

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m, at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Mayor Diana Martinez
Okie Salinas, Mayor Pro-Tem
Pete Morales, Commissioner
Robert De La Garza, Commissioner
Pilar Garza, 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
Melisa Gonzales, Special Projects Director

Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the special meeting held on Tuesday November 17, 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. Presentations and Announcements

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales announced the library grant that was submitted has been awarded, she stated they will be receiving the contract in December. This is for the Library Digital Lend Program, the library will now have 30 hot spots to lend out to the community, 20 tablets to be checked out, a 65-inch TV for the Children's room as well as a Chromecast as well as brochures for the library. This is the first library grant we have received, it is not a lot of money \$24,000 with a \$0 match.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated \$24,000 is alot of money.

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales stated the Census is over, the city ended up at 44.9%, the city limits were greater than the actual percentage because they counted all of our ETJs. She stated now it's time for the drawing for the pool party.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked what is this for?

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales responded for a pool party, for the citizens who did their census. It's a pool party for up to 25 people, they will receive a lifeguard provided by the city and hopefully free pizza.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated he wanted to thank for those who participated in filling out their census.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked who is the first winner?

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales responded Rosa Martinez, the second winner is Nyla Rios, Juan Guajardo, Estephanie Garcia, and Sylvia Martinez.

D. Consideration and Action to approve the minutes for the first regular meeting of November 03, 2020.

Commissioner Pilar Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Robert De La Garza seconded. Motion carried.

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

City Manager Robert Salinas asked Chief Ozuna on the latest details

Chief Richard Ozuna stated as of yesterday morning the information provided to him states 10 new cases within the city limits, he has not received an updated list today.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated she noticed the higher numbers are from Edinburg, Mission, Weslaco, and McAllen.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated just to expand on the Chief's information. He stated as of this morning the total positive cases for the entire county were 426 people, where in the past weeks it has only been in the 100 range. It is believed because of the Halloween events, now we have Thanksgiving coming up. In this list it does state 13 new cases, this does include outside city limits. We have seen a spike, and we have had staff get sick. We are starting to see more and more people to getting sick, in the last meeting there was a discussion on the approval of the garage sales. He stated he received complaints from people that they should not be having any garage sales, he received a call from a Ms. Gray from ACC who stated if individuals wanted to have a garage sale but if we can add protection to senior communities. The other is the closing of the lobby, he does believe staff is protected but because of the numbers are beginning to spike but he does not want to risk any employees. He did contact other cities and they stated the lobbies are still closed. He stated he wants a recommendation for garage sales and the closing of the lobby.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated with the garage sales we need to discontinue them, she stated when she drives around people are not wearing their masks and has notified both the city manager and chief of police.

Commissioner Pilar Garza stated she has seen garage sales with a large amount of people and no one was wearing a mask. She stated on what she has been reading it is supposed to get worse.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is reason why he wanted to bring these items back for discussion to see our options to protect our people.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked as residents come in to the lobby our staff is protected correct?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes, but if it continues to spike then I will suggest to close the lobby.

Commissioner Pilar Garza stated we need to monitor this closely

Commissioner Pete Morales stated we did give specific directions to follow, and they are not following them then it does not make sense to keep them open. We tried to help them, but if they are not following then I agree in stopping the garage sales.

Commissioner Pilar Garza asked how will we notify the public.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded when they come in we can let them know, as well as a social media announcement.

Commissioner Pilar Garza stated even the police chief to monitor since some do not come and get a permit.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes, the officers have been notified to patrol

Mayor Diana Martinez stated residents have been texting her garage sales, and she texts the chief.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked Fire Chief Contreras on the flea market

Fire Chief Roy Contreras stated he has noticed one or two people not wearing a mask. Both the fire department and the police department have been doing rounds, but you do get those people not wearing a mask.

Commissioner Pete Morales stated as long as they know our officers are going to around and checking.

Commissioner Pilar Garza stated as the numbers go up, our officers need to go to make frequent rounds, she stated she has passed by and noticed people not wearing them

Fire Chief Roy Contreras stated sometimes it is difficult because people see our city vehicles and put on a mask quickly.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated he spoke with Precinct 1 they are planning to do a COVID testing around the month of December, this will be the same route we did for the Halloween trunk or treat.

Commissioner Robert De La Garza asked can we have custodial disinfect the lobby?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded we do have a worker completing their hours helping with disinfecting the high touch areas. He stated he has authorized the purchase of 2 sprayers, one for PD and their units and the other is for here.

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

Mayor Diana Martinez stated with the understanding of no garage sales.

F. Consideration and Action to approve the new contract with PSJA ISD for the use of the digital billboard.

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales stated this is the annual contract with the district, it did not go up in price it's \$1,000 a month. We get as many advertisements as we want, facing both East and West bound.

Commissioner Pilar Garza motioned to approve, and Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried.

G. Consideration and Action to amend the 2020 -2021 budget for Water and Sewer for the ARTIE Expansion Program and for reimbursement by the FY 2021 LRGVDC Regional Solid Waste Grants Program.

Special Projects Director Melisa Gonzales stated this is for the new Artie Citizen Collection site, that we are setting up across public works. The grant was for \$24,887.65 and we need to move that over.

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

City Manager Robert Salinas stated a quick update on the plans, public works will be going out for quotes on the foundation very soon.

H. Consideration and Action on an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Alamo and North Alamo Supply Corporation.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this an agreement we do every 5 years with North Alamo between Sioux Rd and half a mile west of Alamo Rd and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of Tower Rd. and $\frac{1}{4}$ miles from El Dora. This the area where they set up a lift station by PSJA Audie Murphy middle school. He does ask is if we approve it will be subject to the approval by our water billing department on the rates and discuss with North Alamo Supply on service areas, and as well with legal.

Commissioner Robert De La Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

I. Consideration and Action to appoint/reappoint members to the Alamo Economic Development Corporation.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is for 3 positions, for Alonso Garza as Vice-President, Michael Gonzalez as Director and a vacant position that was previously occupied by Jose Luz Garza. We did receive a letter from Mr. Garza is now authorized by his doctor to serve on the board.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to appoint Alonso Garza as Vice-President, Michael Gonzalez as Director and Jose Luz Garza, and Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried.

J. Presentation of AEDC Report.

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia stated As of November 2, 2020, City of Alamo Finance Department reports:

- *IRP Balance: \$934,887.68*
- *RBEG Balance: \$179,917.54*
- *Total RLF Balance: \$1,114,805.22*

He stated the RBEG loan did go down because we did a microloan last month for S&G Autos sales, that was the first and hopefully we can do more before the end of the year. As of the November 9, 2020, Balance Owed: \$151, 101.16 and one account were considered delinquent. Jorge Sanchez, Speedway Performance Motors: October and November installments.

Mayor Diana Martinez stated that was the individual that was given \$5,000.

AEDC Director Rafael Tapia responded yes, and he was current all the way until October. In October the AEDC lending program had three new contacts. Pete Grabowski, Victor Hernandez and Francisco Lopez. As for Program Maintenance:

- *Staff Facebook Posts: 17 posts (3 on AEDC programs)*
- *Email Blast: 4*
- *Print Media: Instead of the traditional November to February run on Valley Business Repo11 (VBR), staff shifted Ad placement to run October to January focusing on the Micro Loan Program and Revolving Loan Fund which will offer 6 months no payments on principal and interest until December 31, for existing businesses. VBR also provides digital promotion of the Ad via its PDF online edition and assorted ad placement on email newsletter.*

Economic Development Activity for Madiam LP, On October 19, 2020, staff followed up with Mr. Salinas, City Manager to discuss the City's willingness to provide a contract extension. Mr. Salinas indicated a willingness to entertain a request for extension of 12 months, but the request would have to come from the business. Staff followed up via email and phone with Mr. Tomas Gutierrez and advised him that if he planned to move forward with the project and still wish to keep his incentives, he would need to submit an extension request. No response from business owner was made.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked city manager, how did we do in our quarterly sales tax?


City Manager Robert Salinas responded we were up 10% to 13%.

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.

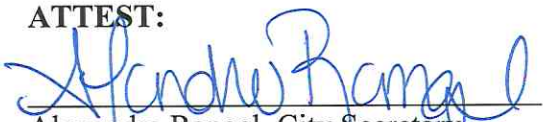
Alberto Cazares spoke on his concern on how to pay the street escrow.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.
There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:27 pm



Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:


Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary



