

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the First Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 04, 2020 at 7:00 p.m, at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Mayor Diana Martinez
Robert De La Garza, Mayor Pro-Tem
Okie Salinas, Commissioner
Pilar Garza, Commissioner
Pete Morales, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert L. Salinas, City Manager
Rick Palacios, City Attorney
Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary
Richard Ozuna, Police Chief
Roy Contreras, Fire Chief
Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director

Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the regular meeting held on Tuesday, August 04, 2020 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. Presentation and Announcements

Mayor Diana Martinez asked for a moment of silence for Martha Alvarado

Commissioner Pete Morales asked for moment of silence for Ms. Maria Socorro Medina

Pastor Tuttle mentioned the Youth Center is open on Fridays at 7:00pm

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the City of Alamo and the Census will host a "Censational" food drive from 4-6 pm.

D. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for the second regular meeting of July 21, 2020.

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried

E. Updated Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated a few updates regarding today's declaration, this will be effective tomorrow at 12am to August 18th. A few changes consisted of bringing back essential travel, 2 people per vehicle. In addition, there is a Health Authority Order to all City of Alamo residents, this guide is to help residents on what you need to do. He mentioned during a conference call with the county and city managers, he asked if flea markets can be added to the declaration. He stated if its just for the City of Alamo then he was not agreeing with it, but if it was all the flea markets throughout the valley then that is fair.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated the reason why Alamo is targeted is because it's off the expressway.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated he has met with Fire Chief and Police Chief and they have been sending units in the mornings and afternoon and have been complying.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated there are not that many people

City Manager Robert Salinas stated even the county has sent their Fire Marshall and they sated everyone is complying

Commissioner Pilar Garza stated that's good that you mentioned all flea markets; not only target Alamo

Commissioner Pete Morales stated during a surprise visit he noticed vendors with their masks pulled down and someone driving in golf and not enforcing the rules.

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza motioned to approve, and Mayor Diana Martinez seconded. Motion carried.

F. Presentation regarding the Santo Livas and Farias detention ponds.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz presented on the updated on the Santo Livas and Farias detention ponds, he stated the line was cut from the district. He suggested to the engineer from the district to connect to a TXDOT line.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked will the district be involved

City Manager Robert Salinas responded as an update the district have spoken in doing the ditch themselves. I am not sure how much on the depth, and did discuss 12th street to be connected going West.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked will they go from 4ft to 7ft

City Manager Robert Salinas responded he is not sure on the depth

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded the deeper the better, the issue is at the time the school district wanted it dry. When the rain event finishes, they wanted it to flow out and dry, if you go 7 ft it will never dry unless its pumped out. At the moment the city is pumping into private property, what we are trying to do is install a pump to connect to the TXDOT inlet.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated according to employees there should have been a swale from 12th to Alamo Rd.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded there's a pipe crossing the drive way they put in that flows west, instead of East towards the inlets.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated what was the problem not putting in the swale knowing it was going to flood. The homeowner was calling while he was in the hospital, because he was worried his house was going to flood.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded this swale can be put in instead of a pipe but the current pipe is reversed, our plan was to eliminate it. The school district actually poured concrete over it and made it much more complicated, and placed the pipe 2ft deeper.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked why wasn't the soil done since the beginning.

Commissioner Pete Morales responded the issue is because of the pipe being 2ft deeper

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded mainly because of the pipe being reversed, you can place a swale in the school property but you need permission.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked do we have permission

City Manager Robert Salinas responded in the past two weeks it sounds like the district is willing to do to the project and will do everything our engineer has suggested.

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated we should have the city engineer involved

City Manager Robert Salinas responded correct, at this stage it's all preliminary

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked do we have permission to construct the swale

City Manager Robert Salinas responded no

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded the issue is even with the swale the water has flow in a certain direction, the district wanted this dry.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the district wanted a detention pond not a retention pond, and at this time it's a retention pond, we are working with the district and hope we have positive news on alleviating 12th street.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked for the next meeting bring the city engineer to the next meeting

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz stated in regards to Farias our goal is to reverse the pipe and flow to Acacia, but without a hydraulic study it will be difficult to determine the actual flow. We also looked into going North into the expressway system because they have larger pipes the issue is the pipes are too shallow and we can not reach it unless we add a pump station then you can pump it away from your system.

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza so you can bleed it.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded we have done it before but with a 6 or 8 inch

City Manager Robert Salinas responded we did to that in the last storm until TXDoT stopped us.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded because the storm was over land and TXDoT was trying to drain the expressway

Mayor Diana Martinez the reason why it was being drained to the expressway because it was not flooded and they got upset

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded because you needed a permit

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated he doesn't want it overflowing to the expressway

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded what needed to be done is connect it to the inlet and tie it in with a 8inch bleeder. What they wanted is a choke

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza stated the detention pond behind H-E-B takes a week before it drains

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded does it have an exit

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza stated it's a 4inch

Mayor Diana Martinez asked to speak with the school district to determine their plans

City Manager Robert Salinas responded the one on Santos Livas is on the table because of the contractors are still working on the park and treating it like a change order and the one in Farias will be a little more difficult but it will not hurt to ask

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked this in not a for sure fix

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded he is not sure until the study is done, but it will help Alamo Rd. by flowing to the Acacia system and removing flows from the Duranta System

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza responded was the Duranta system designed by you

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded just up to Alamo Rd.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked to consider Cesar Chavez Rd.

Commissioner Pete Morales stated Commissioner Okie Salinas and himself have spoken with the residents and their concerns regarding the flooding

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz stated the Cesar Chavez project is something to look at even though its 3 years away.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked what is the most he can do on the depth of the detention pond

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded 4 feet, the ones in McAllen they are 10 ft deep but they all here pump stations

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza stated if you place a pump system all of that water when they put in the new line on Acacia basically I never got flooded on 6th and now I get flooded. If you force more water down the pipe.

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded the theory on that pump station it does not come on until the rain event is over, so it should not cause any flooding

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked which is why the McAllen ponds are 10ft deep

City Engineer Ronnie Cruz responded yes

G. Consideration and action regarding funding for the PSJA Connectivity Equipment and Services.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated there is no representation from PSJA, this was a request from PSJA to purchase hot spots and laptops utilizing COVID money. In the packet it states we can do a 1:1 match with TEA paying half or TEA can pay 50% and cities and counties pay 25% and then the TEA will pay an additional 25%. The city will be paying \$167,000, my concern is not only do we have PSJA in our district but we have IDEA, Vanguard and the Christian Academy as well. If we approve something like this, then we may have all schools coming forth. At the beginning it was required to submit a budget, if we utilize it for the school then it will affect us. I was hoping for someone to be here because I wanted to ask why we are putting in \$167,000 and the school is putting in a 0%. After speaking with other city managers non-have placed this item in from of city commission, and they had the same concerns.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated it would be best if we can bring in a representative from PSJA

Commissioner Pete Morales stated Donna ISD are paying for their entire WIFI

Mayor Diana Martinez asked if the district will be receiving any funding from the state

City Manager Robert Salinas responded that has not been confirmed.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked what about the county for rural areas

City Manager Robert Salinas responded they can

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated they said they invested over 6 million, what will \$167,000 do?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded what was brought up was they will be placing WIFI on buses and being dispersed in certain areas and this can go away next year.

City Attorney stated if you table this item you are required to place it on the next agenda compared no action, you can present it later

Mayor Diana Martinez took no action

Commissioner Pete Morales stated Donna ISD are building towers

H. Consideration and action to approve the 2020-2021 FY Interlocal agreement for the Urban County Program

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is our Annual Interlocal Agreement with Urban County, it states the monies we are receiving in the amount of \$270,866.00. What we have programmed for this particular funding are sewer improvements over at Alamo Orchards Subdivision.

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to approve, and Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked any money for the Crockett project?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded that project is budgeted for this year.

I. Consideration and action to approve the first amendment to the Cooperation Agreement with Hidalgo County Urban Program Fiscal Years 2021-2023.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated back in March we approved a Cooperation agreement with Urban County. What's being presented in an amendment adding a sentence stating "and it may not participate in a ESG consortium except through the County, regardless of whether the County receives an ESG formula allocation".

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

J. Consideration and action regarding a contract renewal with VIDA for training and skills development for Alamo Residents request for FY 20-21.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this money is already allocated for this year's budget.

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

K. Consideration and action on a second and final reading of an Alamo Economic Development Corporation incentive agreement for A3H Foods II, LP.

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia stated this is second and final reading of an Alamo Economic Development Corporation incentive agreement for A3H Foods II, LP.

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to approve, and Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza seconded. Motion carried.

L. Consideration and action to appoint a member on the Alamo Economic Development Corporation Board.

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to appoint Jesse Vela, and Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De La Garza seconded. In dissent Commissioner Pete Morales, Commissioner Okie Salinas and Commissioner Pilar Garza

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to table, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion Carried.

M. Presentation regarding the AEDC progress report for ACAP

City Manager Robert Salinas stated 21 applications have been approved for a total of \$ 71,367.98, 8 business application which a total of \$33,625.33 and 13 mortgage application of a total of \$37,741.84

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia stated at the beginning we had 96 applicants and today we have 101 and have reviewed 101. We are pending 31 applicants, the ones not approved we contact the

applicants for additional information. We have only denied 6, the majority are because they are outside city limits and the others just did not qualify due to program parameters.

City Manager Robert Salinas asked to explain the mortgage

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia responded all of these individuals have been approved 4 months' worth of mortgage or rent. What was discussed with the board, if they got too many applicants then we will revisit the time frame. This program has to end on 8/31.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated just for informational purposes, we, as a city, will submitting the first round of reimbursements by Friday.

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia stated the city will be receiving the original documents

Commissioner Pete Morales stated Speedway Motors was delinquent

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia stated they are current as of last month, they were on deferment for 3 months but according to program parameters, he was able to show 50% loss, 40% gross sales

Commissioner Pete Morales responded is this going to help him

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia responded its all general operating capital

N. Consideration and action on a site plan proposal for "Just-A-Closet Self Storage" as required by Alamo Corners / St. Ives Subdivision.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this property is located South of Walmart it's East of the old Chinese restaurant in the plaza. This building will be wrapped around the plaza that is located on the South side, it's for a self-storage. In your packet is a proposal for 6 building for self-storage, the first building will be a two story and air controlled. This subdivision requires a site plan for approval, landscape, drainage plans, and building plans have been submitted.

Mayor Pro-Tem Robert De la Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: The city will be accepting public comments from 8am-5pm on the day of the meeting to be announced during the meeting. Email comments to arangel@alamotexas.org. Five minutes per person with no response from the City Commission. Residents must sign up prior to the city meeting.

No Citizen participation

I. ADJOURNMENT

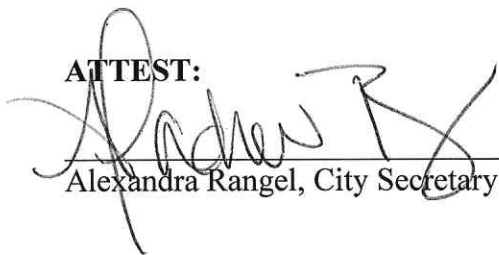
Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.

There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm



Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:



Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary

