

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
September 26, 2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alamo Heights, Texas was held at the Council Chamber, located at 6116 Broadway, San Antonio, Texas, at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2022. A teleconference was held via Zoom; staff and meeting attendees were welcomed in the Council Chamber.

Composing a quorum were:
Mayor Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor Pro Tem Lawson Jessee
Councilmember Wes Sharples
Councilmember Blake M. Bonner
Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke
Councilmember John Savage

Also attending were:
City Manager Buddy Kuhn
Assistant City Manager Phil Laney
City Attorney Richard Lindner
Assistant to City Manager Jennifer Reyna – Via Zoom
City Secretary Elsa T. Robles
Director of Finance Robert Galindo
Police Chief Rick Pruitt
Deputy Fire Chief Allen Ottmers

Absent:
Fire Chief Michael Gdovin
Deputy Police Chief Cindy Pruitt
Community Development Services Director Lety Hernandez
Human Resources Manager Brenda Jimenez
Public Works Director Pat Sullivan

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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 Bobby Rosenthal asked City Council for a motion on the September 12, 2022 City Council Meeting minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Lawson Jessee moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke and passed by 5-0 vote.

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Item # 2 Announcements

Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

a. Centennial Celebration and National Night Out

City Manager Buddy Kuhn announced the upcoming Centennial Celebration and scheduled events. He stated, this week, staff started delivering Harvest Baskets to residents who registered. He highlighted the upcoming 5K Fun Run on Sat., Oct. 1st. Over 300 people have registered to participate and it is the largest the City has hosted. Other events taking place on Oct. 1st include: Yappy Hour at Alamo Heights Bark Park, '09 Day – UIW Cardinal Football, “Trailgate” at Jack Judson Nature Trails, and Movie Night also at the nature trails.

Other upcoming events include:

- History Display at Alamo Heights City Hall, Weeks of Oct. 3rd and Oct. 10th 8AM – 5PM; & Tues. 10/4th 8AM – 7:30PM
- National Night Out at Alamo Heights City Hall, Tues. 10/4 5:30PM – 7:30PM
- Fire/Safety Education Classes at Alamo Heights City Hall, Thurs. 10/6 5PM – 7PM (Registration required)
- Centennial Fest at Alamo Heights Little League Baseball Fields, Sat. 10/8 2PM – 8:30PM
- The Argyle Experience, Tues. 10/11 4:30PM – 7:30PM (Registration required)
- Alamo Heights Howdy Parade, Wed. 10/12 4:30PM

Mr. Kuhn highlighted the main event, Centennial Fest at Alamo Heights Little League Baseball Fields, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 8, 2PM – 8:45PM (Weather backup Saturday, Oct. 15). He noted the day will be filled with live entertainment, food & drinks, family-friendly activities, games, local business vendors, U.S. Army Parachute Team – Golden Knights, and Fireworks/Laser Show. He added staff has been busy spreading the word throughout the community and detailed event mailers will be sent to every resident. All the events are free and open to the public.

Mayor Rosenthal addressed Council and asked them to consider volunteering to deliver Harvest baskets to citizens. He also took the opportunity to thank staff, vendors, residents, and everyone involved for putting their time and effort into bringing the Centennial events together and encouraged everyone to come our and enjoy the events.

b. Cancellation of November 28, 2022 and December 26, 2022 Council Meetings due to holidays

Mr. Kuhn announced the cancellation of two upcoming Council meetings due to the holidays: November 28th and December 26th. Any special meetings will be scheduled as needed.

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Item # 3 Citizens to be heard

No comments made.

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Items for Individual Consideration

Item # 4 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2195

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED
GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET FISCAL YEAR
2021-22 FOR THE TRANSFERS FOR A TOTAL OF
\$850,850**

Finance Director Robert Galindo announced a budget adjustment for the General Fund is done annually every September. He reviewed the General Fund 2021-22 projections. The estimated revenue over expenses for fiscal year ending September 30, 2022 is in good standing at \$917,459.

Mr. Galindo stated staff proposes using up to \$850,850 of the projected positive balance of \$917,459 for a budget amendment to transfers out of the General Fund. The budget amendment request is in line with Strategic Action Plan meeting with Council and City staff. The amendment will be a transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund, Comprehensive Fund and Street Maintenance Fund. He reviewed the budget amendment breakdown:

Comprehensive Fund - S.A.P.	Amount
Centennial Commemorative Art	\$ 200,000
Centennial Events (\$175,000 - \$89,150 sponsorships)	\$ 85,850
Park Improvements	\$ 25,000
Sub-total	\$ 310,850
Capital Projects Fund - S.A.P. Lower Broadway Imprvmt. Project	
Landscaping Architect costs	\$ 300,000
Consultant to work with TxDot	\$ 90,000
Sub-total	\$ 390,000
Street Maintenance Fund - S.A.P.	\$ 150,000
Total	\$ 850,850

Mr. Galindo reiterated the budget amendment is in line with sound financial management practices to set aside funds when possible for city projects and is consistent with the Strategic Action Plan. Budget amendments between funds require Council approval. He noted the proposed amendment was reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney.

Staff requests Council to approve an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 adopted budget for transfers from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund \$390,000, Comprehensive Fund \$310,850 and Street Maintenance Fund \$150,000 for a total of \$ 850,850 and to execute all necessary budget documents and accounts necessary to complete the budget amendment.

Council discussed the proposed landscaping architect costs for the Lower Broadway Improvement Project. Mr. Kuhn stated the costs will pay for landscaping, architectural, and engineering fees. He advised some of the fees are unknown, but any proposed agreements will come before City Council for consideration. At this time staff requests the budget amendment to ensure funds will be available.

Councilmember John Savage moved to approve Ordinance No. 2195 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lynda Billa Burke and passed by unanimous vote.

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Item # 5 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022R - 156

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS, TEXAS ADOPTING THE CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS INVESTMENT POLICY AS REQUIRED BY TEXAS PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT ACT AND DESIGNATING INVESTMENT OFFICERS FOR THE CITY; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Galindo provided some background on the agenda item. He stated the Texas Government Code Chapter 2256, known as the Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) establishes requirements for local governments for managing investments.

The Texas PFIA requires the following:

- Review and adoption of the investment policy and investment strategy annually
- Designate an investment officer
- Disclose personal/business relationships
- Provide policy for written certification
- Obtain annual audit
- Provide for training
- Provide quarterly reports

The investment policy includes strategies to: provide safety of principal, minimize risk to the City's portfolio, put money to work, and add yield but not risk to the portfolio.

Mr. Galindo stated the Texas Public Funds Investment Act requires the governing body of an investing entity to review its investment policy and investment strategies on an annual basis even if no changes are made. He noted there are no proposed changes to the investment policy for 2022.

Mr. Galindo advised the investment policy for the City of Alamo Heights complies with the Texas Government Code Chapter 2256, known as the Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA). He noted the policy was reviewed by the Finance Director, City Manager and Councilmember Savage and asked Council to consider the resolution as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Jessee moved to approve Resolution No. 2022R-156 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Billa Burke and passed by unanimous vote.

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Staff Reports

Item # 6 Mayor Rosenthal read the following caption.

Presentation by Google Fiber on Expansion Plans in Alamo Heights

Mr. Laney introduced John-Michael Cortez and Jason Bone from the Google Fiber team. Attorney Frank Burney representing Google Fiber, addressed City Council and stated they were seeking to negotiate a right-of-way agreement with the City to bring Google Fiber services to the citizens of Alamo Heights.

Mr. Cortez stated they have been communicating with City staff for several months and wanted to provide an overview of the proposed expansion with Google Fiber. He stated they have expanded their service throughout the San Antonio area and recently incorporated the City of Leon Valley in 2021.

Google Fiber’s mission is to help all communities—big, small, urban, rural, and everywhere in between—get access to Internet that’s open, fast, reliable, and fairly-price. They provide a choice of internet service to the community. They operate in a number of communities all over the United States and are focused in providing a solid high-quality operation.

Mr. Cortez shared Google Fiber has over 30M feet of fiber built and maintained in Texas. Local team members from and based in the Austin and San Antonio areas. They currently operate in Austin, San Antonio, Sunset Valley, Leon Valley, and are building in Travis County. The company strives to maintain meaningful partnerships with an emphasis on digital equity. He added, Google Fiber is regarded as the “Cadillac” of internet service because of the reliability, internet speed, and excellent customer service. The internet service is offered in two speeds, 1 Gig and 2 Gig for residential and commercial customers.

Mr. Cortez summarized the benefits Google Fiber offers. It does not require City funds to build, is considered best-in-class, Google is a recognized internet service and will bring real competition to the market on speed, price and customer service. If a mutual agreement is met, Google Fiber could potentially deliver first customer served within 12 - 18 months in the City of Alamo Heights.

Google Fiber’s preferred method of deployment of service is by using a “shallow trench method” where shallow trenching is an outside plant (OSP) underground fiber plant construction methodology that consists of placing cables or duct directly into a narrow and shallow trench in either hardscape (e.g., in the asphalt roadway) or softscape. This method will reduce impact to right-of-way/roads, avoids existing facilities, increases safety/reduces risk exposure, and reduces community disruption.

In closing, Mr. Cortez stated Google Fiber brings a leading gigabit internet company, operationally does fast build outs, it does not require City financial support, is first-in-class

customer service, has competitive and transparent price and plans such as no equipment costs, no installation fees or cancellation fees, no data caps & no throttled services, month-to-month contracts and is best-in-class reliability at 99.9% uptime. He assured they would work closely with city staff to deploy the service and maintain a constant working relationship.

After some discussion regarding installation methods throughout the City, Council thank staff and the Google Fiber team for working together and moving the project forward.

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With no further business to consider, Councilmember Bonner moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sharples and passed by unanimous vote.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022.


Elsa T. Robles, TRMC
City Secretary


Bobby Rosenthal
Mayor

