

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL  
July 8, 2019

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, July 8, 2019.

Present and composing a quorum were:

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

Also attending were:

City Manager Buddy Kuhn  
Assistant to the City Manager Marian V. Mendoza  
City Attorney Frank Garza  
Finance Director Robert Galindo  
Community Development Services Department Director Nina Shealey  
Human Resources Manager Lori Harris  
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan  
Lieutenant Cindy Pruitt  
Deputy Fire Chief Allen Ottmers  
City Secretary Jennifer Reyna

Absent were:

Police Chief Rick Pruitt  
Fire Chief Michael Gdovin

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

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Mayor Rosenthal recognized the presence of a member of the Boy Scouts of America, Raptor Patrol # 345 in the audience. He was present to observe the Council meeting as a requirement for their Citizenship in the Community merit badge. Mayor Rosenthal thanked him for being present.

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*Item # 1      Presentation of dedicated marker designating Michael S. Brenan Lane at City Hall*

At 5:32 p.m., Mayor Rosenthal read a proclamation in memory of City Attorney Mike Brenan, who served as City Attorney as 46 years. He directed Council, staff and guests to the front of City Hall to unveil the dedication marker of Michael S. Brenan Lane. The meeting reconvened at 5:44 p.m.

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*Item # 2      Approval of Minutes*

Mayor Rosenthal asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the June 24, 2019, Council Meeting. A motion was made by Councilmember Fred Prassel to approve the minutes of June 24, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke and passed by unanimous vote.

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*Item # 3      Announcements*

Mayor Rosenthal read the following captions.

**a. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual San Antonio Roadrunner's 5K/10K, July 13<sup>th</sup>**

Community Development Services Department Director Nina Shealey announced the San Antonio Roadrunners (S.A.R.R.) will host their 40<sup>th</sup> annual 5K/10K run on Saturday, July 13, 2019 solely for female participants. She presented the route and stated the event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at Lincoln Heights HEB.

**b. Cancellation of July 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council Meeting**

City Secretary Jennifer Reyna reminded Council the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting has been cancelled due to budget preparation. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, August 12, 2019 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

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*Item # 4      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 # 5      Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.*

**ORDINANCE NO. 2135**

**AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING FRANK GARZA WITH DAVIDSON TROILO REAM AND GARZA AS CITY ATTORNEY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY**

Community Development Services Department Director Nina Shealey made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information and the request for proposal (RFP) evaluation process.

Ms. Shealey stated with the passing of former City Attorney Mike Brennan, a RFP was issued. Frank Garza, attorney, Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza, has served as Interim City Attorney as of May 13, 2019.

A RFP for legal services was released on May 22, 2019 and closed on June 21, 2019. Respondents included Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech; Langley & Banack; Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza; and Sanchez & Wilson.

RFPs were evaluated by City staff that consisted of City Manager Buddy Kuhn, Assistant to the City Manager Marian Mendoza, and Community Development Services Department Director Nina Shealey. They recommended Frank Garza serving as primary legal counsel with Davidson Troilo Ream & Garza. Ms. Shealey noted their experience and assistance to the City of Alamo Heights in prior engagements and noted their law firm is the lowest bidder.

Mayor Rosenthal shared minor changes were made to the agreement because Mr. Garza is with a law firm and not a proprietor.

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

*Item # 6* Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2136**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR BUILDING OFFICIAL SERVICES WITH BB INSPECTIONS**

Ms. Shealey made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information.

Ms. Shealey informed Council the Building Inspector resigned on June 21, 2019 and building official services are needed. She shared there had been significant turnover in the Building Official/Inspector position which surfaced broad challenges hiring across

and Vanderhoeven at East Castano. A map displayed the proposed one-way street designation on East Fair Oaks Place.

Another proposal was considered changing the 200 block of East Castano. The travel lines will be reconfigured: two lanes eastbound to create a parking lane along the south curb line to create 32 parking spaces. No changes are necessary to be made in City Codes for this proposal.

Mr. Kuhn reviewed the fiscal information related to pavement markings on 100 block of East Fair Oaks and 200 block of East Castano, reprogram traffic signals, three barriers for road closure, signage and poles for a total cost of \$11,304.

The item had been coordinated with the City Manager, Police Chief, and Alamo Heights Independent School District (AHISD) administration staff. The ordinance will be published in the *San Antonio Express-News* and posted on the City's website.

Mayor Rosenthal asked if AHISD will provide financial support.

Mr. Kuhn stated AHISD will pay \$9,000 to include angled parking on Vanderhoeven. He stated there will be continued studies and work with AHISD and the long-term goal is to provide relief for the residents that live on the west side.

The following citizens spoke on this matter:

John Ferguson, resident, stated an email was sent to Council just prior to the Council meeting today regarding his concerns. He expressed concern on the lack of notification with the neighbors of upcoming changes and clarification of the June 24, 2019 Council agenda caption related to traffic changes. He reminded Council E. Fair Oaks was a one-way street. Mr. Ferguson commented if no parking is needed on E. Fair Oaks he recommended not to change the direction of the street. He stated this item needs to be further explored. He complimented Council making changes to the parking spaces on E. Castano.

Susan Harwell, resident, thanked staff for making the lane dedication special in memory of City Attorney Mike Brenan. She recommended Council read and consider Mr. Ferguson's recommendations as mentioned in his email. She expressed concern on the lack of notification for the neighborhoods on 100 block of E. Elmview of the proposed changes and recommended a letter be sent to neighbors regarding what changes have been made. Ms. Harwell referenced the Comprehensive Plan and recalled the lack of green space within the City. She stated the green space on the northern part of the City is the 100 block of E. Fair Oaks Place. She shared that when people were asked to give up land currently located behind E. Elmview, an alley, residents did not want to give up their space.

Mayor Rosenthal commented the Comprehensive Plan is great without self-parking for AHISD students, which has been the problem. He shared the goal is to obtain

right-of-way but need to coordinate with the residents and may not be soon enough. He stated the E. Castano parking makes sense because it is further away. He commented 31 parking space is in the future and not a long-term solution.

Mr. Kuhn stated a parking study will be conducted next year. He stated 50 additional vehicles will be on the street due to the loss of the jock center. He stated the students will need to be educated about parking.

Councilmember Jessee asked about the parking shortage.

Mr. Kuhn explained the parking spaces that vary during the beginning of the year, midst of school year and during construction with an estimated of 160 vehicles parked at one time period. He shared there is continued discussion with AHISD and they were open in considering parking around the AHISD building. He commented parking spaces are crucial before the school year begins. In summary, he concluded there are 50 parking spaces short during the construction period.

Mayor Rosenthal expressed concern on the possible congestion around the high school campus during peak afternoon hours. He asked City Attorney Frank Garza the caption's validity of the traffic changes made to E. Fair Oaks and Vanderhoeven that was discussed at the June 24, 2019 Council meeting.

City Attorney Frank Garza replied the caption was appropriate for the June 24, 2019 Council meeting, is not in conflict with the Open Meetings Act because staff were directed by Council and justifies tonight's action by Council.

Mr. Kuhn responded to Mayor Rosenthal the timing of the traffic signals would be changed and coordinated through the Public Works Department. He shared neighbors on E. Elmview were pleased to hear of the changes. Mr. Kuhn clarified the June 24, 2019 Council presentation is correct as it referenced 40-50 parking spaces are lost; however, with the removal of the jock center, it adds 50 parking spaces that will be eliminated.

Ms. Harwell asked how many students are enrolled at the high school that reside outside of the district.

Mr. Kuhn stated he did not have any information regarding details of out-of-district student enrollment; however shared AHISD confirmed their student enrollment had slightly dropped.

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

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Mayor Rosenthal noted it was the suggestion of Ms. Margaret Houston, resident, of the dedication of the Michael S. Brennan lane; staff members and citizens were involved. Mr. Kuhn thanked Public Works Director Pat Sullivan and his department for ordering all materials and finalizing the street pole design.

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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 Jessee and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

  
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Bobby Rosenthal  
Mayor

  
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Jennifer Reyna  
City Secretary