

The Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

COMMISSION PRESENT:

Mayor J.R. Garza
Okie Salinas, Mayor Pro-Tem
Pete Moreles, Commissioner
Roel Leon Moreno Jr., Commissioner
Arturo "AJ" Garcia, Commissioner

COMMISSION ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert L. Salinas, City Manager
Criss Palacios, City Attorney
Michael Torres, IT Director
Alex Oyoque, Museum Director
Ana Garza, Executive Assistant
Roy Contreras, Alamo Fire Chief
Sandra Chavez, Parks & Rec. Dir
Adela Perez, Purchasing Agent
Melissa Leal, Water Billing Supervisor

Alexandra Rangel, Assistant City Manager
Sergio Zavala, Planning Director
Isauro Trevino, AEDC Consultant
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer
Rodolfo Garza, Alamo Police Captain
Julio Villarreal Jr. Public Works Director
Arturo Aguirre, HR Director
Lya Yllades, Public Information Director

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor J.R. Garza called the regular meeting held on Tuesday April 16, 2024 to order at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Alamo Municipal Building. City Manager Robert L. Salinas led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Tuttle led the Invocation.

C. Presentation and Announcements

- *Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas invited everyone to the Alamo Centennial Celebration this upcoming Saturday April 27, 2024 from 4 to 9 in the Alamo Downtown Central Park. This is a free event, we will have live music, car show, vendors, food, rides and so much more.*
- *Commissioner AJ Garcia invited everyone to participate in the Time Capsule. Whom ever would like to participate can visit the Alamo Museum before April 24th to write your message for the future. The city will provide you with a paper. Your message will be introduced inside the time capsule that will be buried during the Centennial Celebration.*
- *City Manager Robert L. Salinas introduced Ms. Rebecca Regalado from Girl Scouts Troop 1104*
- *Girl Scout Troop Leader, Rebecca Regalado presented the City of Alamo with a Guava Tree. This week the girl scouts are learning about Earth Day and how to take care of plants, animals and anything in the ecosystem. One of the projects was to plant a tree and they decided to donate the tree to the City of Alamo so that along with them everyone can go and visit the tree as well as help maintain it.*
- *Alamo City Commission thanked everyone for such a nice gesture.*
- *Commissioner Pete Morales thanked our Public Works Director Julio Villareal Jr. and his staff for all the paving improvements through out the City of Alamo.*

- *Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. thanked Parks and Recreation Director Sandra Chavez for her amazing jobs in the park fields as well as the Commission for their hard work and dedication.*

D. Consideration and Action to Approve the minutes for a regular meeting on April 2, 2024.

Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. motioned to approve, Commissioner AJ Garcia seconded. Motion carried.

E. Consideration and Action to authorize the transfer of city property, Police k9 "Roni" and release of liability.

Alamo Police Captain Rodolfo Garza stated that The City of Alamo Police Department is in the process of retiring the Police K9, "Roni" who has served with the Alamo Police Department as a narcotics detection canine since 2018. Roni's work performance was evaluated which resulted in Roni having difficulty with his mobility. A recommendation was made for the retirement of Roni. The Alamo Police Department would like to transfer "Roni" to his handler and current employee, Investigator Joe Montemayor. Roni was taken into Joe Montemayor's home when he was assigned as the K9 Handler and Roni currently lives with Joe Montemayor. A proposed agreement for the transfer has been created and submitted.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked if this was a normal procedure?

Alamo Police Captain Rodolfo Garza stated that this is a standard procedure, K9s are usually donated to their handlers.

Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. asked how old is Roni?

Alamo Police Chief Rodolfo Garza stated that the standard services for a K9 is about seven to eight years

Commissioner Pete Morales thanked K9 Roni for his services and dedication to the City of Alamo

Alamo Police Captain Rodolfo Garza stated that they will be having a retirement ceremony for K9 Roni as well as formally introduced K9 Onyx. Everyone will be invited for this ceremony.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas motioned to approve. Commissioner AJ Garcia seconded. Motion carried.

F. Consideration and Action to Select a Contractor for the Morningside South Subdivision Sewer Installation Project.

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that he City of Alamo went out for bids for the installation of sewer lines and sewer lift station at Morningside South Subdivision, located at the SE corner of Cesar Chavez Rd. and Ridge Rd. The City of Alamo advertised on both March 6th and March 20th and opened bids on March 26th. The city received and opened 6 bids submitted as follows:

1.	<i>Jimmy Closner & Sons</i>	<i>\$1,341,319.00</i>
2.	<i>Mor-Wil</i>	<i>\$1,133,627.23</i>
3.	<i>Saenz Brothers</i>	<i>\$1,194,408.42</i>
4.	<i>Saenz Utility</i>	<i>\$1,687,698.65</i>
5.	<i>The 5125 Company</i>	<i>\$944,444.00</i>
6.	<i>GO Underground</i>	<i>\$1,049,224.00</i>

After evaluation of the bids TRIMAD found The 5125 Company was the lowest responsible bidder. The City had placed a construction cost estimate of \$761,800 aside from its ARPA funds leaving a deficiency of \$182,644. We should have enough ARPA funds in surplus from the Alamo/Duranta Drainage Project and the 13th St. Drainage Project to handle this deficiency. Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the 5125 Company for the Morningside South Subdivision Sewer Project.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked why was there a big difference between the bids provided.

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that each contractor has its own cost of service and engineer from TRIMAD, Ricardo Salazar, can further explain.

Trimad Engineer Ricardo Salazar stated that the estimate that was provided to the city from his office after the design was done came in as \$1,048,009.00. This estimate is an average bid estimate. This time they got a total of 6 estimates from very repeatable construction companies that he has work with in 21 years of engineering experience. All the bidders listed above are within the 20% average. 5125 did come in at \$944k which is less than 10% of what they had estimated. Through his 21 years of experience, he has heard positive feedback from this company. Having collaborated with them previously, he is confident in their potential as a great company to work with. Furthermore, they requested letters of references, receiving six letters filled with good feedbacks.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked if 5125 comply with all the requirements

Trimad Engineer Ricardo Salazar stated the 5125 has been in business for over 30 years. He concluded with saying that as per SPECS everything must meet requirements. He added that a project like this usually takes from 10-12 months weather permitting.

Mayor J.R. Garza asked how soon can this project get started.

Trimad Engineer Ricardo Salazar stated that as soon as this item gets approve, it will probably take about 3 to 4 weeks to get the contract and should be mobilized to the area.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas stated that we should informed the residential area of such project coming in and the procedures that will come in place after the project is completed.

Commissioner AJ Garcia asked TRIMAD Engineer Ricardo Salazar to further explain the purpose for this upcoming project.

Trimad Engineer Ricardo Salazar stated that there is a portion of the city along Ridge Rd. between Alamo Rd. (FM 907) and Cesar Chavez that does not have sewer. He further explained the issues and circumstance in regards to this project.

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated the issues and circumstances that have arisen with the septic tanks within the Morning Side Subdivision. He further explains the benefits once this project is completed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked, upon project completion, what percentage of the city will be connected to the sewer system?

City Manager Robert L. Salinas answer about 95% of the city would be connected to the sewer.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas motioned to approve 5125 as the lowest bidder for this project, Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motioned carried.

G. Discussion and Possible Action on renewing postage meter rental agreement with Pitney Bowes.

Purchasing Agent Adela Perez stated that The Pitney Bowes rental agreement was approved on April 30, 2019. That term of service was for 60 months. The 60 months will expire on April 30, 2024; and it is now time for considering renewal of agreement with Pitney Bowes for postage meter rental. Pitney Bowes has been vetted with Buy Board

authority, whose pricing is under Buy Board Contract #656-21. Since the Buy Board protocol is used, there is no need to activate a competitive process. Please be informed of the following yearly cost analysis:

Current Yearly Cost	\$3443.16
Newly Yearly Cost	\$3961.56
Difference in Cost	\$518.40

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked what is Pitney Bowes?

Purchasing Agent Adela Perez stated that Pitney Bowes is our postage machine.

Commissioner AJ Garcia asked what the machine looked like?

Purchasing Agent Adela Perez showed the commission what the postage machine looked like.

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

H. Consideration and Action on Approval on an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinance Title 1, Chapter 6 ‘City Officers and Employees’, Section 4.04 Appearance

Assistant City Manager Alexandra Rangel stated that as the city begins to grow and become more diverse, the City of Alamo believes in accommodating and keeping up with the times. Only a few changes have been made since 1995, Management met with staff late of 2023 and received feedback. After meeting with HR, Management made the following changes.

The following manual includes updates in red regarding:

- Business Casual/ Office Attire
- Field/Uniform Attire
- Inappropriate Attire
- Casual Attire
- Accessories
- Grooming and Hygiene
- Enforcement

Employees will have an opportunity to appeal any injustice decisions made by department heads to management. Staff is recommending approval.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked if city employees have the option to wear shirts with the City of Alamo logo?

Assistant City Manager Alexandra Rangel answered that the staff usually wears “spirit shirts or shirts with the City of Alamo logo on Fridays. Employees are allowed to wear Polo shirts with the City Logo for example our Code Enforcement Officer, she wears polo shirts on a regular basis because she spends more of her time outside on the field,

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas stated that the Directors should inform the employees of such changes so that everyone is in the same understanding.

Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. motioned to approve, Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.

I. Consideration and Action Regarding the Designation of Discretionary Funds for the 2023-2024 Budget

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that this item was discussed in the workshop prior to this meeting and staff is recommending the allocations of funds as mentioned in the workshop meeting.

Mayor J.R. Garza motioned to approve, Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. seconded. Motion carried.

J. Discussion and Action to Appoint/Re-appoint members to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to Appoint Trisha Salazar due to Mr. Calderon stepping down, Commissioner Roel Leon Moreno Jr. seconded. Motion carried.

K. Consideration and Action Regarding Allocation of Funds for the Watermelon Festival 2024.

Public Information Director Lya Yllades stated that The City of Alamo's Watermelon Festival is a cherished event in our community, requires careful planning and allocation of resources to ensure its success. As part of the preparations for the upcoming festival, I present the following agenda item for your consideration. In our endeavor to host a memorable Watermelon Festival, we have obtained quotes from two vendors: Cool Breeze Rental and Rental World. After thorough evaluation, Rental World emerges as the preferred choice for several reasons:

1. Reliability: Rental World has a proven track record of reliability, having provided services for our community events in the past. Their consistent performance instills confidence in their ability to deliver quality service for the Watermelon Festival.

2. Cost-effectiveness: Despite offering a comprehensive range of services, Rental World has provided a competitive quote that aligns with our budgetary constraints. Their pricing is not only favorable but also inclusive, covering a wide array of necessities for the festival.

3. Hub Vendor Status: Rental World is a Hub vendor, accredited under contract number 1742961774300. The Hub program promotes equitable procurement opportunities for small and minority owned businesses. Leveraging their Hub status streamlines the procurement process, eliminating the need for additional competitive bids.

Rental World's proposed services encompass essential festival components, including rides, attractions, infrastructure, and logistical support. Their comprehensive offering ensures all aspects of the festival are adequately addressed, from entertainment to crowd management. Furthermore, Rental World's commitment to excellence extends beyond their offerings to encompass superior customer service and support throughout the planning and execution phases of the festival. **RECOMMENDATION:** I recommend the allocation of funds to engage Rental World for the provision of festival services, as outlined in their quote. Their proven reliability, cost-effectiveness, and Hub vendor status make them the optimal choice for ensuring the success of the Watermelon Festival 2024. Thank you for your attention to this matter. This item is now before you.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked that if Rental World is giving us a fare price due to making business with them after having 2 events back-to-back

Public Information Director Lya Yllades answered that she believes that Rental World is giving them a fair price because when she asked for quotes in other places the amount exceeded 20k.

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

Commissioner AJ Garcia congratulated Lya Yllades for doing an excellent job.

L. Consideration and Possible Action to Renew the CITY OF ALAMO Water Conservation Plan/Ordinance and Drought Contingency Plan/Ordinance

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that the renewal of both the City of Alamo Water Conservation Plan and the City of Alamo Drought Contingency Plan is necessary every 5 years. These plans are to ensure the efficient use of the city's existing water supply and conserve it in times of extreme depletion. The state of Texas has developed guidelines and requirements governing the development and implementation of Drought Contingency and Water Conservation plans, in order to insure proper use and monitoring of the water supply. The renewal of these plans will keep to City of Alamo in compliance with the regulating bodies of the state of Texas and insure there is a plan of action in extreme circumstances. Staff Recommendation: Approval. He would like for this renewal to include that, if necessary, the City of Alamo Managers office should be able to submit plans if required by state.

Commissioner AJ Garcia asked if we have ever experienced a drought situation?

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that the most the city has experience is a Phase 2 drought.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas stated that we as part of this region, should look into this drought contingency plan

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that he had a talk with our Chief Water Plant Operator in regards to using ground water in different areas. According to him ground water in a way is already treated for instance you do not have to use any other chemicals other than chlorine. He says that with just one water well we are getting close to a million gallons of water on its own. We have one water well at Lion's Park that we are looking to be using. He's an expert on water wells, and their conversation was very fascinating as he detailed the distinctions between well water and irrigation water. If the drought worsens, we'll need to take action and be prepared. He also further explains the advantages of having digital water meters

Mayor J.R. Garza stated for the record that he's been regularly convening with Precinct 1 and other mayors every other month to address crucial matters such as drought contingency planning and preparedness for potential occurrences.

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

M. Consideration and Action on an Emergency manhole repair along Rebecca Avenue within Alamo Country Club.

Public Works Director Julio Villareal Jr. stated that on April 9, 2024 we had a manhole collapse at 303 Rebecca Alamo, Texas inside Alamo Country Club. The manhole is located on the customer's driveway. Saenz Brother's was called to come in and do emergency repairs. The cost was \$17,800.00.

Mayor Pro-Tem Okie Salinas asked Public Works Director Julio Villarreal Jr. if we are bringing in new technology when it comes to the manhole covers,

Public Works Director Julio Villareal Jr. answered that they are bringing the new manhole covers and further explain the advantages of using such manhole covers.

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

N. Presentation and update on Project Management of FY 2023-2024

AEDC Consultant Isauro Trevino presented the following updates;

- *Community Grants FY 2025 Federal Grants Update Spring 2024*
- *FY 2025 CPF 15 Construcction of new police/court project cost \$7,000,000.00*
- *FY 2025 CPF 34 storm drainage project (from 13th St. to Alamo Expwy drain)*
- *Safer Grant Submission*
- *Fire Prevention and Safety Grant*
- *EPA Project (Water Plant Renovations)*
- *All capital Projects status report*
- *Funding pending*

Commissioner AJ Garcia stated our emphasis on the fire department, police department, parks, and more, but also inquired about grants or assistance for the library department, aiming for equitable distribution of support across the city.

AEDC Consultant Isauro Trevino stated that each department should articulate their requirements within a comprehensive five-year plan, enabling targeted fulfillment for everyone's needs. The mayor and city council will provide recommendations on how to allocate resources effectively. He also stated his awareness of two library grants, which he intends to explore further.

O. Presentation of Departmental Reports

Reports were included in their packets, no questions from City Commission

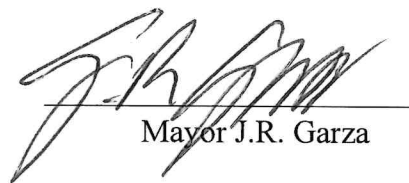
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Five minutes per person with no response from the City Commission. Residents must sign up prior to the city meeting.

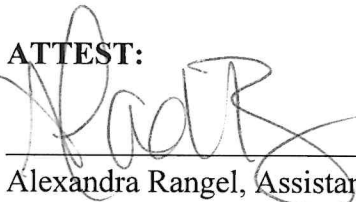
No Citizen participation

I. ADJOURNMENT

Citizens are encouraged to sign the attendance sheet.

There being no further business, Mayor J.R. Garza adjourned the meeting at 6:46p.m.


 Mayor J.R. Garza

ATTEST:

 Alexandra Rangel, Assistant City Manager