

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
July 24, 2014

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Alamo Heights, Texas was held in the Offices of Frontier Enterprises, in the Board Room, located at 8520 Crownhill Boulevard, San Antonio, Texas, at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 24, 2014.

Present and composing a quorum were:

Mayor Louis Cooper
Mayor Pro-Tempore Bobby Rosenthal
Councilmember Bobby Hasslocher
Councilmember Fred Prassel
Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke
Councilmember John Savage

Also attending were:

City Manager J. Mark Browne
Finance Director Cynthia Barr
Information Services Manager Marian Vargas
Community Development Services Department Interim Director David Harris
Human Resources Manager Lori Harris
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan
City Secretary Jennifer Reyna
Fire Chief Buddy Kuhn
Chief Police Rick Pruitt

Absent was:

City Attorney Mike Brennan

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Mayor Louis Cooper opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

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Item #1 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

Discussion of FY2014-2015 Budget

Finance Director Cynthia Barr made a PowerPoint presentation that included a budget overview. Ms. Barr reviewed the projected general fund revenues/allocations for the current fiscal year. She briefly reviewed other funds: comprehensive fund, street maintenance fund, capital projects fund, and capital replacement fund. She highlighted the Comprehensive Fund restricted for the dog park by the Brown Foundation Grant and is awaiting correspondence from Brown Foundation. Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Rosenthal requested an update on the dog park be provided to Council in the future. City Manager Mark Browne agreed. Ms. Barr continued her

presentation and explained transfers to the capital projects (new facility, for the current year only), street maintenance fund, capital replacement fund, and comprehensive plan.

Ms. Barr reviewed the proposed General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. The review included operating revenues, departmental allocations, working capital, proposed transfers to Street Maintenance Fund, Capital Projects, Capital Replacement Fund and to the Comprehensive Plan. She noted for FY2014-2015, there are no expected transfers from the general fund related to facilities. Operating Reserves (25% of departmental allocations) were also included in the Unreserved Fund Balance. She noted the current year expenditures for governmental funds included patrol vehicle and radios for Police, a utility truck for Fire, and a vehicle for Community Development Services Department. She noted monies are restricted for the dog park by the Brown Foundation Grant.

There was a brief discussion among Council regarding the furniture lease. Ms. Barr explained the furniture note, process and highlighted savings on the lease if not all money is utilized and will be applied to the note. Mr. Browne noted the furniture lease is included in the fund balance.

Additional tax revenues were briefly presented from a range of ½ cent to 2 cents increase. Ms. Barr noted that frozen property tax accounts would not contribute as additional tax revenues. Council asked the amount of increase and values of frozen properties and what percentage those frozen properties amount to. Ms. Barr estimated the amount of tax in frozen property accounts at \$1 billion. She informed Council that she will perform an analysis on the amount of change on frozen property tax accounts. She continued her presentation and noted the rollback rate is \$0.41996. Council briefly discussed the consideration of a tax increase; however agreed not to raise taxes and possibly consider a bond election in the future.

Ms. Barr presented planned future spending requirements including years 2015 – 2018 and funding summaries of the comprehensive plan, street maintenance, capital projects, and capital replacement plan. Expenditures included additional pole banners, completion of city facilities (2015), replacement of police vehicles, dispatch console upgrades, P25 compliance for radios in Fire/EMS, sanitation truck, five-year lease purchase of four heart monitors and an ambulance.

Ms. Barr reviewed the proposed utility fund revenues/allocations for FY2014-15 that included monies reserved for additional water rights purchase. Mr. Browne informed Council on the amount of time the potential acquisition had consumed without making progress; however in process. Ms. Barr stated if the purchase of additional water rights is not made the balance of the utility fund will be increased.

Councilmember Bobby Hasslocher asked Council to consider earmarking monies for large purchases such as the purchase of a chassis. Ms. Barr explained that the capital replacement fund is a fund in which monies are earmarked for a specific capital replacement item. Mr. Browne informed Council that the capital replacement fund has nearly \$600,000 and requested Council's guidance on what to designate the money for a specific purchase. Fire Chief Kuhn stated \$201,000 belongs to EMS with earmarked contributions that the sister cities had

made. Councilmember Savage asked Ms. Barr if she may separate the designated EMS purchase within the capital replacement fund. Ms. Barr agreed to identify and separate those funds.

Ms. Barr informed Council of the upcoming Council meetings. A presentation of the FY 2014-15 proposed budget is scheduled for August 11th. The first public hearing on FY 2014-15 and Ad Valorem Tax Rate is scheduled for August 25th. The second public hearing for the proposed ad valorem tax rate and proposed budget are scheduled for September 8th. On September 22nd, City Council will consider FY 2014-15 proposed budget and ad valorem tax rate.

Mayor Cooper complimented the department heads for making good judgment decisions and expressed his appreciation for being fiscally responsible.

Mr. Browne shared the Fire Department's recent great efforts in providing solutions when the server's room air conditioning unit failed. He stated the Fire Department salvaged the window air conditioners of the city facility and reused the air conditioner. Fire Chief Kuhn commented the difficulty recovering a stable cool environment. Mayor Cooper stated there should be a backup plan now and for the new city facilities. Mr. Browne agreed.

Councilmember Hasslocher asked the status of the remaining residential city-owned home located at 213 Henderson Street. He stated if there was consideration to raise the house and provide additional parking lot to complement the new construction of the city facilities.

Mr. Browne acknowledged one remaining residential city-owned home located at 213 Henderson Street is not included in the budget nor in the scope of the construction of new facilities. He noted there is sufficient parking. Fire Chief Kuhn added the house is in poor condition and shared the recent problems the house had experienced. Mayor Cooper commented the house served as a buffer between the parking lot and adjacent neighbors. Mayor Cooper suggested staff price the house. Mr. Browne stated he will obtain a demolition bid from Hansco.

Mayor Cooper requested additional educational efforts to inform and invite the public on the budget and tax public hearings. He commented on the lack of participation and feedback from the public. An email blast and information on the newsletter will be distributed for the residents. Mr. Browne added the consideration of providing information on the banner across Broadway.

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Councilmember Hasslocher shared his experience at the recent Architectural Review Board meeting. He complimented ARB's board members on their professionalism and ability to make decisions best for the community.

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Item # 2 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 1997

**AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD, BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

Mayor Cooper stated there is a vacancy on the Architectural Review Board and shared with Council on the consideration to add Mike McGlone. Mayor Cooper shared background information of Mr. McGlone. There was a brief discussion among Council regarding the consideration. Council agreed to communicate with current Chair Paul Fagan regarding nominations for the vacancy.

Community Development Department Interim Director David Harris made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information. Mr. Harris presented a list of nominated candidates serve on the different boards and commissions and briefly reviewed the process and procedures.

Mayor Cooper asked Mr. Harris on the commitment the current boards and commission members on their attendance of their respective meetings and if they are willing to continue to serve. He asked Mr. Harris review their attendance as he commented there are challenges when a quorum is not available to conduct city business. Mr. Harris stated there are circumstances when meetings are cancelled due to lack of quorum or business items. He informed Council he will review attendance records for the boards and commission members.

There was a brief discussion among Council regarding the necessity on the number of Planning and Zoning Commission members and the challenge fulfilling a quorum, roles and expectations are provided, and level of commitment from members. Councilmember Hasslocher asked if a Councilmember may be considered dedicated to attend a designated board or commission. Mayor Cooper stated the recommendation would need to be coordinated with City Attorney Mike Brenan. Councilmember Hasslocher asked Council consideration of an appreciation for boards and commission members. Mr. Browne shared information on the annual recognition of volunteers that the City of Terrell Hills hosts. Mayor Cooper asked Mr. Browne to explore dates to host something similar. Mr. Browne agreed.

A motion for approval appointing members to the Architectural Review Board, Board of Adjustment, and Planning and Zoning Commission was made by Councilmember Fred Prassel. Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Rosenthal seconded the motion and passed by unanimous vote.

Item # 3 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

Authorize competitive sealed proposals for the 2014 Street Maintenance Program (SMP) and determination that competitive sealed proposals provide the best value for this project

Public Works Director Pat Sullivan made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information, process, and criteria utilized for selection.

Mr. Sullivan noted the SMP is currently budgeted in the Capital Expense fund and Street Maintenance fund. He reviewed the listing of the proposed streets and explained the necessity for improvements. He stated the pavement project on Encino may be added as an alternate if a favorable bid is selected.

Mayor Cooper asked on the opportunity to restripe Alamo Heights Boulevard and improve the walking trails. Mr. Sullivan responded that restriping Broadway is part of the department's maintenance and can be conducted upon request. Mayor Cooper commented to spend money elsewhere for residents as Broadway is a thoroughfare.

Councilmember Hasslocher shared that a sign located on the corner of Mary D and Broadway was not legible. Mayor Cooper suggested businesses can upgrade their business signs to upheld the City's standards.

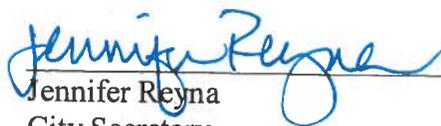
Mayor Pro Tem Rosenthal asked Council the consideration of transferring monies to increase street maintenance. Mr. Browne stated this project is specifically designed and asked Council for guidance on a list of streets and what they would like to see or do. Mr. Sullivan shared his thoughts and provided an example of work that can be conducted on La Jara Boulevard to include mill, repavement, cut inside the edges, and additional work to enhance aesthetic appearance. There was a brief discussion among Council regarding options.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosenthal suggested conduct work on Willim and Cambridge Oval during the summer or a holiday break since there is lot of traffic on Willim. Council agreed the work scheduled for Willim and Cambridge Oval be conducted another time when school is not in session. Mr. Sullivan stated there are a number of roads that may be considered in replacement of the two identified streets.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosenthal suggested Mr. Sullivan to go forth with competitive bids for this project and to include La Jara Boulevard excluding anticipated work at William and Cambridge Oval allowing Mr. Sullivan to use his discretion to provide additional streets to replace William and Cambridge Oval. Council agreed.

A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Hasslocher to authorize competitive sealed proposals for the 2014 Street Maintenance Program (SMP) to include La Jara Boulevard excluding anticipated work at William and Cambridge Oval allowing Mr. Sullivan to use his discretion to provide additional streets to replace William and Cambridge Oval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Savage and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business, Mayor Cooper adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.


Jennifer Reyna
City Secretary


Louis Cooper
Mayor