

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Mayor Diana Martinez
Pete Morales, Mayor Pro-Tem
J.R. Garza, Commissioner
Okie Salinas, Commissioner
Pilar Garza, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert L. Salinas, City Manager
Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary
Rick Palacios, City Attorney
Richard Ozuna, Police Chief
Roy Contreras, Fire Chief
Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director
Lori Solis, Library Director
Michael Torres, IT Director
Melissa Leal, Water Billing Supervisor

Sergio Zavala, Planning Director
Adela Perez, Purchasing Agent
Alex Oyoque, Museum Director
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer
Julio Villareal, Public Works Director
Alice Cano, HR Director
Melisa Gonzales, Special Projects Director
Yvette Mendoza, Finance Director

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the regular meeting held on Tuesday April 19, 2022 to order at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. PSJA Memorial ECHS Indoor Percussion Ensemble led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Tuttle led the Invocation.

C. Presentations and Announcements

Commissioner Okie Salinas congratulated PSJA Memorial ECHS Indoor Percussion Ensemble for placing 1st at TECA State Championship in Laredo on April 2nd, as well congratulated their parents and teachers; Mr. Castillo and Mr. Martinez.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales recognized one of the students, Mr. Espinosa is one of the Drummers. He saw one of his presentations and he did a great job.

Mayor Diana Martinez thanked the students and the parents for all their hard work.

D. Consideration and Action to approve the minutes for the first regular meeting of April 5, 2022.

Commissioner J.R. Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

E. Consideration and Action on a Schnieder Electric Letter of Interest to Perform a Business Case Analysis of the Water Plant at No Cost or Obligation.

Mr. Aaron Garcia stated Schneider Electric is interested in reviewing the water plant for a potential water conservation saving analysis.

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated our City Engineer is here to answer any questions

Mr. Aaron Garcia responded yes, we will work together

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

F. Consideration and Action to approve a proclamation for Alamo Literacy Day.

Special Projects Director Melissa Gonzales stated this proclamation be approved to ask our residents and businesses to silently read 15 minutes every 5th of the month. This is part of the little libraries grant. We will also ask schools to promote this initiative.

Mayor Pro- Tem Pete Morales asked where will they post these pictures of promotion

Special Projects Director Melissa Gonzales responded the schools can email the pictures to us and we can post them on the events page and the library page.

Mayor Pro- Tem Pete Morales asked how do we get this information out to our principals?

Special Projects Director Melissa Gonzales responded she will scan the proclamation and send it out to Arianna to the district.

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated and to Salinas Elementary Donna ISD

Special Projects Director Melissa Gonzales responded yes and to Vanguard and IDEA as well

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

G. Consideration and Action to Approve the Third Amendment of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Hidalgo County, Texas and the City of Alamo regarding the Crockett Street Widening Project.

Mr. Jorge Pena and Director of Operations Oscar Gonzalez gave an update, they are seeking approval for a third amendment due an increase of price and an extension. Phase 1 is complete. Mr. Gonzalez stated they are only just working on moving the telephone poles, we are 4 weeks away from paving the entire road. Weather permitting, as well as finishing residential driveways.

Mayor Diana Martinez asked will the striping be added when completed?

Mr. Gonzalez responded yes, we used the recycler yesterday and will start at 9AM tomorrow. This will allow the testing company a week to get back with the results and add the flex base.

Mr. Jorge Pena stated there was an increase in oil and asphalt and a 23% increase in county. We are asking for an additional 90 days.

City Manager Robert Salinas asked what was the increase?

Mr. Jorge Pena responded roughly \$23,000

City Manager Robert Salinas stated if its only on the HMAC it was only about \$20,000, unless something else was added.

Mr. Jorge Pena responded the way we configured the cost estimate it's a small cushion, he also stated they had a meeting on a drainage project and construction should last around 5 months it is a 2 mile long project.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales thanked Commissioner Fuentes Office on these project updates.

Commissioner Okie Salinas motioned to approve, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

H. Consideration and Action to approve a request by the Zeferino Farias Elementary for a 3K run to be held May 21, 2022.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated he received a request from Mr. Luis Gonzalez from Farias Elementary who want to do a 3K for the kids, within the packet you will see a map. We are working with the school to see if any traffic control is needed.

Commissioner Okie Salinas motioned to approve and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

- I. Consideration and Action on a Resolution of the City of Alamo authorizing intervention in AEP Texas Inc.'s requested rate change proceeding before the commission; approving cooperation with the cities served by AEP Texas; hiring Lloyd Gosselink attorneys and consulting services to negotiate with the company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; requiring reimbursement of cities' rate case expenses.**

City Manager Robert Salinas stated on April 6, 2022, AEP Texas Inc. filed an Application to Amend its Distribution Cost Recover Factors to Increase Distribution Rates with each of the cities in their service area. In the filing, the Company asserts that it is seeking an increase in distribution revenues of approximately \$27.56 million an approximately \$1.28 increase to the average residential customer's bill from the rates just approved in the Company's rate case. The resolution authorizes the City to join with the Cities Served by AEP to evaluate the filing, determine whether the filing complies with law, and if lawful, to determine what further strategy, including settlement, to pursue. The purpose of the Resolution is to deny the DCRF application proposed by AEP.

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

- J. Consideration and Action to approve emergency repair costs for an Emergency Sewer Manhole Repair.**

City Manager Robert Salinas stated earlier this month, we had a fiberglass sewer manhole collapsed located in the area of S. Alamo Rd. and Austin Ave. Due to the possibility of further damage to the manhole or our sewer line and the fact the manhole is located within this high traffic volume area, we needed to have it repaired immediately. The manhole was replaced with a new fiberglass manhole and is back to working order. The total cost for this project was \$16,100. These items are before you since the costs to repair were over \$15,000.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked how is this repair done when it's a state road?

City Manager Robert Salinas stated since it is our sewer line, we send an email to Mr. Noriega at TXDoT and gives us the okay during emergency repairs.

Commissioner Okie Salinas motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

- K. Consideration and Action to reappoint/appoint Alamo's Parks and Recreation Board Member.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned the resignation of Juan Chavez and appoint Freddy Colunga, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried.

- L. Consideration and Action to approve a new position for Marketing/Public Relations.**

City Manager Robert Salinas stated a preliminary job description was given, the job function of this person is responsible for the face of the city for social media interviews, in charge of social media platforms. We are here to discuss the salary and job duties.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked did we look around for pay?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded it varies to what you want this person to do, if you want a Director it will be over \$50,000 or a Coordinator/ Specialist around \$40,000-\$45,000.

Commissioner J.R. Garza stated he thinks a Director is a good choice

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales stated as we bring something new like this, we are learning as we go and as a Director they are held accountable.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked will this person do the work of the two contracts we had, for media and iheart?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded the only difference is we will still have to pay for the channels/ radio for commercials.

Commissioner Okie Salinas stated but they will be doing the negotiation, and that is roughly a \$30,000 cost.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes

Commissioner J.R. Garza stated usually the news media does its own production, we don't need to hire someone for that.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded the good thing Commissioner J.R. Garza's background is in media, which can help. Just to verify, we are looking for an exempt position, a Director and its own department, salary?

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked do we have salaries from neighboring cities?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded every city is different they all have different types specialist, coordinators and directors.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked did you see if these positions were exempt?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded he did not see if they were.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked at the end of the day we need someone who will stay for events, weekends etc. and can we approve this and comeback and discuss salaries.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes, on the next meeting we can comeback with a spreadsheet with salaries and job descriptions.

Commissioner J.R. Garza motioned to approve, and Commissioner Okie Salinas seconded. Motion carried.

M. Consideration and Action to approve MOU between Urban Strategies Refugio and The City of Alamo Police Department.

Chief of Police Richard Ozuna stated this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between Urban Strategies Refugio (US) and The City of Alamo Police Department; hereafter named as Service Provider to enter into an agreement to collaborate and advocate for the protection of Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) who allege and/or report sexual and physical abuse of an adult while in care.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked is there a fee?

Chief of Police Richard Ozuna responded no

Commissioner Okie Salinas motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

N. Consideration and Action to approve the Standard Operating Procedures for the Alamo Fire Department.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated these are the Standard Operating Procedures for the Alamo Fire Department basically these are written rules in which our Fire Fighters should follow on a daily basis and this is a living document, we will continue to change it as we see fit.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked Chief Contreras if he had a meeting with his staff and explained why the SOPs are being implemented?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded yes, he has as well as the lieutenants, we do have SOPs but they are vague.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked do they all sign these types of documents?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded yes, once approved they will each receive a booklet and sign in and keep it during their duration of employment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked as far as HR, do they keep a copy?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded yes, HR, City Manager and myself will keep a copy.

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked if he will have training after approval?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded yes, he will schedule a staff meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:31PM

The City Commission will convene in Executive Session, in accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act, Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, Exceptions To Requirement That Meetings Be Open. The City Commission reserves the right to go into executive session on any item listed in the Agenda Notice whether or not such item is posted as an Executive Session Item at any time during the meeting when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act. Subject to the foregoing reservation, the following are to items to be discussed in executive session:

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.074 Personnel Matters and §551.071 Consultations with Attorney:**
 - a. Discussion regarding potential Republic Service Contract**
 - b. Discussion regarding the general duties of the Fire Chief.**
 - c. Discussion regarding the general duties of the Parks and Recreation Director.**

OPEN SESSION: 7:46 PM

The City Commission will convene in Open Session to take necessary action, if any, in accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Open Meetings, Subchapter E, Procedures Relating to Closed Meeting, § 551.102, Requirement To Vote Or Take Final Action In Open Meeting.


CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Five minutes per person with no response from the City
No citizen participation

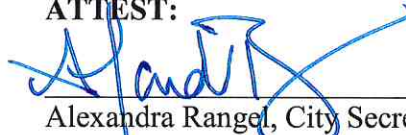
Mayor Diana Martinez thanked Lori and staff for the Easter Event last week.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.

There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:47PM


Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:

Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary

