

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
June 25, 2018

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, June 25, 2018.

Present and composing a quorum were:

Mayor Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor Pro Tempore Lynda Billa Burke
Councilmember Wes Sharples
Councilmember Lawson Jessee
Councilmember Fred Prassel

Also attending were:

Fire Chief/Assistant City Manager Buddy Kuhn
Assistant to the City Manager Marian V. Mendoza
Finance Director Robert Galindo
Human Resources Manager Lori Harris
City Secretary Jennifer Reyna
Police Lieutenant Cindy Pruitt
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan

Absent were:

Councilmember John Savage
City Manager Mark Browne
City Attorney Mike Brenan
Community Development Services Department Director Jason Lutz
Police Chief Rick Pruitt

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Mayor Bobby Rosenthal opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

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Item # 1 Approval of Minutes

Mayor Rosenthal asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the June 5, 2018, Special Council Meeting. A motion was made by Councilmember Lawson Jessee to approve the minutes of June 5, 2018 Special Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wes Sharples and passed by unanimous vote.

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Item # 2 Announcements

Mayor Rosenthal read the following captions.

a. 49th 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 Wednesday, July 4th, at 10:00 a.m. beginning at Estes and Patterson Avenue. She informed Council information of the upcoming event had been distributed via social media and on the City’s website.

b. 39th Annual San Antonio Roadrunner’s 5K/10K, July 14th

Ms. Mendoza announced the San Antonio Roadrunners (S.A.R.R.) will host their 39th annual 5k/10k walk/run on Saturday, July 14, 2018. She presented the route that is expected to be ran twice and stated the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at HEB Lincoln Heights.

c. Movie Nights in the Heights, July 20th

Ms. Mendoza welcomed the public to the annual movie nights in the heights summer series. She invited family to enjoy “The Greatest Showman” scheduled on Friday, July 20, 2018, beginning at 8:30 p.m. at the Nature Trails Parking Lot Area, 250 Viesca. She reminded residents to come early to get good seating and not to forget to bring their chairs, blankets, and snacks. She stated all movies during the summer are sponsored by the Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union (RBFCU).

d. Cancellation of July 9th Council Meeting

City Secretary Jennifer Reyna reminded Council the July 9th Council meeting has been cancelled due to budget preparation. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, July 23, 2018 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

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

There were no citizens that signed up to speak.

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Items for Individual Consideration

Item # 4 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2103

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARGE FOR CONDUCTING AN ESTATE SALE

Ms. Mendoza made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information on the proposed fee amendment associated with estate sales.

Ms. Mendoza stated based on citizens' concerns and requests, staff was directed to survey other communities to assess whether Alamo Heights' fees are in line with other communities. She reviewed the different types of fees with associated fee costs for garage and estates sales.

Ms. Mendoza reviewed the brief survey that was conducted. She stated other municipalities do not differentiate between a garage and estates sale. She acknowledged the different regulations for each type of sale. Cities surveyed were Balcones Heights, Castle Hills, Olmos Park, Terrell Hills, San Antonio, and Windcrest. In comparison to neighboring cities, Alamo Heights had the highest estate sale fee in the amount of \$200 for a three-day event. The City of Balcones Heights had a minimal fee of \$10.00.

There was a discussion among Council regarding the necessity to cap fees, frequency of sale, fees of neighboring cities, estate sale companies, current process, and cost to the City. Councilmember Prassel shared the frequency of estate sales that occurred a few years ago and explained the need to maintain a cap frequency and the current price of an estate sale permit. Mayor Pro Tem Billa Burke expressed concern on the higher price that Alamo Heights charges and explained the current ordinance provides specific details for a licensed estate sales company to conduct estate sale and provide security. The Community Development Services Department currently does not monitor the sale. Ms. Mendoza responded to Councilmember Jessee that two estate sales had occurred as of this year.

Fire Chief/Assistant City Manager Buddy Kuhn stated today's consideration was decreasing the estate sale fee. Ms. Mendoza recommended an amendment to the fee may be similar to the garage sale permit fee at \$35 for one day and additional \$20 per day the sale is held for a total amount not to exceed \$75. Fire Chief/Assistant City Manager Kuhn added City Manager Mark Browne shared \$55 cap for estate sale may be considered to include a three-day event. Police Lieutenant Cindy Pruitt stated the City bears the cost to make and erect no parking signs for the sale and recalled one particular estate sale company that was challenging during the process. Council agreed for a maximum of \$75 for a three-day event. Councilmember Jessee requested feedback on the estate sale activity within six months to observe the increase or decrease in permit activity.


A motion for approval was made by Councilmember Jessee to decrease the estate sale fee for \$35 for the first day and \$20 for the second and third day of the event for a limit of a total cost of \$75. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Billa Burke. A vote was taken, Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Billa Burke, Councilmember Jessee, and Sharples; Nay: Councilmember Prassel. The motion passed.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Prassel to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jesse and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.



Jennifer Reyna
City Secretary



Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor