

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL  
September 24, 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, September 24, 2018.

Present and composing a quorum were:

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

Also attending were:

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

\* \* \*

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

\* \* \*

Mayor Rosenthal recognized the presence of the Boy Scouts of America, Troop # 809 in the audience. He explained they were present to observe the Council meeting as a requirement for their Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

\* \* \*

*Item # 1      Approval of Minutes*

Mayor Rosenthal asked City Council for any revisions to the minutes of the September 10, 2018, Council Meeting. A motion was made by Councilmember Fred Prassel to approve the minutes of September 10, 2018 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lawson Jessee and passed by unanimous vote.

\* \* \*

*Item # 2      Announcements*

Mayor Rosenthal read the following captions.

**a. 29<sup>th</sup> Annual AHHS Mulepushers Howdy Parade, September 26<sup>th</sup>**

Police Chief Rick Pruitt announced the upcoming annual Howdy parade. It will be held on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. He displayed the parade route, queuing on Alamo Heights Boulevard to the Alamo Heights High School. The event is expecting 650 attendees. He stated email blasts had been sent inviting and informing the community.

**b. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual SNIPSA 5K/Run for the Rescues, September 29, 2018**

Community Development Services Department Director Ken Roberts announced the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Race for the Rescues sponsored by SNIPSA on Saturday, September 29, 2018. The event will begin at the Alamo Heights Swimming Pool at 8:00 a.m. ending at 10:00 a.m. The race route was presented with the expectation of 800 runners.

**c. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out, October 2, 2018**

Assistant to the City Manager Marian Mendoza invited residents to celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at City Hall. The event will start at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m. Free hot dogs, chips, and sodas will be provided. She informed Council the event's information will be available on the City's website, displayed on the banner across Broadway in front of City Hall, an email blast will be sent, and a distribution of informational flyers to Cambridge Elementary students.

**d. Reschedule November 12, 2018 Council Meeting**

City Secretary Jennifer Reyna stated Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> is observed as a City holiday in observance of Veterans Day. The Council meeting scheduled for that day is rescheduled for Tuesday, November 13, 2018 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

**e. Cancellation of November 26, 2018 and December 24, 2018 Council Meetings due to holidays**

Ms. Reyna announced the cancellation of the November 26, 2018 and December 24, 2018 Council meetings due to the upcoming holidays.

\* \* \*

*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 Rosenthal read the following caption.

**Budget and Tax Ordinances to be considered in the following order:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2109**

a. **FY 2018-2019 Operating Budget**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2110**

b. **2018 Ad Valorem Tax Rate**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2111**

c. **Ratifying the increase in property tax revenue reflected in the FY 2018-2019 Budget**

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

Mr. Galindo reviewed the proposed FY 2018 tax rate information. He informed Council the proposed 2018 rate is \$0.386439 per \$100 valuation, which is comprised of the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) rate and Interest and Sinking (I&S) rate. The proposed M&O rate is \$0.336439 to pay for operations. The proposed I&S rate is \$0.050000 to pay for debt service.

Mr. Galindo summarized the financial health of the City. He reviewed the General Fund budget that included revenues, allocations, working capital, transfers, and an operating reserve. He briefly reviewed other governmental funds such as the Comprehensive Plan, Street Maintenance, Capital Projects and Capital Replacement. Mr. Galindo highlighted the expenses earmarked in the governmental funds to include transfers. Mr. Galindo reviewed the proposed Utility Fund revenues/allocations and projected Capital Projects Fund which includes the Community Infrastructure Economic Development (CIED) monies.

Mayor Rosenthal stated the tax rate will remain the same and noted the tax rate was lowered two years ago.

Mr. Galindo confirmed Mayor Rosenthal's statements and stated although, the tax rate will remain the same he explained due to home valuations improving, the amount of tax revenue will increase, above the effective tax rate.

A motion for approval of the FY 2018-2019 operating budget was made by Councilmember John Savage. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wes Sharples. A roll call was conducted: Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Lynda Billa Burke and Councilmembers Lawson Jessee, Wes Sharples, Fred Prassel, and John Savage; Nays: none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

A motion for approval of the 2018 property tax rate of \$0.386439, which is effectively an increase of 2.15% in the tax rate, was made by Councilmember John Savage. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lynda Billa Burke and passed by unanimous vote.

A motion for approval to ratify the increase of the property tax revenue in the amount of \$292,424, reflected in the FY 2018-2019 budget, was made by Councilmember Lawson Jessee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wes Sharples and passed by unanimous vote.

Mayor Rosenthal and City Manager Mark Browne thanked Mr. Galindo and staff for their hard work.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2112**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2017-18 ADOPTED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROVING THE TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$550,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO STREET MAINTENANCE FUND AND CAPITAL REPLACEMENT FUND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY BUDGET DOCUMENTS AND ACCOUNTS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Finance Director Robert Galindo made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information on the proposed budget amendment for FY 2017-2018.

Mr. Galindo reviewed the total revenue projections and projected total expenses for the current fiscal year and adopted budget. The budget amendment includes two transfers from the General Fund to the Street Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$300,000 and to the Capital Replacement Fund in the amount of \$250,000 for a total of \$550,000; a chart presented the adopted budget, budget amendment and totals. He explained the proposed transfers and how each is funded. The Street Maintenance Fund is funded through a 1/2 cent sales tax and transfers from the General Fund. The Capital Replacement Fund is funded through transfers from the General Fund.

Mayor Rosenthal commented efforts need to continue to invest into capital and street maintenance.

City Manager Mark Browne commented that as of last year, \$11M was needed for investment in road repair and that will be funded yearly. Councilmember Savage stated current process is prudent and transparent.

Mr. Galindo explained the process in next steps for transferring monies and maintaining a healthy surplus in the General fund.

A motion for approval of a budget transfer in the amount of \$550,000 to the Street Maintenance Fund and Capital Replacement Fund was made by Councilmember Sharples. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jessee and passed by unanimous vote.

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

**Resolution No. 2018R - 106**

**A Resolution authorizing the engagement of Bruce Bealor to perform inspection services**

Mr. Galindo made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information.

Mr. Galindo stated the Combination Inspector position had been vacant since February 2018 and staff had to utilize contract inspection services to perform city inspections. With the personnel vacancy, the City engaged Bruce Bealor to perform city inspections and had spent \$51,955 through August 2018. He stated Local Government Code Section 252.022(a)(4) exempts procurement for personal, professional or planning services from bids or proposal requirements.

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

*Item # 7* Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

**Resolution No. 2018R - 107**

**A Resolution approving an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Alamo Heights and the Alamo Heights Independent School District for a School Resource Officer Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement**

Police Chief Rick Pruitt made a PowerPoint presentation that included background information.

Police Chief Pruitt stated Alamo Heights Independent School District (AHISD) Superintendent Dr. Kevin Brown expressed concern for the open design of the high school campus, remote student gathering buildings, and easy access to the campus from

bordering roadways. A letter was sent to City Manager Mark Browne requesting consideration of a School Resource Officer (SRO). New Superintendant Dr. Dana Bashara has echoed the same requests Dr. Brown had expressed since his departure.

Several SRO program models were explored to seek the best fit. On September 20, 2018, the interlocal agreement was approved by the AHISD Board of Trustees; effective October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021 to include a termination clause. Police Chief Pruitt stated it will be a joint effort oversight of the SRO program. He stated the SRO is one officer located at the Alamo Heights High School; however, may be flexible to move to another school facility.

The agreement is a shared cost; the ratio is AHISD 75% and the City 25%. Police Chief Pruitt noted the officer will be available to the Police Department during the summer months while school is out. He reviewed the monetary obligations and training and stated the SRO program was presented during the city's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) & budget work sessions.

Council asked Police Chief Pruitt questions regarding the SRO position such as if the officer will need a vehicle or any equipment and the backup plan during an absence.

Police Chief Pruitt stated a vehicle will be available. He explained if the officer is not available due to unforeseen circumstances, he/she will not report. He reported there are advertisements for the position and interviews will be conducted. Most likely, the SRO absence will align with the school calendar.

Mayor Rosenthal applauded Police Chief Pruitt in collaboration with AHISD.

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

\* \* \*

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Prassel to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sharples and passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Reyna  
City Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby Rosenthal  
Mayor