

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
June 24, 2019

A special 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, June 24, 2019.

Present and composing a quorum were:

Mayor Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor Pro Tempore Wes Sharples
Councilmember Lawson Jessee
Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke
Councilmember John Savage

Also attending were:

City Manager Buddy Kuhn
Assistant to the City Manager Marian V. Mendoza
Interim City Attorney Austin Beck
Finance Director Robert Galindo
Community Development Services Director Nina Shealey
Human Resources Manager Lori Harris
City Secretary Jennifer Reyna
Police Chief Rick Pruitt
Deputy Fire Chief John Massey

Absent were:

Councilmember Fred Prassel
Fire Chief Michael Gdovin

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Mayor Bobby Rosenthal opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. He announced Councilmember Prassel was not in attendance due to feeling ill.

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Item # 1 Approval of Minutes

Mayor Rosenthal asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the June 10, 2019, Council Meeting. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Wes Sharples to approve the minutes of June 10, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke and passed by unanimous vote.

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Item # 2 Announcements

a. 50th Annual Fourth of July Parade

Assistant to the City Manager Marian V. Mendoza invited residents to the 49th annual Alamo Heights Fourth of July parade on Thursday, July 4th, at 10:00 a.m. beginning at Estes and Patterson Avenue. She informed Council information of the upcoming event had been promoted via social media and on the City's website.

b. Cancellation of July 22nd Council Meeting

City Secretary Jennifer Reyna announced the July 22nd Council meeting has been cancelled due to budget preparation.

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

Susan Harwell, resident, complimented staff in the mannerism remembering former Councilmember Bill Kiel. She commented it was noticed and appreciated.

Suzy Bettac, coordinator for 4th of July parade, invited the community to the 50th annual 4th of July parade. She stated the parade honors the founding fathers and everyone celebrates as a community.

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Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke suggested to consider Items # 5 and 6 prior to Item # 4 since they are brief presentations.

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Items for Individual Consideration

Item # 5 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2133

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH TEXAS MATERIALS INC. FOR THE 2019 STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SUCH WORK

Public Works Director Pat Sullivan made a Powerpoint presentation that included background information and the bid process.

Mr. Sullivan stated Freese & Nichols provided engineering services in securing bids for the 2019 Street Maintenance Program (SMP) at a cost of \$56,065. The bid was published in the *San Antonio Express-News* on May 22nd and May 29th. He stated four bids were submitted. On June 12, 2019, the City received four bids with Texas Materials, Inc. submitting the lowest bid offer. Other bids submitted were from All In Construction, Clark Construction, and Clearfield Construction. Freese and Nichols recommended the award to Texas Materials, Inc. and stated a background check was conducted.

Mr. Sullivan identified the streets considered for 2019 street improvements and stated the project consists of approximately 70,000 square yards of roadway improvements, utilizing both milling and overlay of existing surfaces as well as some full depth reconstruction.

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

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Item # 6 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2134

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS FIRE/EMS AND UNITED MEDEVAC SOLUTIONS, INC., TO PROVIDE STANDY-BY ASSISTANCE TO ONE ANOTHER IN THE EVENT OF A DEPLETION OF RESOURCES

Deputy Fire Chief John Massey made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information.

Deputy Fire Chief Massey stated Alamo Heights Fire/EMS has limited resources to include apparatus, equipment and personnel. He stated Alamo Heights Fire Department Medical Director reviewed and approved of the medical protocols in place by United Medevac Solutions, Inc. who currently provides EMS supplies. The agreement provides rapid EMS treatment and transport in the Tri-Cities in the event of a mass casualty incident or depletion of available resources. Additional resources would also be employed to both agencies for EMS and rescue related emergencies. Deputy Fire Chief Massey stated the agreement and ordinance have been reviewed by the Interim City Attorney.

A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Jessee. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sharples and passed by unanimous vote.

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Item # 4 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

Presentation of parking options for discussion and possible action regarding high school student parking on residential neighborhood streets

Police Chief Rick Pruitt made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information, street maps, and photos.

Police Chief Pruitt stated due to Alamo Heights Independent School District (AHISD) bond project, construction has displaced Alamo Heights High School (AHHS) students parking near the campus and reported an additional 40-50 student parking spaces will be temporarily displaced. He stated there is an ongoing effort with the AHISD and the City to find long-term parking solutions on and off campus to reduce parking in residential areas.

Police Chief Pruitt reported the greatest impact of student parking is located on the west of Broadway due to student choice, new drivers, and the construction impact with a loss of 35 parking spaces. He presented different street maps that highlighted restricted parking areas, available AHHS student parking, temporary restricted parking, and student relocation areas. He commented citizen concern grows as parking increases and past practices to temporarily restrict parking have proven to be ineffective.

All options had been explored to move student parking closer to the high school campus which trigger resident and student safety concerns. There is limited availability on the high school campus and bordering streets because of their current design. AHISD administrators identified options to add 82 parking spaces.

Police Chief Pruitt presented AHISD's proposal and reviewed the map as it impacts parking options (south end). It includes 12 mobility impaired parking spaces when the stadium is closed; reduce the width of parking spaces on Vanderhoeven and designate compact vehicle parking for 10 parking spaces; and open new 30 on-campus parking spaces in the 100 block of East Castano. There are several changes proposed to the 100 block E. Fair Oaks to include replace parallel parking on the north side with 60 degree angle parking (30 parking spaces), designate as a one-way street, close to southbound Vanderhoeven traffic; and adjust traffic signals on Broadway to East Fair Oaks and Vanderhoeven at East Castano. Remove all reserved student parking perks to allow parking in all unoccupied parking spaces and provide incentives for students who carpool or utilize remote parking options. A 2012 engineering diagram displayed the additional angled parking at Vanderhoeven. Another aerial map displayed the prospective location of the barrier on E. Fair Oaks. He stated the AHHS Principal Dr. Cordell Jones is informing student drivers to be a good neighbor, working with students to obtain ideas for incentives for remote parking options, and considering student drop-off and pickup locations. Police Chief Pruitt reported AHISD is also working with a local church for game event overflow parking.

The City of Alamo Heights evaluated the streets in close proximity to the high school campus, east and west of Broadway. The width of the streets on the west side of the campus measured 28-29 feet provides sufficient room for the Fire apparatus to pass through. The width of the street on the east side of the campus measured 23 to 26 1/2 feet with the exception of Primrose and E. Castano. Police Chief Pruitt stated Fire Chief Michael Gdovin expressed concern for the on-street vehicle parking less than 28 feet in width. Photos of the Fire engine passing through residential streets that contained parked vehicles were presented to display the challenge of the Fire truck responding to a public safety call.

Another option is on the 200 block of East Castano, south curb line, reconfigure travel lanes: two lanes eastbound to create a parking lane along the south curb line, creating 32 spaces. He informed Council that previous Council attempted to reconfigure E. Castano and explained it didn't work as he noted this is a different situation. The following are additional options (if necessary): 1) allow parking on north curb line only on Tuxedo Ave. from Alamo Heights Blvd. to Nacogdoches Road creating 16 parking spaces; 2) 14 parking spaces may be created on Lamont from Broadway to Alamo Heights Blvd. by allowing parking on the north curb line only; and 3) allow parking on the north curb line only in the 100 block West Castano to provide 10 parking spaces. Police Chief Pruitt presented a map of possible consideration for amended restriction areas. A scheduled rotation for streets where parking additions were proposed perhaps for a 30-day period. Staff did not recommend creating or setting aside any other parking restrictions at this time and will continue to seek student parking options not impacting residential streets. He concluded that all streets or blocks providing long-term temporary restricted parking are marked by a single pole mounted signage at each end of the block.

Police Chief Pruitt reviewed the fiscal impact related to cost of pavement markings, reprogramming traffic signals, three barriers for road closure at Vanderhoeven and E. Castano, signage and poles for a total cost of \$12,505. He presented the items AHISD proposed to pay for with an estimation of \$9,000. He stated there are continued discussion among the City and AHISD regarding a cost share agreement.

Mayor Rosenthal thanked Police Chief Pruitt for all his efforts and he commented the City had been working on this for several years. He stated there all options and welcomed comments from the citizens.

The following citizens spoke on this matter:

Barry Lacey, resident, shared his family has lived on Lamont since August 1959. He shared a photo of a student parked on his driveway that initiated a call to the Police Department. He commented on how the peripheral vision is blocked when the property owner is trying to ease out of his own driveway because vehicles are parked on both sides of the street. He shared his garage entry is located off Alamo Heights Blvd. Mr. Lacey expressed appreciation to the City for their efforts and time because is it a public safety matter and teaching student drivers to be responsible.

Kenneth Zuschlag, resident, expressed in his opinion, it would be nice to have a clear visual space. He stated the property owner is impeding traffic when finally out of the driveway and requested 20 feet of clearance when a property owner backs out. He shared the challenges of parking when guests or hired professional services are trying to locate parking.

Mayor Rosenthal stated AHISD considered to provide additional parking at the administrative offices building and purchasing property around the high school.

Sarah Jo LeMessurier, resident, complimented on the new lighting on AH Blvd, near the Dog Park – wonderful; Police and EMS are fabulous. She inquired if there will be any parking restrictions on College Blvd. She shared she carefully comes out of her driveway as the vision is blocked. Ms. LeMessurier asked of the consequences to discourage student drivers parking in illegal areas. She expressed appreciation in working together to resolve the issue.

Police Chief Pruitt noted a 5 or 8 foot red curb approach for driveways located on Alamo Heights Blvd. to provide clear vision on oncoming traffic.

Councilmember Billa Burke informed Police Chief Pruitt that students are parking on Evans and stated she has a friend also having difficulty coming out of her driveway. She suggested to work with AHISD informing student drivers not to park in front of driveways, mail boxes, etc.

Police Chief Pruitt reported Dr. Jones has been already engaged with the students educating them and informing as many other students as possible.

Councilmember Savage asked if adding 82 spaces will impact Alamo Heights Blvd.

Police Chief Pruitt stated the additional parking will impact Alamo Heights Blvd.; however, he stated the concern is the parking spaces displaced as the construction evolves and obtaining additional parking will be offset.

Mary Olive Judson, resident, suggested to take this opportunity to teach students parking etiquette and manners such as picking up after their trash. She expressed support in previous comments residents made.

Mayor Rosenthal suggested City staff to coordinate with AHISD to take advantage of an educational opportunity with upper class men as similar fashion AHISD interacts with freshmen. City Manager Buddy Kuhn stated it can be discussed with Dr. Dana Bashara, AHISD Superintendent.

Susan Harwell, resident, expressed appreciation to Police Chief Pruitt and staff aiding the neighborhood and school district in public safety projects. She shared when a child had been run over within the City and stated how her safety concerns were elevated

as she had an infant son. She recalled Bill Kiel's campaign as he was running for Councilmember. Ms. Harwell expressed concern on the amount of parking spaces that may be lost permanently and temporarily due to construction.

Police Chief Pruitt stated no parking spaces will be lost permanently. He explained the amount of parking spaces that had been gained or lost. He stated everything will be temporary but no permanent loss of parking spaces.

Richard Tye, resident, commented students use their lawn as a private space and leave trash. In addition to long-term planning, he recommended AHISD to work with students to be respectful of private property.

John Ferguson, resident, a resident since 1986 and stated changes had been made and still making progress. He stated the proposed plan looks interesting and positive. He stated the modification on E. Castano is fabulous and the perfect place for a solution. He expressed concern on angle parking on the north side of 100 block of E. Fair Oaks and inquired on the one-way concept where the angle parking would start. He commented possible congestion on Vanderhoeven. Last year, he observed 3-5 parking spaces available on Vanderhoeven in May, noting it possibly is the most attended time when students are in attendance.

Donna Balin, resident, reminded Council Tuxedo is the second highest traffic in the City next to Claywell Street when considering parking on the north side of Tuxedo. She commented cars are parked behind the driveway and students crossing Broadway can be dangerous. She expressed support in carpooling and having prime spaces for student drivers carrying more than three people. She asked if Council is interacting with the City of San Antonio regarding the big multi-family complexes that are being built nearby such as on Sunset Road that generates higher student enrollment in AHISD.

Mayor Rosenthal recalled AHISD conducted a study on student enrollment based on rental rates and sizes which did not validate a concern.

Andrew Scott, resident, asked Council to reconsider parking on Tuxedo for the same reasons Ms. Balin mentioned because it is used as a thoroughfare. He noted the increased density and encouraged a long-term solution for student drivers.

Mayor Rosenthal stated Alamo Heights Little League fields are considered as a location for student pickup.

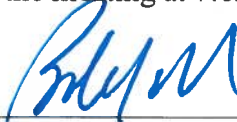
Mr. Kuhn stated the dialogue had been great because the staff had not communicated with AHISD Board before and now actively engaged. He stated there is no perfect solution; however, acknowledged construction stirs congested parking. He reported educational programs are being considered. Mr. Kuhn shared AHISD's efforts with nearby churches had not been successful. He stated the parking situation will get worse when school returns in session.

There was a discussion among Council regarding the amount of parking spaces, parking style, permanent and short-term parking at Fair Oaks and E. Castano, and right-of-way, changing curb line and returning Fair Oaks as a two-way street. Mr. Kuhn stated traffic signals are programmable and student drop-off location at Castano will be further explored. He reminded Council needed to perform changes just prior to school begins.

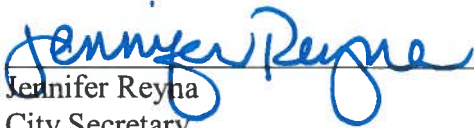
A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Jessee to adjust pavement markings on E. Fair Oaks and E. Castano to allow head-in parking on E. Fair Oaks and parallel parking on the south side of E. Castano. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Savage and passed by unanimous vote.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Billa Burke to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Savage and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.



Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor



Jennifer Reyna
City Secretary