

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 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 *Via Zoom*
Pilar Garza, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert L. Salinas, City Manager <i>Via Zoom</i>	Sergio Zavala, Planning Director
Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary	Adela Perez, Purchasing Agent
Rick Palacios, City Attorney	Alex Oyoque, Museum Director
Richard Ozuna, Police Chief	Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer
Roy Contreras, Fire Chief	Julio Villareal, Public Works Director
Rafael Tapia, AEDC Director	Yvette Mendoza, Finance Director
Lori Solis, Library Director	Melisa Gonzales, Special Projects Director
Michael Torres, IT Director	Melissa Leal, Water Billing Supervisor

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Diana Martinez called the regular meeting held on Tuesday May 17, 2022 to order at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. Mayor Diana Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance and Melisa Gonzales led the Invocation.

C. Presentations and Announcements

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales thanked the staff, chamber and volunteers at the Watermelon Festival.

Mayor Diana Martinez thanked the everyone for the 10th annual Watermelon Festival

Commissioner J.R. Garza staff, chamber and volunteers at the Watermelon Festival.

D. Consideration and Action to approve the minutes for the first regular meeting of May 3, 2022.

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

E. Consideration and Action to approve the minutes for the special meeting of May 5, 2022

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

F. Consideration and Action to Proclaim May 18th, 2022 as James Dale Earnest Day in the City of Alamo.

Commissioner J.R. Garza recognized all veterans and welcomed Mr. Scott Earnest, PSJA Class of 1966. He thanked Mr. Henry Enrique Gonzales for his hard work and determination to recognize Mr. Earnest. In addition, Mr. David Kramer in assisting with this gathering information and the City of Alamo Museum Director Alex Oyoque for his help. He continued and recited the proclamation:

WHEREAS, James Dale Earnest was born on May 18, 1947 to Robert Dale and Virginia Mae Earnest; and;

WHEREAS James Dale Earnest proudly served as a member to the 1st Aviation Brigade, 175th Assault Helicopter Company during Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, James Dale Earnest has received many awards and decorations including Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Expert Marksmanship and Aviator Flight Wings; and

WHEREAS, James Dale Earnest proud family includes his wife, Mary E. Earnest and his son, Scott; and

WHEREAS, we salute and pay tribute to the unwavering bravery and for his loyalty to our country James Dale Earnest served until July 24, 1969; and
NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the City of Alamo Board of Commissioners, I Commissioner J.R. Garza do hereby do hereby proclaim May 18, 2022, as:

“James Dale Earnest Day”

in the City of Alamo, and urge all citizens to join me in expressing my sincere appreciation and thanks to James Dale Earnest for his distinguished service to his country, and highly commend him for the manner in which he carried out his duties and responsibilities.

In addition, the city will be working on a memorial stone for Mr. Earnest

Commissioner J.R. Garza motioned to approve, and Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.

G. Consideration and Action to proclaim the second week of May as “National Skilled Nursing Care Week”.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

H. Consideration and Action on proposed projects for General Land Office 2018 and 2019 Flood Grant Programs.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated he was approached by Hidalgo County Pct. 1 regarding the General Land Office 2018 and 2019 Flood Grant Programs. As you know, we currently have Grant Works under contract to process our grant applications for these funds and we are also in the process of selecting an engineer for such projects. Pct. 1 and HCDD#1 are offering their engineering services so that we may apply for either the 2018 or 2019 program for the expansion of the Alamo Expressway drainage canal located north of the Expressway all the way to Sioux Rd. This project would not only alleviate drainage issues currently at the Alamo Country Club but should also provide enough additional storage to aid in draining the regional area east of Tower Rd. between the Expressway and Sioux Rd. Pct.1 and HCDD#1 see this as an important project not only for the City of Alamo but for the County as well. We would still be responsible for the matching funds.

If approved by the City Commission, the County would be submitting letters of support on behalf of this project.

The questions we need to consider at this time are:

- 1. Do we want to apply for this particular drainage project?*
- 2. If so, what year would we want to apply for 2018 or 2019?*

Please keep in mind that we will also be applying for another drainage project to be determined. This item is now before you.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked will these be matching grants?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes, a 1 % match.

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

I. Consideration and Action to approve Ordinance to amend the general budget for reimbursement of the Alamo Police Department Hidalgo-2021 Operation Stonegarden Grant Program.

Special Projects Melisa Gonzales stated this ordinance is to amend the General Fund Budget to provide additional funding for the Alamo Police Department in the amount of \$149,995.91 and this is for the homeland security grant for overtime and a Tahoe.

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

J. Consideration and Action on a request by Gus Guerra Elementary to use the Alamo Pool during the week of June 6th- 9th, 2022.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated Ms. Villarreal from Gus Guerra is asking to use the Alamo pool any day the week of June 6th-9th, preferably June 8th within the time from 9 A.M. - 2:30 P.M

Mayor Diana Martinez motioned to approve, and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

K. Consideration and Action to approve Ordinance to amend the general budget for reimbursement of the Alamo Fire Department Border Security Task Force grant program.

Special Projects Melisa Gonzales stated this ordinance is to amend the General Fund Budget to provide additional funding for the Alamo Fire Department in the amount of \$78,735.25. Their grant was approved on March 1st and have until February 28th to spend.

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

L. Consideration and Action to approve the Alamo Grant administration policies and procedures

Special Projects Melisa Gonzales stated these policies and procedures is to establish policies, guidelines, and general procedures that clarify responsibilities for submitting grant applications, accepting grants, and administering approved grants.

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

M. Consideration and Action regarding a resolution to join a cooperative purchasing program for goods and services with OMNIA Partners Service Center and enter into an inter-local agreement.

Purchasing Agent Adela Perez stated a resolution is needed to join the OMNIA Partners Service Center.

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

N. Consideration and Action on a State Plan of Operation between the State of Texas and the Alamo Police Department.

Chief of Police Richard Ozuna stated this is a reoccurrence between the state and local law enforcement to be with the same page.

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

O. Consideration and Action to Approve Additional Standard Operating Procedures for the Alamo Fire Department.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is are additional procedures that were not included in the last approval, this is an addendum to what was approved. It addresses additional items such as natural gas and other various emergencies.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked how are the other firefighters feeling about the new SOPs?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded we are planning a meeting next week, and I am currently passing them out for the staff to read it before the meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked if he feels comfortable with the new SOPs?

Fire Chief Roy Contreras responded yes

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

P. Consideration and Action to approve a Resolution to select engineering service provider(s) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. for the 2018 Floods funding administered by the Texas General Land Office.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated we went out for RFQs, this resolution is the process for engineering services to be selected in accordance with the 2018 GLO requirements

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked how did we do these rankings and who are the people who do the ranking.

City Manager Robert Salinas responded we have 4 staff members.

Commissioner J.R. Garza asked is there a certain criteria or training to look at?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded the GLO does send a required scoring sheet, each person will review and will score appropriately. In addition, these individuals have been scoring for several years now.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked can we get a copy of the questionnaire?

Commissioner Okie Salinas asked last year the commission ranked them?

City Manager Robert Salinas responded yes for the CDBG, that was because we ran out of time and needed to select a service as soon as possible. The only issue he has is, is when the commission is involved it gives a negative image. Yes, a copy can be sent.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve staff recommendations as Cruz-Hogan, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

City Attorney Cris Palacios stated how the RFQ works is that we go with the top rank, that gives the City Manager a chance to negotiate a contract but if for some reason it does not work out he can move on to the next.

Q. Consideration and Action to approve a Resolution select engineering service provider(s) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. for the 2019 Floods funding administered by the Texas General Land Office.

City Manager Robert Salinas stated this is the same as the previous item.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve staff recommendations as Cruz-Hogan, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

R. Consideration and Action to Approve the Bylaws of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Planning Director Sergio Zavala stated Attached are the Bylaws drafted for the Parks and Recreation Board (PRB). The PRB met on Saturday, April 30, and after their assessment, unanimously (7-0) approved that these Bylaws be approved.

The attached PRB Bylaws reflect the following:

Article 1	Organization 7 members to help enhance parks/programming
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Article 2	Quorum/Attendance mandates min. 4 present on public hearing cases.
Article 3	Duties provide advisory action on parks/programming
Article 4	Chair & Vice Chair PRB officers elected to 1-year office to preside
Article 5	Voting 1 member=1 vote; if conflict, must abstain.
Article 6	Meetings (typically on Saturdays); meetings open to public.
Article 7	Staff Support Parks Dir will provide staff assistance/research
Article 8	Bylaws may be amended by 4+ members, but must also be presented

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales asked is there a code of conduct for these members, such as how to act in public since they are representing the city.

Planning Director Sergio Zavala responded yes, that language that can be added.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve, subject to adding such language and Commissioner Pilar Garza seconded. Motion carried.

S. Consideration and Action to Amend Article 1 of the Bylaws for the Zoning Board of Adjustments (ZBA)

Planning Director Sergio Zavala the current Bylaws state that "All members are to be owners of property within Alamo's city limits." In recent review of the Texas statute that governs the Zoning Board of Adjustments (ZBA) of a municipality, i.e., Sec. 211.008, there is NO statutory requirement that a ZBA member must own property in the city he/she is serving in see attached copy of the statute.

Please be advised that Staff used a bylaws template from another city and the 'own property' criteria simply rolled-over to Alamo's version.

In assessing to reconcile the bylaws and perhaps improve it, Planning recommends that Article 1 (B) be amended as follows: "All members are to reside within Alamo's city limits."

Also, Article 1 (D)'s first sentence should be amended to read as follows: "Should a member find themselves in a circumstance of non-residency, or should there be a desire to resign from the ZBA for other reasons, he/she shall inform the Planning Director in writing or through an electronic transmission as soon as possible so that the matter of replacement may be promptly considered by the Board of Commissioners."

Staff Recommendation: Approval of proposed amendment(s) to be better reconciled to the Statute; and simply express that ZBA members need to reside in Alamo.

Mayor Pro-Tem Pete Morales motioned to approve, and Commissioner J.R. Garza seconded. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:32PM

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 §551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations and §551.071 Consultations with Attorney:
 - a. Discussion regarding potential Republic Services Contract
 - b. Discussion regarding potential economic development incentives for Ammo Development LLC.

OPEN SESSION: 7:16PM

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.

T. Consideration and Action regarding potential Republic Services Contract

No action taken at this time

U. Consideration and Action regarding potential economic development incentives for Ammo Development LLC

No action taken at this time

V. Presentation of Departmental Reports

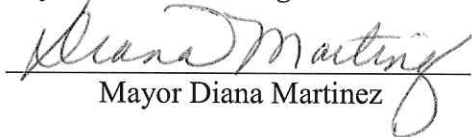
Departmental Reports were included in the commissioner's packet, no comments from the City Commission.

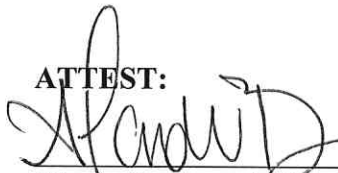
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Five minutes per person with no response from the City
No citizen participation

I. ADJOURNMENT

Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.

There being no further business, Mayor Diana Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:18PM


Mayor Diana Martinez

ATTEST:

Alexandra Rangel, City Secretary

