

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
June 8, 2020

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alamo Heights, Texas was held via teleconference on Monday, June 8, 2020, due to pandemic, COVID-19, also known as coronavirus, at 5:30 p.m.

Composing a quorum via roll call were:

Mayor Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor Pro Tempore John Savage
Councilmember Lawson Jessee
Councilmember Wes Sharples
Councilmember Blake M. Bonner
Councilmember John Savage

Also attending were:

City Manager Buddy Kuhn
Assistant City Manager/Community Development Services Director Nina Shealey
City Attorney Frank Garza
Assistant to City Manager/City Secretary Jennifer Reyna
Human Resources Manager Lori Harris
Finance Director Robert Galindo
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan
Fire Chief Michael Gdovin
Deputy Chief of Police Cindy Pruitt

Absent were:

Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke
Police Chief Rick Pruitt

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Mayor Bobby Rosenthal opened the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

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Assistant to City Manager/City Secretary Jennifer Reyna announced the process for today's meeting via teleconference. She explained information was available at www.alamoheightstx.gov. Ms. Reyna announced if interested listeners desired to speak on a particular item, she instructed to them to press *5 so they will be cued to express their comments. She reminded listeners when addressing Council, please state your name and address for the record. She stated an alarm will inform the speaker that your time has expired.

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Item # 1 Approval of Minutes

Mayor Rosenthal asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the May 26, 2020 Council Meeting. A motion was made by Councilmember Blake Bonner to approve the minutes of May 26, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wes Sharples and passed by unanimous vote via roll call.

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Announcements

Item # 2 Mayor Rosenthal read the following captions.

a. Strategic Action Plan Work Session, June 24, 2020

Assistant to City Manager/City Secretary Jennifer Reyna announced the Strategic Action Plan work session is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24th, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

b. AH Fire Department designation as Emergency Medical Services for Children (Gold Level)

Captain Joseph Weigand informed Council of the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) state-wide project. He shared of the project's goals utilizing performance measures and on-site inspections to identify departments that are meeting or exceeding the state standards for pediatric care. Captain Weigand stated Alamo Heights Fire Department (AHFD) is one of only 13 agencies that have achieved Gold level of certification (highest level) to include San Antonio Fire Department.

Fire Chief Michael Gdovin complimented on Captain Weigand and staff for pursuing this highest level of certification and thanked Council for their support.

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Item # 3 Citizens to be heard

Jill Souter, resident, thanked the Alamo Heights Police Department on how they handled the peaceful demonstration that occurred this past weekend as well as the Fire Department for their gold designation as Emergency Medical Services for Children. She asked Council to consider the current peddler solicitation ordinance as she shared her negative experience as a resident with peddlers.

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Items for Individual Consideration

Item # 4 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

Planning and Zoning Commission Case No. 411, public hearing, consideration, and action regarding a request to replat the properties currently known as 225 Westover Rd, identified as CB 4924, BLK 11, LOTS 30 thru 35, 235 Westover Rd, identified as CB 4024, BLK 11, LOTS 36, 37, 38, and E 5 FT of 39, and 249 Westover Rd, identified as CB 4024, BLK 11, LOTS W 20 FT of 39 and 40 thru 42

Assistant City Manager/Community Development Services Department Director Nina Shealey made a PowerPoint presentation that included a proposed site plan.

Ms. Shealey identified the project and states the applicant requested to replat the properties currently known as 225 Westover Road. She informed Council the demolition of the main structure located at 235 Westover Road was approved by Council on February 10, 2020 and noted 235 Westover Road is the property located in the middle. The replat will subdivide 235 Westover and create two properties designated as Lots 43 and 44 by adding the subdivided portions to 225 Westover and 249 Westover Road.

Ms. Shealey reported CPS Energy, SAWS and Public Works Department had reviewed and approved the proposed replat. Utility easements were established. On June 1, 2020, the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission reviewed and approved the replat as presented.

Public notifications were mailed to property owners within a 200-foot radius. Notices were posted on the City's website and a publication was published in the *San Antonio Express-News*. Staff received three postcards in support and none in opposition.

Mayor Rosenthal opened the public hearing at 5:46 p.m.

Sylvia Wong, resident, asked if the properties would be split in half and inquired about any demolitions.

Ms. Shealey provided confirmation to Ms. Wong of the properties being split in half with no additional activities.

Mayor Rosenthal closed the public hearing at 5:48 p.m.

A motion of approval was made by Mayor Pro Tem John Savage for the replat. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wes Sharples. The vote was as follows: Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem John Savage, Councilmembers Wes Sharples, and Councilmember Blake Bonner; Nays: 0, Abstain: Councilmember Lawson Jessee. The motion passed via roll call.

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Staff Reports

Item # 5 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

Update on COVID-19

City Manager Buddy Kuhn provided an update on the current pandemic, COVID-19. He reported that City Hall is currently closed to the public and he is considering an alternate way to reopen City Hall. He shared municipal court will tentatively resume on June 26th. City Hall is an Election Day polling site for Bexar County's primary runoff election scheduled for Tuesday, July 14th as requested by Bexar County. He informed Council of the upcoming presentation on Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act at the next Council meeting. Mr. Kuhn shared technology upgrades are being explored for the Council Chambers to allow livestreaming and PowerPoint presentations on the screen.

Mayor Rosenthal commented permits and processes are in at a rise and quickly being addressed. Mr. Kuhn stated the Community Development Services Department has had an escalation in permits and commended Planner Lety Hernandez for her efforts. He summarized daily operations are running smoothly.

Item # 6 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

Presentation of Financial and Investment Report for the second quarter ending March 31, 2020

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 stated the emergency declaration for Stay Home, Work Safe started in mid March, so the quarterly report does not reflect the financial expenses or reduced revenue from the pandemic. Current year projections for the General Fund show the City is expected to finish in the positive this fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. He stated the next quarterly report will display the financial impact.

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 2015 and noted during this quarter majority of the property taxes are collected. A graph of the sales tax revenues from 2019-2020 included the General fund and street maintenance tax collection. He explained the City receives the sales tax revenue report two months arrears. He commented this upcoming report may be the worst because of the current pandemic.

General fund revenues and expenditures were reviewed. General Fund Revenues were at 72% 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 46% 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. Water and sewer collection as revenues are 40% and expenditures are 37% of budget.

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. He stated there were expenditures related to the swimming pool.

Mr. Galindo provided an investment portfolio update with a beginning value as of October 1, 2019. He reviewed the amount the City had for Certificate of Deposits (CD), savings, and investment pools. He reported the city remains strong, highlighting the general and enterprise fund. He summarized the city's financial position as strong and positive. He noted the utility fund revenues were lower as of March 2020.

Councilmember Jessee asked Mr. Galindo regarding the sales tax report for April.

Mr. Galindo informed Councilmember Jessee he is expecting the sales tax report this week and will provide to him when it is obtained. He shared that he has lowered sales tax projections and investment income with anticipation in being in the positive by the end of fiscal year.

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Closed Session

At 6:08 p.m., Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the regular City Council meeting to conduct a closed meeting as authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code to discuss possible legal claim against Chapter 10, Article V of the City Code of Ordinances regarding peddlers and solicitors.

Mayor Rosenthal reconvened the regular meeting at 6:25 p.m. There was no action taken during the closed session.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Bonner to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Savage and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.



Jennifer Reyna
City Secretary



Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor