

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday August 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m, at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

**COMMISSION PRESENT:**

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

**COMMISSION ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robert L. Salinas, Interim City Manager  
Rick Palacios, City Attorney  
Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary  
Celia Garcia, Municipal Judge  
Lori Solis, Library Director  
Roy Contreras, Fire Chief  
Alicia Cano, Human Resources  
Julio Villarreal, Public Works Director

Michael Torres, IT Director  
Rogelio Alaniz, Interim Police Chief  
Adela Perez, Purchasing Agent

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

*Mayor Diana Martinez called the first regular meeting held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. Mayor Diana Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Tuttle led the Invocation.*

**C. Presentations and Announcements**

*Commissioner Pete Morales announced the ground breaking for David Fuentes with the Tax Assessor, Pablo Villareal at 1902 Stevens Ave, Weslaco, TX*

**D. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for the first meeting of August 6, 2019.**

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.*

**E. Consideration and action to reject and readvertise the bids for the Alamo Youth Center Air Conditioning Replacements.**

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas stated there was only one bid and the bid was over budget. He stated that he will be meeting with the Architect George Garcia to figure out the reason why bids are over budget.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to reject and readvertise, and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded. Motion carried.*

**F. Consideration and action on a request by the Municipal Judge to hold an Amnesty Program for people with outstanding traffic warrants.**

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas stated every year the Judge Celia holds an Amnesty Program for people with outstanding traffic warrant, this year will be for the month of September 2019. He stated flyers will be made to promote the program as well to be placed in the digital billboard.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded. Motion carried*

**G. Consideration and action regarding a contract with Maverick Media & Consulting for a television marketing and consulting agreement for the City of Alamo.**

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas stated at the moment we have AriVela to do the radio, and now we are looking to do the TV side. He stated that Maverick Media has presented a proposal in which that they will be producing commercials for Channel 5 and Telemundo. Package 1 offers 46 spots on Channel 5 and 54 spots on ME T.V &*



*Somos, and all day in TELEMUNDO. Package 2 offers 30 spots and 15 rotators all day in TELEMUNDO, plus his consulting fee that includes the editing and producing of commercials. Package 1 is at a cost of \$19,600 or Package 2 at \$19,180. Commissioner Pete Morales asked who will be person to authorize on what will be shown Interim Robert Salinas stated he will be the one who will review all material*

*Commissioner Trino Medina asked for the total amount Interim Robert Salinas responded with the actual tv spots, the cost is \$9,600 and his consulting fees are for the whole year. He said he will cover the watermelon festival and the possibility of obtaining sponsorship as well.*

*Mayor Diana Martinez motioned approve, and Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.*

**H. Presentation by VIDA on a contract renewal for training and skills development for Alamo Residents request for FY 19-20.**

*Irma Garcia, Program service director presented on the benefit of the VIDA program has to offer to the community of Alamo. VIDA provides it's economically disadvantaged residents with assistance in obtaining job training and postsecondary education to compete for demand occupations. VIDA's 2015 Economic Impact Study conducted by UTPA in which the findings show that VIDA's work has a positive incremental economic impact on the Rio Grande Valley. The study shows that for every one dollar invested in VIDA and its participants, there is a \$12.12 return to the communities that we serve. This translates to a return on the community's investment of \$29.6 million dollars in additional jobs, income, taxes and output in the local economy. Ms. Garcia requested the continued investment of \$12,500 to serve 3 Alamo residents in FY 19-20.*

*Anaya Rangel stated VIDA has helped her with her last 4 weeks of her associates in Nursing.*

*Mayor Diana Martinez asked if this is part of the budget Interim City Manager Robert Salinas responded with yes, and we can bring it back as an action item*

*Cristina Lopez stated VIDA has helped her with her associates in teaching and how wonderful the program is.*

**I. Discuss and Consider Proposed Tax Rate for the City of Alamo for Fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 and Setting Public Hearings.**

*Finance Director Yvette Mendoza stated the Effective Tax Rate is \$0.5677, Rollback Tax Rate \$0.6210 and Last Year's Tax Rate \$0.581700. The effective rate will give you the same tax levy as last year; the roll back tax rate will be if we adopt a new tax rate, then an election must be done for a new tax rate.*

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas mentioned he informed the commission on changes from the Texas Legislature; do not allow cities to increase than any more 3.5% starting in January 2020. He also stated this does not mean he will be increasing taxes and our current tax rate is \$0.581700 and if we continue to keep this tax rate, the city is able to continue with certain proposal we have in the budget. Interim City Manager Robert Salinas suggested leaving it at the same a rate of \$.0581700, a record vote is needed at this time.*

*For: Mayor, Commissioner Place 1, Commissioner Place 2, Commissioner Place3 and Commissioner Place 4*

*Against: none*

*Finance Director Yvette Mendoza stated now a publication as a notice and hold two public hearings will be required for the citizens.*

**J. Presentation by the Alamo Police Department regarding procedures that have been implemented within the department.**

*Interim Police Chief Rogelio Alaniz announced Alamo Rd will be under construction during the first week of school, but Alamo Police Department will have additional patrol around the schools to make sure there is enough safety. He stated he met with Chief Contreras with the Fire Department regarding the street closure, and mentioned to the public to please report any concerns to either the interim police chiefs or to the fire department.*

*Currently the police department is working on closing a few cases regarding a hit and run, as well, as a shooting around the country club. He stated both cases are pretty much closed, the suspects in both cases are in custody.*

*Commissioner Trino Medina asked if that was the one that started in Burger King*

*Interim Police Chief Rogelio Alaniz responded, yes. He also mentioned the explorer program is meeting every Wednesday at the library, with Jacob Garcia as head advisor new programs are beginning to develop such as a National Night Out on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the PSJA Wolverines stadium from 5pm-8pm. Both police department and the fire department will be hosting a free flag football game, school supplies will be given away and free food is included.*

*Police Liaison, Rose Garcia has been doing a great job with the at risk students and cleaning the community, with the graffiti and tire clean up.*

*Within the monthly report it shows an officer is still attached to a Major Crimes Unit, DEA, and HSI. This month seizures are:*

*Cocaine: 63 Kilos*

*Heroin: 20 Kilos*

*Crystal Meth: 105 Kilos*

*Fentanyl: 8 Kilos*

*Currency: \$1,486,005*

*Vehicles: 1 Pick up Truck*

*Firearms: 30 (Assault Rifles, Handguns, Grenade launcher Tube)*

*Interim Police Chief Rogelio Alaniz stated these seizures do not depict Alamo, and all these numbers are not from Alamo. These numbers are from the officer's attachment with different agencies.*

*Mayor Diana Martinez asked what the status of the crime stoppers*

*Interim Police Chief Rogelio Alaniz responded with all the documents are ready but it's up to the committee to move the process along.*

**K. Consideration and action to replace/appoint members to the AEDC.**

*Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to remove Ricardo Salazar and appointed Michael Gonzalez, and Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza seconded. Motioned Carried.*

*Commissioner Trino Medina asked who has been removed*

*Mayor Diana Martinez responded remove Ricardo Salazar and appointed Michael Gonzalez*

*Commissioner Pete Morales opposed*



**L. Consideration and action regarding the city employees health insurance options.**

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas stated based on the workshop earlier, he is recommending TML's option 3 at a 5.81% increase and will give the employees a co-pay.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion Carried.*

**M. Consideration and action on an ordinance approving the new building permit fees schedule.**

*Interim City Manager Robert Salinas stated as required by House Bill 852 to change the current Building Permit Fee we currently charge per sq. feet and is proposing a \$0.32 per sq. feet fee. He stated that this ordinance is for the new commercial building and not for residential.*

*Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Trino Medina seconded. Motion carried.*

**N. Presentation of AEDC Monthly Report.**

*As of August 1, 2019, City of Alamo Finance Department reports:*

*IRP Balance: \$854,992.50*

*RBEG Balance: \$184,917.54*

*Total RLF Balance: \$1,039,910.04*

*Balance Owed: \$216,835.09 (as of August 5, 2019)*

*As of the August 1, 2019, all accounts were considered current.*

*Small Business Grant Program:*

*7/2/19: Received an application from Laura Elizondo, Little Dreamers ECDC*

*7/8/19: Staff review of SBGP application by Little Dreamers; Staff visited site to take before pictures of the project.*

*He also mentioned based on the information provided, Medek LLC maintained a workforce of 19 employees for the quarter. As for the shirt program, total of 8 designs were received.*

**O. Presentation of Departmental Reports.**

*Commissioner Pete Morales asked Chief Contreras on failed inspections and what is the plan of action.*

*Chief Contreras responded that once the inspection is done the company has two weeks to repair any damages, if more time is needed the inspector will work with the company.*

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

*Lisa Lawson presented on Paws 4 a Cause*

*Dino Tuttle presented on speed bump complaints*

*Albert Cazares presented on the growth of the city*

*Omar Guerra praised the police department*

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.

*There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 8:01pm*

  
Mayor Diana Martinez

**ATTEST:**

  
Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary