

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Second Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 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
Cris 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 18, 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 thanked the volunteers who participated at the "Censational" food drive event. According to Melisa our percentage is now 41.9%.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated according to Melisa our percentage increase was 1.3% since the event. We also got an additional 90 families at the Walmart. In addition, the pool party raffle will be held on October 6th.

Mayor Diana Martinez thanked Gilbert Saenz for bringing Tim Smith to the event and KRGV's General Manager stated it was a great event.

Commissioner Pete Morales thanked Ms. Rosie Salazar for the food donation and the Salvation Army for the buckets.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked if any shirts are left

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes, and we are planning another event in the near future

D. Consideration and action to approve the minutes for the first regular meeting of August 04, 2020.

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

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

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the only difference that was made was the extension of the date. This declaration will be effective on August 19th and continue to until September 1st.

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

F. Consideration and action on approving resolution authorizing Police Chief as the Authorized Official Representative and the submission of the grant application for

Operation Stonegarden Grant through the Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) of the Governor's Office.

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

G. Presentation on the 2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program Local Solicitation for the Alamo Police Department

Police Chief Richard Ozuna presented the Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance Grant, the Alamo Police Department is eligible for \$10,501.00. This funding will be used to replenish and purchase new equipment for police officers and much needed supplies for the Criminal Investigation Department. This amount is not a burden on our tax payers.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked if they were we able to get a camera

Police Chief Richard Ozuna responded we were able to purchase 2

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked if he has the funding for the overrun part

Police Chief Richard Ozuna responded the overrun is going to come out from the asset forfeiture fund, so the tax payers do not have to pay anything. I know there is a number there but in reality, I may be short \$1,200.

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

PSJA IT Director Mr. Daniel Saenz presented on requesting additional resources for students residing in the Alamo area. We were able to meet 3rd -12th but still missing grade levels pre-k, k and 1st -2nd. An opportunity presented itself at the end of summer through a webinar held with TEA, so districts can purchase equipment and hot spot devices at a low cost. During the webinar it was said TEA will also match on what was spent. For example, hot spots being sold at a price of \$15 the district will only pay \$7.50. Once purchased, TEA stated with the remaining amount TEA will pay the other half. Mr. Saenz stated the items have already been purchased at a total of \$3.2 million and PSJA has payed \$1.6 million and is asking for cities to replenish the funds used based on the percentage of students who attend PSJA, in this case, the amount of \$167,000.

City Manager Robert Salinas asked if they have made the purchase already?

Mr. Saenz responded yes, what will happen TEA will credit back what was paid if it comes from local or state funded.

City Manager Robert Salinas asked is there a deadline

Mr. Saenz responded not yet, but we are doing this early because it's first come first serve. We are working with Hidalgo County to help out with wifi towers.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the budget has been created but if we can get money somewhere it, it will be from the salary or economic support.

Mr. Saenz stated any amount will help out the children

Commissioner Pete Morales stated I believe it best if we bring this item back and do some research at a later date.

City Manager Robert Salinas agreed, we need to look at the budget and see how we might help

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated this will allow us to see how much you are given from the county and the City of Pharr and City of San Juan.

Mr. Jesse Vela stated that need to concentrate on the homework gap. We are just asking for any support from the city that will help and the urgency is for students to start on September 8th.

Commissioner Pete Morales stated Alamo is a unique area some of the population pertains to Donna ISD, have you all reached out to them to form an alliance?

Mr. Saenz responded we are looking into it

Mayor Diana Martinez took no action

I. Consideration and action to appoint a member on the Alamo Economic Development Corporation Board. (Tabled 08/04/20)

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to appoint Michael Gonzalez and Mayor Pro -Tem Robert De La Garza seconded. Motion carried.

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

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is a renewal since the contract expires this month, the contract is proposed for 3 months, 3 months for Channel 5, ME TV and other various channels. The total cost for 3 months is \$9,000 and \$10,000 for the consultation.

Commissioner Pete Morales why didn't we get more bids

City Manager Robert Salinas stated it is not required, and stated the reason why went with Maverick Media was because it was the most cost effective.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to table, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried. Vote 3-2 with Mayor Diana Martinez and Mayor Pro-Tem De La Garza in dissent.

K. Consideration and action regarding a contract with iHeart Media for a radio marketing agreement for the City of Alamo.

City Manager Robert Salinas sated this is a renewal contract as well.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to table, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried. Vote 3-2 with Mayor Diana Martinez and Mayor Pro-Tem De La Garza in dissent.

L. Discussion and action to authorize the City Manager to publish Request for Proposals / Request for Qualifications for Professional Services and for Engineering Services for CDBG-MIT 2015 funding opportunities.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated earlier a presentation was presented by Mr. Francisco Briones.

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

M.Consideration and action to approve the purchases to improve safety in response to the mitigation of the spread of COVID-19.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the proposal before you is in regards to the second round of purchases to improve the safety and capabilities for our employees in response to and to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Access control for both Fire Departments in the amount of approximately \$15,479.17. We are also proposing the purchase of a vehicle by the police department in order to deliver health orders, perform welfare checks, and provide other essential services to citizens that have been affected by COVID-19 in the amount of \$42,500 (\$36,000 for the vehicle and \$6,500 for the radio) The total cost for these items is \$57,979.17 These costs will be filed for reimbursement through the CARES Act funds currently being held by the County. This item is before you since the costs are over \$15,000.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried.

N. Discuss and Consider Proposed Tax Rate for the City of Alamo for Fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 and Setting Public Hearings.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated recommended to keep to last year's tax rate, he stated it will remain at 0.5817. He also stated we are needing a record vote.

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

5 votes approved

O. Consideration and action on "South Alamo Plaza & Apartments Subdivision", legally described as being a 5.0 gross acre tract of land, more or less known as the South 5.0 acres of the North 10.0 acres of the East 14.14 acres out of Lot 6, Block 28, Alamo Land and Sugar Company Subdivision. Engineer: MAS Engineering LLC.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated the subdivision is located 450' north of El Gato St. along the west side of Alamo Rd. This subdivision contains 2 lots, both being over 2 acres each, thus exceeding the City's minimum area requirements. Lot 1 is being proposed for apartments and Lot 2 is being proposed for a commercial plaza. The water CCN belongs to City of Alamo. The developer is proposing water service by tapping into an existing 8" water line located along Alamo Rd. Staff has reviewed the proposal and is requiring the installation of an 8" water line or larger if required by the City Engineer that should be running through the entirety of the lot frontage. The fire department has reviewed the subdivision and is requesting 3 additional fire hydrants within the subdivision. MAS has stated that they would add a plat note requiring the additional fire hydrants during the building permit review which would also include the additional waterlines to loop the system. Future fire hydrant locations shall be as per the discretion of the Fire Department There is an existing sewer line located within Alamo Road's east most pave travel lane. Staff explained to MAS that the City was in preparations to extend a new sewer main to the west in order to be able to provide sewer services in this area. The City will be requesting a reimbursement of the cost to make this extension to the west in order to retrieve some of the costs back to the City. The developer will also be required to install the sewer line along the entirety of the frontage to and through the property. The development fronts Alamo Rd. which is a 120' Major Thoroughfare as per the MPO Thoroughfare plan. The developer is required to dedicate an additional 20' ROW in order to comply with the minimum 60' ROW requirement from centerline. Since this is a state highway, the City does not acquire escrow fees from the developer. Drainage for the subdivision shall consist of runoff from the parking area into an existing TXDOT drainage inlet.

It was stated from staff

- *Must provide proof of water district exclusion in favor of the City of Alamo*
- *Must install/escrow a 5' sidewalk along Alamo Rd.*

- *Must provide park fees for the proposed 57 apartment units @ \$300/unit which equals \$17,100.*
- *Must provide a street lighting plan to see if there is a need for additional street lighting along Alamo Rd.*
- *Must comply with any other subdivision and format findings*

staff is recommended

- *Installing both water and sewer lines to and through the subdivision;*
- *Reimbursing a pro-rate share of the sewer extension to the west side of Alamo Rd.*
- *Must install a 5' sidewalk along Alamo Rd.*
- *Provide park fees in the amount of \$17,100*
- *Provide a street lighting plan for review*
- *Must provide proof of water district exclusion*
- *Comply with all other subdivision and format findings*

This item was approved by the planning and zoning commission on Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked are these apartments section 8

City Manager Robert Salinas responded he has not been informed on the type of apartments

Commissioner Pete Morales asked are we asking for these people to pay an amount to help with repairs on lift stations.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded no, we have not looked into it

Commissioner Pete Morales stated we need some sort of funding to help out the city when repairs are needed. We need to add some sort of fee for developers, just how we do for other projects.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked is there a lift station in that area

Commissioner Pete Morales responded there should be one on El Gato Rd.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded that's correct and a fee would protect a lift station from aging.

Commissioner Pete Morales responded correct

City Manager Robert Salinas stated in order to come up with a fee we need to do a study, which we have done with the waste waer treatment plant. I just want to confirm we are not breaking any laws.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner Okie Salinas 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 7:47 pm



Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:



Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary

