

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the First Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m, at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Mayor Diana Martinez
Pete Morales, Mayor Pro-tem
Trino Medina, Commissioner
Robert De La Garza, Commissioner
Pilar Garza, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Luciano Ozuna, City Manager
Cris Palacios, City Attorney
Margot Salas, City Secretary
Bobby Salinas, CPD Director
Yvette Mendoza, Finance Director
Melissa Gonzalez, Grant Writer
Alicia Cano, Human Resource
Melissa Rodriguez, Purchasing Agent

Arnold Robles, Parks & Recreation Director
Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director
Julio Villarreal, Public Works Director
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer
Police Chief Baudilio Castillo
Alejandro Oyoque, Museum Curator
Michael Torres, IT Director
Ernesto Solis, Storm Water Manager

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the first regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. Mayor Diana Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance and Father Rene Angel led the Invocation.

C. Presentation and Announcements.

Melissa Gonzalez, Grant Writer, announced a couple of events that will be coming up. The first one is a remember for Thursday, the 5th, they will be having the ribbon cutting for the new Skill Nursing Facility from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. It's located south on Alamo Road. She also announced the Autism Walk on Saturday, April 14 at the PSJA Stadium and will start at 8:00 a.m. She stated that they are working on their spring community clean-up which will be on Saturday, April 21st, 8:00 - 12:00 noon, they are looking for volunteers.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales congratulated the Lady Wolverines Soccer Team, they were in the play-offs last week.

Mayor Diana Martinez congratulated Arnold Robles, Parks & Recreation Director, for the baseball season, they had over 33 teams last night at the ceremony.

Mr. Luciano Ozuna, City Manager stated that he received the resignation of the Fire Chief Roland Espinoza which was effective on the 28th of March. He stated that he was out so he received the letter today. He stated that it is sad to see him go, he has been ill for quite sometime, the Chief and himself worked together, he was a very dedicated person to the Fire Department and to the City of Alamo. Mr. Ozuna announced that they received their bond rating today from Standards and Pour Global Ratings, which are the ones that rate the city's bond credit, he is happy to report that the city has been upgraded from an A to and A Plus. He stated that what this means is that because of the financial condition that the city has been for a number of years and also because of the fund balance that they have kept in the city and other factors that they factor in, such as budget, keep up with the budget, the audits, they look at all of that, the management, staff and everything else that the city has done in the past several years since it was given an A rating, they upgrade you, which means that the city is in good financial condition to an A Plus.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales thanked Mr. Ozuna, staff, Yvette for keeping the city healthy as far as balancing the budget.

D. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for the second regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

Commissioner Robert de la Garza motioned to approve the minutes for the second regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Commissioner Trino Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on Tuesday, January 23, 2018.

Commissioner Robert de la Garza motioned to approve the minutes for the special meeting held on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales seconded the motion. Motion carried.

F. Consideration and action on an inter-local agreement with Hidalgo County for Library Services.

Mr. Ozuna asked Lori Solis, Library Director, whether she was going to give a presentation on this or was this basically the same contract that they approve every year.

Lorie Solis stated that was correct.

Commissioner Pilar Garza motioned to approve the inter-local agreement with Hidalgo County for Library Services. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales seconded the motion. Motion carried.

G. Consideration and action to approve the 2018-2019 inter-local with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley for the storm water task force membership and representative appointment.

Melissa Gonzalez stated that this was basically the same annual inter-local that they get with UTRGV for the storm water task force. She stated that the fee is the same \$11,992.00 for the year which is in the budget. She stated that Ernesto Solis is the storm water specialist, he is still the actual representative and she still attends all the meetings, functions, grant writing, and events.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales motioned to approve the 2018-2019 inter-local with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley for the storm water task force membership and representative appointment. Commissioner Robert de la Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

H. Consideration and action on a request to allow an additional hour of entertainments as well as road closure for the Annual Watermelon Festival & BBQ Cook-Off in Central Park to be held on May 12, 2018.

Arnold Robles, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that there are three request on the item. First is the closure of Main Street from 7th Place all the way to 9th Street. He stated that this year they also wants to close 8th Street all the way to Austin Street so they could include some arts and craft booths there between the Bed and Breakfast and Mr. Acosta's place. He stated that the other item that the special event committee wanted to add was the additional hour for the festival, instead of ending at 10:00 p.m. for it to go to 11:00 p.m. because they have been cutting it short at 10:00 p.m. every year and the special event committee felt that the extra hour if approved would be appreciated.

Commissioner Robert de la Garza motioned to approve the request to allow an additional hour of entertainments as well as road closure for the Annual Watermelon Festival & BBQ Cook-Off in Central Park to be held on May 12, 2018. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I. Consideration and action on a proposal from CAPEX Consulting Group to provide professional services related to the implementation of a separated labor and

materials agreement program for sales tax optimization and to develop a wastewater infrastructure capacity buy-in for the future wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Ozuna stated that at the last workshop that they had two weeks ago, they made a presentation in regards to having this consulting group assist the city in collecting sales tax on the purchases of materials that it would take to build the emergency room. He stated that what they would like to do is take advantage of the sales tax even though the purchases are made at a different part of Texas not Minutes for April 3, 2018

Page 3

in the City of Alamo or even outside of the State of Texas and for the city to collect those sales tax. He stated that they estimated about \$40,000.00 that the city would collect if this program were to go through. He stated that they are still working on the I guess, the fine tuning, the proposal with South Texas Health System, they have had some questions in regards to, because the buy in bulk materials, from where they have it central supplier in Alabama. He stated that they build six emergency rooms through out the County so they use the same supply company. He stated that they still have to iron out some details on that and they will be having a meeting on the 12th of April with the South Texas Health System and Mr. Jeff Snowden who is the principle of CAPEX Consulting Group to see if this thing can work. However, he stated that he would like the blessing of the City Commission for them to negotiate and enter into this letter of agreement for a fee of \$7,500.00. He stated that is one part of the letter of agreement, the other part is for him to set up a capture of fees for new developments that come into the city like they do with the parks, in order words, when somebody comes in with a subdivision the city charges so much per lot and they put it in the parks accounts for any park project that they may have around the city. He stated that it's the same thing only this will be for sewer services, for so much per lot on a new subdivision that will come in into the city so he will assist the city in helping them put together a program to do this, thus reducing the cost for as for any sewer services in the future. He stated that this is what this CAPEX is, if you all remember they had a presentation two weeks ago so he would like to recommend for the City Commission that they approve this letter of agreement. He stated that they have it in their packet.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales motioned to approve the proposal from CAPEX Consulting Group to provide professional services related to the implementation of a separated labor and materials agreement program for sales tax optimization and to develop a wastewater infrastructure capacity buy-in for the future wastewater treatment plant. Commissioner Robert de la Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

J. Consideration and action on a request for an inaugural “STOP Out Epilepsy” to be held on September 15, 2018 at Alamo Central Park.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated that Ms. Vivian Salazar gave them a presentation at the last meeting or the meeting before on this. She asked Vivian whether she wanted to add anything else to this.

Ms. Vivian Salazar stated that she has flyers and sponsor packages so that way she can start preparing for the event.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales motioned to approve the request for an inaugural “STOP Out Epilepsy” to be held on September 15, 2018 at Alamo Central Park. Commissioner Robert de la Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. Consideration and action on a request for proposed positions for the Alamo Police Department.

Police Chief Baudilio Castillo stated that this past month he has implemented a lot of positive changes for the police department. The moral of the officers is at a place where it's never been in years. He stated that he approaches the Commission for approval on four positions. He is trying to built a solid platform for the department and accomplish their goals and where he would like to take this department in the next couple of years. He stated that he is requesting approval of two police officers, one jailer, and one ID Tech, this positions will be very valuable and it will be a great asset for the department and it will give them a strong foundation to build from.

Mayor Pro-tem Pete Morales motioned to approve the request for proposed positions, two officers, one jailer and one ID Tech, for the Alamo Police Department. Commissioner Trino Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

L. Consideration and action on an ordinance to amend the General Fund Budget to provide funding for the authorized positions for the Alamo Police Department.

Mr. Ozuna stated that the ordinance was in their packet, this is to provide funding from the city's fund balance of the general funds for the salaries of these four positions. He stated that the amount would be for half a year in this current fiscal year and remains until September 30th which is six Minutes for April 3, 2018

Page 4

month. He stated that the total amount on an annual basis is \$154,000.00 however since they are half a year in this fiscal year it will be \$77,029.50 which will include fringe benefits and taxes.

Commissioner Robert de la Garza motioned to approve the ordinance to amend the General Fund Budget to provide funding for the authorized positions for the Alamo Police Department. Commissioner Trino Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

M. Consideration and action on a request by the Lion's Club to close 7th Street for the proposed Fourth of July Celebration.

Father Rene Angel stated that in behalf of the Alamo's Lions Club they are preparing the Fourth of July celebration. He stated that it was awesome last year. It was more than they expected and it was perfect. He stated that they plan to do it again this year on 4th of July, there will be all day events and live music. He stated that they are asking the City Commission to close 7th Street, which they did it last year and they had the car show there. He stated that also, which he didn't know whether the use of the use the park and the security lights was in the packet, if not he would like to request it at the next meeting.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated that the item on stated the closure of 7th Street.

Commissioner Trino Medina asked Mr. Ozuna if they could add that for the next meeting and also the designation from Fannin to Ridge Road which was not on there.

Father Rene Angel asked for the closure of the road.

Commissioner Trino Medina answered yes, 7th Street from Fannin to Ridge Road.

Mr. Ozuna stated that could be added, that could be approved tonight, that section of 7th Street from Fannin to Ridge Road. He stated that what he did failed to put and he just noticed that, was the request for the use of the park by the Lions Club. He stated that he would put that on the next meeting.

Father Rene Angel stated that the use of the security lights and restrooms.

Commissioner Trino Medina stated that the ball park lighting, if they could use that too.

Mr. Ozuna stated that they could turn on the light and the restroom are there and they could have them open.

Commissioner Trino Medina asked whether they could turn on the baseball park light on.

Mr. Ozuna asked whether they are requesting all four fields.

Commissioner Trino Medina stated that only the ones facing the north side.

Arnold Robles stated that they don't have to turn them all on because he didn't thing that they will be walking around.

Commissioner Trino Medina stated that was true. He stated that they could add that to the next

meeting.

Mr. Ozuna stated that they would work it out with them.

Ms. Nelly Medina stated that could they also add that depending on how the wind blows, the fireworks, last year they had to test from the park and or from the school as well. That was what the person told them, depending on how the wind is blowing, it's a matter of doing the fireworks.

Minutes for April 3, 2018

Page 5

Father Rene Angel stated that was day by day because it's dangerous to the school or it could be dangerous for the people that are watching.

Commissioner Trino Medina stated that they could add to request that the fire department to be there.

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to approve the request by the Lion's Club to close 7th Street from Fannin to Ridge Road for the proposed Fourth of July Celebration. Commissioner Trino Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

N. Consideration and action on a variance to allow a 5.2' side corner setback instead of the 10' side corner minimum required by code, physically located at 955 W. Austin Avenue, legally described as Lot 1, Block 55, Alamo Original Townsite for Jaime S. Sandoval.

Bobby Salinas, Community Planning & Development Director, stated that this site is located on the southeast corner of Austin and 10th Street. Mr. Sandoval is going to build a 16' x 20' carport and a new kitchen expansion. He stated that basically what he is doing is he is taking the same line that he has existing and just bringing it down, just keeping all the same alignment to add the carport and expanding a portion of the home. He stated that he does explain in his write-up and even with that expansion he is still 40' away from the actual pave road. He stated that they have huge right-a-ways in the old town site. He stated that staff has no objection to this variance and the Planning and Zoning had a meeting on the 21st and they also voted to approve the variance.

Commissioner Robert de la Garza motioned to approve the variance to allow a 5.2' side corner setback instead of the 10' side corner minimum required by code, physically located at 955 W. Austin Avenue, legally described as Lot 1, Block 55, Alamo Original Townsite for Jaime S. Sandoval. Commissioner Trino Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Five minutes per person with no response from the City Commission. Residents must sign up prior to the city meeting.

Ms. Maria Rodriguez addressed her concern regarding the Tower Road liftstation. She stated that she has been here before, she stated that she has lived there for 30 years, she lives about 50' from the liftstation. She stated that her concern is the smell which is very bad. She stated that this has been going on for a long time. She stated that they go to her house and they said it may be the restroom or something but it's not. She stated that the smell is so bad that they have to leave the house. She stated that she would like for them to help her with this issue and to take care of this.

Pastor Dino Tuttle addressed his concern regarding immigration. He stated that they need protection and consideration from the police department. He stated that he spoke with the Police Chief who has been very understanding. He stated that they have enter into a program National to give ID cards to church members, it's something that is renewed every year, it has name, address and date of birth because if a person is stop by the police and they don't have proper identification with them, they can be taken in to the police department. He stated that this would eliminate a lot of the problems. He stated that on the bottom of the ID card there is a bar code. He understands that the police cars do not have bar code readers, which probably would be a good idea in the future to put a bar code reader there. He stated that all this

information is registered and verified and they are reviewed every year so the information will remain current. He stated that if a person is stopped, they need to state their name, address and date of birth, if that's questionable they're people have this card. He stated that this is something that not just from Apostolic Church, it's national, any church can get into it to provide a little bit of extra protection for their people. He stated that he just want people to be able to work and not have the immigration on their back. He stated that was the method that they are doing. He stated that he just wanted to inform the City Commission what they are doing and hoping that this can resolve a lot of questions. He thanked the Commission for all that they are doing here in Alamo they are happy to live here. He stated that he just want everybody to be extra concern about the immigrant community now that the State and now it looks like the Federal are trying to do everything to disrupt the families and their way of life.

Minutes for April 3, 2018

Page 6

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting.

Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:

Margot Salas, City Secretary