that this are the true and correct minutes taken of the Regular Meeting of the City of Edcouch held on Thursday, July 09, 2020.**

**Passed and Approved by the Board of Aldermen on this day of July 2020.**

**ATTEST**

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**Manuel Hernandez  
City of Edcouch**