



REGULAR MEETING

TAKE NOTICE THAT A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF EDCOUCH WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY November 4, 2021
COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.
AT EDCOUCH CITY HALL

AGENDA

- A. Call Meeting to Order**
- B. Roll Call**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Invocation**
- E. Open Public hearing opening for the Urban County Program FY 35 (2022-2023).**
- F. Closing of Public hearing**
- G. 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 29th day of March 2021 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 29th DAY OF MARCH 2021.

Victor H. De La Cruz
City Manager



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H. Call Meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Mayor Virginio Gonzalez

I. Roll Call: Roll call was done by Victor H De La Cruz:

	Absent	Present	
Mayor Pro-tem Rene Flores	_____	_X_	City Manager Victor H De La Cruz
Alderman Place 2 Joel Segura	_X_	_____	Asst City Mgr. Ernesto Rosales
Alderman Place 3 John Chapa	_X_	_____	Victor Nieves
Alderman Place 4 Robert Gutierrez	_X_	_____	
Alderman Place 5 Lorenzo Cabrera	_____	_X_	

Mayor, we have quorum.

J. Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge was led by: Victor Nieves

K. Invocation: Victor H De La Cruz

L. Public Comments: No public Comments

M. Open Public hearing for the Urban County Program FY 35 (2022-2023) at 6:08pm.

Mr De La Cruz: Mayor, we have someone representing Urban County here today. If you have any questions or if any of the community comes in as they are coming in we can open for discussion but I 'll pass it on.

Lupita Garcia: Hi, my name is Lupita Garcia, I'm sure most of you already know me. I'm here representing the Urban County Program. The CBDG Program specifically. As part of requirement every year we have to host a public hearing for citizen participation to allow the public to comment to voice their opinion as to the kind of projects they would like for the community to undertake with our federal funds. So at this moment the amount that we use for the allocation every year is whatever is the current years allocation. We try to mimic that only because we're not exactly sure once we get the funding how much money we are going to get. So for 2021 you received \$269,965. You submitted a workplan with three items. One was general administration which allows us to pay for publications and advertisements, postings anything having to do with general administration of the projects. You allocated \$3,000. You submitted a water and sewer improvements project for upgrading the sewer lines, to improve and not limited to the sewer lines, manholes and adjustments to amending and adjacent streets withing the same general vicinity. We also include professional engineering services, technical and material testing, and any other services as needed. The location for the project is Angelita Street, Southern to Crenshaw, Ester Street, and North of Hwy 107 to the outer east of Frederick Street and the alley between Missouri and Pacific Street from 1015 to Hill Street. So on that

project I have a total of \$236,965. You also have fire station equipment for a total of \$30,000 for the purchase of breathing apparatuses. At this time for 2021 we have environmentally cleared both projects. Selection of engineer is what is pending for the water and sewer. So we need your staff to request the UC1 list so that we can begin the selection process for the professional services. Whoever you guys want to pick. We have a list every year on the accumulated list through the purchasing department and that allow us to have a complete list of all professional services including engineers, surveyors, project managers, architects. Any professional services we might be required for any of our projects. At this time the water and sewer project will require an engineer, so you have to request the UC1 list for 2021. You will have to request it from your coordinator which is Eric Trevino and he will give you the list. You select three firms, from those three firms then you will select, then we will give you rating sheets and a Stimulus of Qualification which is a sheet listing their qualifications. From there somebody from your office will be written, usually it is the city manager or if you have a planning director, in some cases. You will submit it to Urban County. At the Urban County Program assistant director Mr Antonio Barco will do the second rating and then somebody from the purchasing department will do the third rating. Then they send it out to the coordinator after it get compiled, we do an assessment on the three ratings, and we submit our ranking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd highest to commissioner's court and commissioners court makes the ultimate decision as to who they want to go with. They usually go with whoever is the highest because obviously all three rankings that means they are the best qualified but not always, so it is up to their discretion. For the fire station that project has been environmentally cleared as well, Eric is working on the type of breathing apparatuses, if you had any specification from your fire department that you would like us to meet. Sometimes there is capacity or anything that has to do with that, and Eric is working on getting you that. We want to be requesting three quotes so once we get the three quotes, we can see who has the lowest submitted price and we will order from them. We take care of the process completely at Urban County. So, we issue the purchase order from the Urban County Program, we send it to the commissioner's court for approval, we issue a purchase order and send it to the vendor, then we have the items shipped here either to city hall or the fire department however you guys request. Once you receive it you receive a shipment invoice. You will send that to us and we will pay. So that is how our funds work. At this point do you have any questions as to what type of projects you are looking into for 2022? Do you have any questions as far as eligibility?

Mayor: We have a new library. Do any of these funds qualify for that?

Lupita Garcia: Yes, library expenses would fall under Public Service General, the only thing that we can do for a library is buy equipment. Books are kind of hard to get only because they come from a publishers or publishing houses and those are usually independent and one. So like if you want a book there's only one publisher and we wouldn't be able to do the bidding process.

Mayor: So equipment like what?

Lupita Garcia: Equipment like if you have a little area for them to use virtual computer, laptops. We usually like to go more with desktop computers vs laptops because they can easily be misplaced. It is easier for us to establish if you have a set room or a set area. We can purchase shelving for books, purchase tables, chairs, lounging areas, like a sofa or a kids area. You do need to specify though, what area it is going to serve and what use it will give to the public.

Mayor: What about like for the parks, like the Park and Rec, like different activities for the kids? Recreational equipment.

Lupita Garcia: Do you have a recreational facility?

Mayor: Well, part of the community center might become like a recreational center as well.

Lupita Garcia: Does it have a different room set for that or is it an open space?

Mayor: Its an open space but its separate from the library.

Commissioner Segura: The library is in a room.

Lupita Garcia: Ok, so the library in another place in the community center. If you do want to do that then you would have to establish a recreational type of program and have it going. For recreational services we could pay for equipment and of course you would have to establish the program so you can tell us what type of activities are going to be going on and that way we can establish what can we purchase for those activities. Let's say you are going to have a little league baseball team. So if you do that we can purchase baseballs, bats, bases and stuff like that. We can not do any maintenance to the baseball field so that is not allowable. Anything that is in direct service to the client, in this case the child/ren. And remember that when you have a recreational activity its all based on low income. I know that the City of Edcouch as a whole qualifies under the LMI, which is low modern income levels, but for the area. For any public service it would be on an individual basis. So you having a recreational activity or program, we do not pay for directors for anyone who does not do a direct service to the child. So we can pay the coaches on the time that they spend with the kids but again, everything has to be established through a program. So you have to get us a list of the programs. Who does what? What is the recreational providers for the children and stuff like that. We don't reimburse 100% on salaries unless 100% of your kids are from inside the city limits of the City of Edcouch. Cause I know we have a lot of kids that live on the outskirts, those will not qualify under your funding. You can service them because of course you want to provide the service to anyone in the area at the end that is the Edcouch-Elsa High school since the school district is independently so if they come to you you can not turn them down for service but you cannot request reimbursement from us for anybody who is not inside city limits. We have an application in place that our public service agencies must adhere to. First you would have to do the submission then we approve it and then when the annulation plan is approved the coordinator for public services, Mr Daniel Foca, he will contact you or someone at the city and he will let you know the process, this is how you qualify, and this is how we can do it.

Mayor: Since most of the time we have been going into the water and sewer, is there like a minimum that I need to go into that or

Lupita Garcia: No, every five years, we at Urban County provide a 5-year consolidated plan. And what we do is we compare with other cities, or 18 other cities and 4 of our precincts and we rate priority needs for the entire county of Hidalgo. So a high priority need project is water and sewer, street improvements, flood drainage improvements, parks and recreational facilities, public services, general administration, and housing rehab. So those are the public facility improvements which any of those are high priority so you can fund them every year if you want.

Mayor: Any other questions? And this 22 starts when?

Lupita Garcia: Our regular fiscal year starts July 1st. So we use half a year this year and half a year next year. The 2022 would start July 1st of 2022 and end June 30th 2023. So the one we are doing right now. The one I just described is from 2021. For that one we just got our funding and we just got release of funds, so we are ready to start projects. We have an interlocal agreement that needed to have been approved by the council and once that is submitted you are ready to go.

Mr De La Cruz: What were the streets?

Commissioner Chapa: What were the streets that were going to be done for the 2021?

Lupita Garcia: There is no streets for 2021. The locations were Angelita St, Ester St, and the alley between Ester and Pacific.

Commissioner Segura: We are going to have to do it 2022

Lupita Garcia: That's water and sewer.

Mayor: Ok so now pretend you clocked out from Hidalgo County and you are sitting as an Edcouch Resident what would you recommend?

Lupita Garcia: We would need to close it.

N. Closing of Public hearing 6:21pm

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