

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
March 13, 2017

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alamo Heights, Texas was held at Council Chambers, located at 6116 Broadway, San Antonio, Texas, at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2017.

Present and composing a quorum were:

Mayor Louis Cooper
Mayor Pro Tempore Fred Prassel
Councilmember Lawson Jessee
Councilmember John Savage

Also attending were:

City Manager J. Mark Browne
Fire Chief/Assistant City Manager Buddy Kuhn
Assistant to the City Manager Marian V. Mendoza
City Attorney Mike Brenan
Community Development Services Department Director Jason Lutz
Finance Director Robert Galindo
City Secretary Jennifer Reyna
Chief Police Rick Pruitt
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan

Absent were:

Councilmember Bobby Rosenthal
Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke
Human Resource Manager Lori Harris

* * *

Mayor Cooper opened the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

* * *

Item # 1 Approval of Minutes

Mayor Cooper asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the February 27, 2017, Council Meeting. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Fred Prassel to approve the minutes of February 27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilmember John Savage and passed by unanimous vote.

* * *

Item # 2 Announcement

a. Alamo Heights ISD Meet In the Middle, April 1, 2017

Community Development Services Department Director Jason Lutz announced the Alamo Heights Independent School District (ISD) will be hosting a 5k Run/Walk fundraiser meet on Saturday, April 1, 2017. He stated this is a first time event and it will begin and finish at the Alamo Heights ISD Administration Office located at 7101 Broadway. The route was presented.

* * *

Mayor Cooper shared he received a letter from Red McCombs complimenting the outstanding public safety services the Fire Department provides. He thanked Fire Chief Buddy Kuhn.

* * *

Item # 3 Citizens to be heard concerning items not on the agenda

There were no citizens that signed up to speak.

* * *

Items for Individual Consideration

Item # 4 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

Architectural Review Board Case No. 658F, request of Uptmore LLC, owner, for the significance review of the existing main structure located at 636 Tuxedo under Demolition Review Ordinance No. 1860 in order to demolish 100% of the existing main structure

Community Development Services Department Director Jason Lutz made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information and photos.

Mr. Lutz identified the project and stated the applicant requested to demolish the structure at 636 Tuxedo and noted the property is the subject of a replat creating two additional lots. He stated there had been multiple renovations throughout the life of the structure. Photos of the structure were presented.

On February 21, 2017, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) reviewed and approved the demolition request. Staff did not receive any responses in support or opposition of the applicant's request.

A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Lawson Jessee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember John Savage and passed by unanimous vote.

Item # 5 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2072

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19 – WATER AND SEWERS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADJUST SEWER RATES

Finance Director Robert Galindo made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information and graphs.

Mr. Galindo stated the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) implemented a 5.6% increase in sewer rates effective January 1, 2017 to all wholesale customers. He stated the increase created an unbudgeted expense in the City’s Utility Fund of approximately \$78,000. The rate increase would be published in the City’s April newsletter. A graph displayed prior SAWS charges and the new proposed rates. Another graph presented rate information related to cubic feet, current rate, and proposed new rate. Mr. Galindo stated the increase would be a “pass through” rate for residents.

Mayor Cooper stated the new rate is a pass through charge and commented the City could not take the budget load. Councilmember Savage agreed this is the only idea to address the unbudgeted expense to the City’s Utility Fund.

A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Jessee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Savage and passed by unanimous vote.

Item # 6 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2073

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES IN THE MAY 6, 2017 GENERAL ELECTION, ELECTED TO OFFICE, CANCELING THE ELECTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Secretary Jennifer Reyna made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information of the cancellation of the general election.

Ms. Reyna certified the candidates are unopposed, there were no write-in candidates and recommended to cancel the general election. She declared Bobby Rosenthal elected as Mayor, Lawson Jessee as Councilmember, Place 1, and Wes Sharples as Councilmember, Place 2. They will serve a two-year term beginning May 22, 2017.

Ms. Reyna reminded Council that the City of Alamo Heights will have a special election on May 6, 2017, in consideration of the new street maintenance sales and local

tax. City Manager Mark Browne added the Alamo Heights I.S.D. will be having a general and bond election. Alamo Community College District (ACCD) will be having a bond election as well.

A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Savage to cancel the general election. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jessee and passed by unanimous vote.

* * *

Staff Report

Item # 7 Mayor Cooper read the following caption.

Presentation of Financial and Investment Report for the first quarter ending December 31, 2016

Finance Director Robert Galindo made a PowerPoint presentation that summarized the City's financial position. The Financial and Investment Report included General Fund Revenues/Expenditures, Utility Fund Revenues/Expenditures, Capital Projects Fund and an Investment Portfolio Update.

Mr. Galindo presented a Budget to Actual graph for property tax collections for Maintenance & Operations (M&O) and Interest and Sinking (I&S), year to date since 2012. He stated majority of the property taxes are collected during the first quarter of the budget cycle. A graph of the total sales revenues dated 2016-2017 was presented that included street maintenance tax collection. The graph displayed the increase in sales tax collections.


General fund revenues and expenditures were reviewed. General Fund Revenues were at 43% which included property taxes, sales tax, permits/fees, fines and forfeitures, charges for services, intergovernmental, investment and other financing sources. General Fund expenditures were categorized by departments and are 22% year to date which is within budget. A graph of general fund expenditures was displayed for actual and budget for the fiscal year. Utility fund revenues & expenditures were presented.

Mr. Galindo reviewed the capital projects fund that included revenue and expenditure balances for the Community Infrastructure Economic Development (CIED) Fund in which city projects were earmarked. City projects include branding and the repair of the trolley stop.


Mr. Galindo provided an investment portfolio update with a beginning value as of September 30, 2016. He summarized the city's financial position as strong and positive.

* * *

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Prassel to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Savage and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Cooper adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.



Jennifer Reyna
City Secretary



Louis Cooper
Mayor