

Board of Commissioners for the City of Alamo, Texas met for the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., at the City of Alamo Municipal Building.

**COMMISSION PRESENT:**

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

**COMMISSION ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robert L. Salinas, City Manager  
Alexandra Rangel, Asst. City Manager  
Saul Solis, Police Chief  
RC Flores, Fire Chief  
Sergio Zavala, Planning Director  
Adela Perez, Purchasing Agent  
Ronnie Cruz, City Engineer  
Michael Torres, IT Director  
Sandra Chavez, Parks & Rec Dir.

Cris Palacios, City Attorney  
Ana Garza, City Secretary  
Ruth Chapa, HR Director  
Isauro Trevino, AEDC Consultant  
Jose Tamez, Library Director  
Alex Oyoque, Museum Director  
Lya Yllades, Communications Director  
Julio Villarreal Jr. Public Works Dir.  
Antonio Carrillo Asst. Public Works Dir.

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

*Mayor J.R. Garza called the regular meeting held on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 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.*

***Presentation and Announcements***

- *AEDC Consultant Isauro Treviño presented the City Commission gift bags with Alaniz-Villagomez All Inclusive Park goodies. The gift bag include a water bottle, a cap and a towel.*
- *Commissioner Pete Morales announced that the Parks and Rec Department is seeking Baseball and Softball players. The positions available are as follow;*
  - *3 players – 6U Softball*
  - *5 players – 8U Softball*
- *Commissioner Pete Morales invited everyone to the Alamo Chamber of Commerce Network Night on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.*
- *Commissioner Pete Morales announced that the Alamo Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Annual Winter Texan Appreciation dinner on Thursday, Mach 26, 2026 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Alamo Central park*
- *Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia invited everyone to Sergeant Fernando De La Rosa Memorial Library to take free pictures with the Easter Bunny on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will also be showing the movie HOP and have crafts for all the kids.*
- *Parks and Rec Director Sandra Chavez invited everyone to the Special Education Easter Hunt on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 at the Alaniz Villagomes All Inclusive Park.*
- *Assistant City Manager Alexandra Rangel invited everyone to the Trash Bash on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 8-6 p.m. and Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 8-5 p.m.*
- *Mayor J.R. Garza reminded the public that our Recycling Center is open Saturdays from 8-5 p.m. and encourage everyone to recycle.*
- *Commissioner Pete Morales reminded everyone of our upcoming Watermelon Festival on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 featuring the legendary “La Mafia”*
- *Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia congratulates everyone for the Saint Patrick’s Day.*

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

All consent agenda items are considered routine by the City Commission and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests

an item be removed and considered separately. The City Commission May Take Various Actions; Included But Not Limited To Rescheduling An Item In Its Entirety For A Future Date Or Time. The City Commission May Elect To Go Into Executive Session Item At Any Time During The Meeting When Authorized By The Provision Of The Open Meetings Act.

1. Discussion and Possible Action on an Ordinance to Amend Title 6 'Police Regulations', Chapter 5 'Animal Care and Control Regulations' to provide enhanced provisions regarding the humane care of animals.
2. Discussion and Possible Action on a Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization Program
3. Discussion and Possible Acton on an Ordinance request by the Lopez Family of 1213 Palazzo Drive to install 'Slow Down - Autistic Child at Play' signage; and via Staff's assessment, to include similar signage such as 'Slow- Children at Play' in the public street Right-of-ways of Palazzo Drive and 13th Street
4. Consideration and Possible Action on a Petition from Landowners being My Home, LLC for their property to be 'Released' from the City of Alamo's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) under Sec. 42.101 et seq. of the Local Government Code (SB 2038) for property described as Lots 1, 2 and 3, Santa Fe Terrace Subdivision, Hidalgo County, State of Texas
5. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 22-03-26 Authorizing the Submittal Grant Application for the Office of the Governor, State Homeland Security Program-- Regular Projects (SHSP-R) Federal Fiscal Year 2026
6. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 23-03-26 Authorizing the Submittal Grant Application for the Office of the Governor, State Homeland Security Program-- LETPA Projects (SHSP-L) Federal Fiscal Year 2026

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve items 1 through 6, Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia seconded. Motion carried.*

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

- D. Consideration and Action to Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as John Escobedo Day.

*Mayor J.R. Garza stated that today he has a special proclamation for a special person who is present and who is from our Beautiful City of Alamo. He proceeded by reading the proclamation.*

*John "Johnny" the Handyman along with his daughter thanked the City Commission for the proclamation.*

*Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia stated that the City Commission encourageous residents of Alamo to actively participate in city bids and projects. He emphasized that individuals who live in or grew up in Alamo are strongly encourage to apply for opportunities advertised by the City. He further noted that participation is not limited to large or well – established companies, as the City is committed to supporting and providing oportunities for small locally owned businesses that live and work within the Alamo community.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales congratulted John Escobedo for his hard work and dedicaton, noting the outstanding job he has done remodeling the City Commission Chambers. He also shared his appreciation for Mr. Escobedo's character beyond his work, highlighting his passion for riding motorcycles and fishing with Captain Murphy. He addedd that he admires Mr. Escobedo consistently spends time with his crew- whether at breakfat, lunch or dinner, - always including everyone, treating them with respect, and fostering a strong sense of unity.*

*Commissioner Okie Salinas congratulated John Escobedo for his hard work and dedication.*

*Mayor Pro Tem AJ Garcia motioned to approve, Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion*

carried

E. Discussion and Possible Action on Advertising Agreement with Texas Border Business.

City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that this item is to consider approval of an advertising agreement between the City of Alamo and Buena Aventura LLC dba Texas Border Business for promotional and marketing services. The proposed options are as follow

Category	Option #1 -Full Page	Option #2 – Half Page
Ad size	Full page	Half page
Dimensions	10.375” W X 11.50” H	10.375 W X 5” H
Number of Insertions	12	12
Rate per Insertion	\$2,150	#1,345
Total Cost	\$25,800	\$16,140
Print Advertising	Full page ad in each issue	Half page ad in each issue
Press release publication	Included	Not listed
Special event coverage	Included (3-day advance notice)	Included (3-day advance notice)
Digital ads included	Rectangle medium (300 px X 250 px)	Rectangle medium (300 px X 250 px)
Additional digitals ads	Mobile pop-up (1080 px X 1080 px )	Skyscraper large (300 px X 600 px)
Ad submission deadline	20 <sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication	20 <sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the publication

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the advertising agreement with Texas Border Business and selection of the option that best aligns with the City’s marketing objectives.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked what has been done in the past?

City Manager Robert L. Salinas responded that we have never had an agreement with Texas Border Business.

Further comments and concerns were addressed by City Commission.

Commissioner Okie Salinas motioned to approve ½ a page advertising agreement, Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Purchase of a Trolley for Festival Transportation.

Assitant City Manager Alexandra Rangel stated that the last time they met they discussed about complying a list of possible purchases. Based on that discussion she came up with two options regarding the trollys. the two options are mention below;

The trucking company has gotten back to us with the following shipping quotes:

**Unit 8737**

- Route: Houston to Alamo
- Shipping Cost: **\$2,250**
- Vehicle Details: **2002 model, 27 seats, 2 wheelchair spaces**
- Purchase Price: **\$58,000**

**Unit 8738**

- Route: Virginia to Alamo
- Shipping Cost: **\$8,400**
- Vehicle Details: **2018 model, 24 seats**
- Purchase Price: **\$125,000**

She is asking for the City Commission to allow her and a mechanic to go on site and conduct inspections on both models.

Commissioner Pete Morales asked if these trollies are ADA compliance

*Assistant City Manager Alexandra Rangel responded that during her research, she ensured each trolley would accommodate approximately 20 passengers and meet ADA compliance standards. The first unit has a capacity of 27 passengers, including two wheelchair-accessible spaces, while the second unit seats 24 passengers and also include two wheelchair-accessible spaces. She is requesting permission to go on site with staff and ensure that the trollies are working properly since it is a big investments.*

*Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia asked if the mileage was given for the 2002 model?*

*Assistant City Manager Alexandra Rangel responded that unfortuneatly that information was not provided. She is currently doing a little more investigation on that one. The list provided were the best options for what the City of Alamo is looking for. She did received a list of over 10 different trollies and the two trollies on the provided list were the best options.*

*Further comments and concerns were addressed by the City Commission.*

*Mayor J.R. Garza motioned to allow Assitant City Manager Alexandra Rangel to inspect the trolly for purchasing purposes, Commissioner Pete Morales seconded. Motion carried.*

G. Consider and approve a resolution authorizing publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026, for the design, acquisition, construction, and improvement of certain public works and authorizing certain other matters relating thereto.

*City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that this item is for the approval of a resolution authorizing the issuance of Certificate of Obligation to funds improvements to the water treatment plant. The project has been selected by the Texas Water Development Board, resulting in a substantial financial benefit to the City. While the original project cost was approximately \$9.7 million, participation through the Texas Water Development Board reduces the total cost to an estimated \$2.8 to \$2.9 million. Approval of this resolution will allow the City to move forward, with our financial advisor and bond counsel currently working through the necessary arrangements.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales asked City Manager Robert L. Salinas to explain a little more in regards to the amount.*

*City Manager Robert L. Salinas stated that the original cost for the water treatment plant in order to rehab mcomplitely including filters and different items that needed to be refurbish and or replaced, at the existing water plant it was going to come out in a total of \$9.7 million dollars. Through the Texas Water Development Board we are able to get a huge discount of about \$6.4 or \$6.5 million dollars, leaving a \$2.8 balance.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales stated that this will help upgrade our older than 20 years water treatment plant.*

*Mayor J.R. Garza stated that project essentially represents a long overdue upgrade to the water treatment plant, which has not undergone significant improvements or renovations in over 20 years.*

*AEDC Consultant Isauro Treviño stated that this project initially began with a \$3.5 million earmark and a portion of those funds have already been utilized. When we met with the engineer, our primary concern was the potential for cost overruns on the \$9.2 million project. However, of that amount, we secured 70% forgiveness – approximately \$6.4 million – leaving the City responsible for only \$2.8 million. When you combine the \$3.5 million earmark with the \$6.4 million in forgiveness funds, this result in a total project value of about \$12.7 million, with the City contributing just \$2.8 million. Overall, this represents a very favorable deal for the city.*

*Commissioner Pete Morales motioned to approve, Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia seconded. Motion carried.*

H. Consideration and Action to Approve a donation from the Hidalgo County Emergency Services District #4 to the Alamo Fire Department for the purchase of fire service equipment.

*Fire Chief R.C. Flores stated that for this particular item, the donation is going to be made directly to the vendor so no action is required.*

I. Presentation of Departmental Reports

Mayor Pro-Tem AJ Garcia stated that he really loves what the Library Department is doing. He loves the programs that have been created.

*No further comments from the City Commission.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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 the items to be discussed in executive session:

1. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.071 Consultations with Attorney:
  - a. Update on AEDC Project 2026 A
  - b. Update on AEDC Project 2026 I

Mayor J.R. Garza convene to Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION:**

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.

*Mayor J.R. Garza reconvened the meeting at 7:13 p.m.*

**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 7:13 p.m.*

  
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Mayor J.R. Garza

**ATTEST:**

  
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Ana Garza, City Secretary

